

MADE IN HONG KONG

This season presents a selection of films showcasing Hong Kong's New Wave cinema and its legacies.

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
THE SCREENS

SEASON FIVE
FILM SCREENING
Free and open to the public

4
March

Friday, 5:00-7:00pm

Boat People 投奔怒海

Directed by **Ann Hui** 許鞍華
1982, 106 mins, Hong Kong
Cantonese, Japanese and Vietnamese; with English subtitles

The Auditorium, China in the World Building 188, Fellows Lane, ANU



The second film in Ann Hui's 'Vietnam Trilogy', this realist drama explores the struggles of Chinese-Vietnamese in 'post-liberation' Vietnam. When a Japanese photojournalist, travels to the port city of Danang to document the country's feted reconstruction, he uncovers the sinister aspects of a new political order. Seen by some critics as a metaphor for Hong Kong's own precarious future at the time, Hui has insisted the film is grounded in experiences of the 'boat people' fleeing to Hong Kong during the 1970s—with whom she conducted interviews when shooting the television documentary *A Boy from Vietnam* (1979).

Boat People was a breakthrough drama for the New Wave, reflecting real social issues and politics in a conventional narrative genre. This film is a seminal example of Hui's ability of conveying universal themes through local, personal experiences; it also foreshadows her interest in border crossing stories, perhaps a result of her own background—born in Liaoning, northeastern China, to a Japanese mother and Chinese father, in 1947.

This monthly film series offers a fresh window on social realities, cultural transformations and creative imaginings from across Asia and the Pacific, through documentary and feature films made by some of the most entertaining, insightful and uncompromising filmmakers in our region. Screenings are followed by a short discussion, led by relevant local and invited scholars and filmmakers.

Sponsored and hosted by the Australian Centre on China in the World, the series is programmed by a team with diverse expertise in visual culture, dramatic arts, independent cinema and popular culture in Asia and the Pacific.

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MORE INFO:
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