



ANGEL PAI

BEN JAEGER-THOMAS

GEOFF LEE

A Film By
Ran Jing

FISH STEW

Press Kit

An Elevated Pictures Production



Elevated Pictures LLC

FISH STEW

<http://fishstewshort.com>

MAIN GENRE: Drama

SUB-GENRE: Family

RUNNING TIME: 11 Min 58 Secs

COMPLETED: March 2017



LOGLINE: A divorced woman pretends she is still happily married for the benefit of her aging, traditional-minded ailing father.

SYNOPSIS:

FISH STEW fleshes out the fractured relationship between Alice and her ailing elder father. In an attempt to conceal her separation, Alice forces her EX to put on a united front for appearance sake. Tension weaves itself in and out of each interaction, each look, every exchange of words, a constant reminder of the truth Alice so desperately wants to conceal. This web of deceit entangles these three characters deeper and more tightly as the night progresses.

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Director Statement

This short will explore various aspects of communication verbal and non-verbal. Communication is often based on assumptions and experience. Most of the time, we communicate based on the assumptions we have regarding each other. Hong, lost his wife long ago. As an over-protective single dad, he's very opinionated about his daughter's upbringing, correcting Alice on very little things: what to eat, how to behave, what a happy life should be like. He thinks his daughter doesn't know enough due to young age and lack of experience. He's constantly on the lookout for his daughter. He's always assumed that his daughter needs someone to take good care of her and she won't be well-off alone.

On the other hand, Alice growing up by constantly having her dad by her side, making decisions for her and by way of this, limiting her own individual growth. Her husband Matt is a great person who has a great job with a stable income. And while Matt is the embodiment of everything Hong looked for in a partner for his daughter Alice, she doesn't see the compatibility as clearly. Alice wants an equal relationship where a couple can share common interests, have honest and stimulating communication and spend quality time together. Matt is a lawyer whose lifestyle seems to revolve solely around his work. A life that is somewhat dull and one dimensional for Alice. These differences in aspirations and lifestyles is what causes their marriage to ultimately end. And it is Alice who initiates this decision. In being the first life changing decision she has made individually, she is filled almost immediately with self-doubt and worry over her future. Alice assumes her father will not accept this decision and view her as a failure for it. To further complicate matters, Hong has just had heart surgery and Alice is mindful of his seemingly increased fragile state of being. This is the main motivation behind Alice's decision to conceal the truth and force a united front with her now EX, Matt.

From Alice's perspective, the most painful part is not her failed marriage but rather the need to hide it. Eventually the truth comes out and to Alice's surprise, none of her fears or worries compare with reality. Her father Hong, doesn't have a heart attack, her world does not come crashing down. In fact, this is the first time Alice and her father are able to have an honest and real conversation with one another. Her guard is let down and she allows herself to become vulnerable to him again. In doing so, they both realize the error of their ways. Hong simply wants happiness for his daughter. Alice wants to be an individual.

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ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

Ran Jing

(Producer, Director, Writer)

Born and raised in Beijing, Ran moved to America after high school to pursue her dream in filmmaking. Her extensive studies at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts provided her the opportunity to interact with and learn all kinds of filmmaking. After graduation, She broke into the animation industry as a feature story artist. Through different projects at major studios like 20th Century Fox, Base Fx, Reel Fx and MTV Networks, She has had the opportunity to work with award-winning directors and producers – including Jorge R. Gutierrez, Aron Warner, Carlos Saldanha and Mike Thurmeier – on successful feature films such as *Peanuts*, *book of life* as well as *Rio* francize. It's always been her dream to share ideas and connect with people by telling stories that cut across national, cultural, and sexual boundaries. She's applying the knowledge of story that She's gained through her professional work into her own life action films.

Bridget Johnson

(Co-writer)

Raised in Santa Cruz, California, Bridget Johnson was homeschooled until she moved to New York City to attend NYU Tisch's Dramatic Writing program. She spent her teen years writing journals, short stories, plays, music, and movies. She found a home and a community at Tisch, and there, her screenwriting flourished. Her talents eventually earned her the Venable Herdon Award for Excellence in Screenwriting, and Best Undergraduate Screenplay, for her thesis, an indie coming-of-age drama titled *The Sweetest Place*. Bridget currently serves as a Programming Coordinator on A&E's Unscripted Development team, and as a freelance screenwriter and story consultant in New York City.

Josh Fisher

(Director of Photography)

Josh Fisher was born and raised in Brooklyn, NYC. He studied cinematography at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and The American Film Institute in Los Angeles.

Josh's third feature film as cinematographer, *But Not For Me*, won the audience award for Best Feature at the Brooklyn Film Festival. His Hello Flo commercials reached 50 million views online and First Moon Party won a Silver Lion at Cannes.

Stephen Kaiser-Pendergrast
(Editor, Post-Production Supervisor)

Born and raised in New Jersey, Stephen graduated from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts film directing program in 2013. He then moved to the west coast and spend the next three years navigating the film industry in LA, where he begin cutting narrative, including TV series as well as numerous short films. Films he has worked on have gone to Tribeca, and other prestigious festivals around the world. His credits include Little Miss Perfect (2016), Toby's Big Adventure (2015), Miami Flip, The Vanilla Ice Project.

Marcin Sadowski
(Original Score)

Marcin Sadowski is a young composer, arranger & orchestrator with several projects and achievements on his credit and still developing his abilities. He is experienced in composing and arranging for symphony orchestras, big bands and brass bands. His style of his own music is defined by joining film music with some jazz elements and digitally produced sounds. He can compose music for every type of film, smoothly adapting on what's happening on the screen.

Bobb Barito
(Sound Design)

Bobb is an award-winning sound designer and mixer based in NYC with seven years of experience. At over four-hundred credits, he has the versatility to match any project, from broadcast commercials to cartoons to arthouse films. He currently sound designs two television shows, including Welcome to the Wayne (Nickelodeon) and Wishenpoof (Amazon). Other clients include TLC, Fusion, Google, PBS, Airbnb, TED, Jon Bon Jovi, Vainity Fair, The Weinstein Company, Entertainment Weekly, Lays, Maybelline, Under Armor, Dove, Mercedes, Kohl's and more. His work on short and feature films has been displayed at hundreds of festivals around the world, including Sundance, Slamdance, Tribeca, and SXSW.

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ABOUT THE CAST

Angel Pai/ALICE

Angel Pai was born in Taiwan and moved to NYC at the age of six. She studied medicine at a young age and was dedicated to a path to becoming a neurosurgeon when she was discovered for her dynamic personality after walking in a runway show. She was offered a job on the spot to host for InTheMix, later moved on to host for MTV- IGGY and JETZY. Angel left her medical pursuit and funnels her humanitarian drive into using media as a platform for change. She has since then appeared in various TV shows and films as an actress, numerous magazines and campaigns as a fashion model, and is currently developing content that seeks to inspire through goodwill and the human story.

Geoff Lee/HONG (DAD)

Geoff's a NY based American-Chinese actor and musician. His varied background includes theatrical musical director (Pan Asian Repertory), rock musician (as both guitar player- Fierce Jones and bass player-The Heat), composer (Tu-Na House), stunt work (Black Rain), and, acting in TV, film (features, indies and shorts), web series (The Streets), and music videos. In comedy, Geoff has often played the straight man (The Daily Show with Jon Stewart) and most recently will be seen in the comedy series Nightcap, co-starring with Bob Saget (2017).

Ben Jaeger-Thomas/MATT

Ben Jaeger-Thomas is an actor and improviser based in the NYC area. A stay at home father of two, he makes his living as a commercial voice over artist. He can be found every Saturday at 8pm at The Peoples Improv Theater with the team *Gypsy Danger* improvising a full-length movie in just 30 minutes based on a one word suggestion from the audience. To watch his web series or find out more about his acting visit jaegerthomas.com.

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CAST

Alice Angel Pai
Matt Ben Jaeger-Thomas
Hong Geoff Lee
EMT Pierre Rueda

CREW

Produced & Directed by Ran Jing
Written by Ran Jing and Bridge Johnson
Director of Photography Josh Fisher
Editor Stephen Kaiser-Pendergrast
Original Score Marcin Sadowski

Production Manager Monica Vilela
Vyman (WenQing) Wang

Assistant Directors Miguel De Oliveira
John Cody Kim

First Assistant Camera Michelle DoCampo
Lisa Gipsova
Emma Hing

Second Assistant Camera Valerie Schenkman
Hallan Batman
Zeo Yi

Gaffer Scott Surman
Ari Schaeffer
Sam Wolff

Grip Pierre Rueda
Seth Margolies

Set Dressers Jesse Itskowitz
Maqui Gaona
Yuxi Li

Make up Ting Yu

Productions Sounds Eben L. Mannes
Mark Fraunhofer

Casting by	Mo Liang
Production Assistant	Jesse Itskowitz Simeon Hu JunWei Liu
Driver	Tommy Yang
Post-Production Supervisor	Stephen Kaiser-Pendergrast
Sound Design	Bobb Barito
Color Correction	Alan Gordon
Foley Artist	Joanna Fang
Visual Effects	Elsa Tu



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CONTACT

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