

## TNUA student wins short film award at Berlinale



Chiang Wei Liang, a graduate student at TNUA's Filmmaking Department, has won the Audi Short Film Award at the 2016 Berlin International Film Festival.

His award-winning documentary, "Anchorage Prohibited," tells the story of migrant workers who find it difficult to settle down, which echoes the refugee problems facing Europe at the moment.

Chiang accepted the award in person at the festival on February 20.

"Anchorage Prohibited" was the result of an assignment in Prof. Tung Wang and Prof. Ching-Song Liao's filmmaking class during the second year of his graduate program.

He said it took two weeks to make preparations for the film and the actual shooting lasted only two and half days. But he said the story had long been conceived, inspired by own observations of the migrant workers at Taiwan's National Immigration Agency where he has often visited as an international student.

Chiang thanked his TNUA teachers, such as Filmmaking Department's Chair Prof. Daw-Ming Lee, Prof. Tung Wang, Prof. Ching-Song Liao and Prof. Peggy Chiao.

He said the award is a huge recognition for him and his production team.

Chiang, who completed his undergraduate studies in Singapore, came to TNUA in 2013.

The Singaporean director said he wants to make films about things happening in daily life, letting the audiences see what they would otherwise seldom notice.

He said he is keen to look for links and similarities between Taiwan and ASEAN while telling stories of this island.



Caption: Chiang Wei Liang, a graduate student at TNUA's Filmmaking Department, accepts the Audi Short Film Award at the 2016 Berlin International Film Festival.

## TNUA student's film shortlisted for Oscar nominations

"The Free Man" directed by Sam Quah Boon-Lip, a graduate student at TNUA's Department of Filmmaking, has become the first-ever entry from Taiwan to be shortlisted as one of 10 contenders for nominations for best live action short film for this year's Oscar Awards.

The shortlist was narrowed from a total of 114 films competing for the nominations in the category.

Although the 30-minute long film has not made it to the final nominations by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, TNUA feels proud of the achievement.

The Malaysia-born student director said he has always loved watching movies since childhood, and he also actively took part in theatre-related activities during his high school years.

He went to college in Taiwan, pursuing an undergraduate degree in mass communication studies. He also started writing scripts, and gained much

work experience from directing TV commercials and acting. He eventually determined to pursue a graduate degree in directing at TNUA.

"The Free Man" was a work completed in 2014 under a Public Television Service student program. It is a film inspired by the story of an aboriginal teenager, exploring issues concerning the death penalty that have always interested the director.

Before deciding on the subject for the film, he had had a lot of discussion with Prof. Daw-Ming Lee, chair of the Department of Filmmaking.

He then invited his classmate Chen Yu-Li to write the script and Mr. Hsin-Hua Feng to be his cinematographer. Quah worked as both director and editor.

"The Free Man" has won many domestic and international honors, including four Golden Bell awards and a Silver Dragon for Best Director at the Krakow Film Festival.



Caption: Director Sam Quah (far left) poses for a picture with his team while making "The Free Man." The film was shortlisted for nominations for best live action short film for this year's Oscar Awards.