Are You Close Enough: Capturing Tranquility in Motion

Press Release - New Film

For Immediate Release

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Are You Close Enough: Capturing Tranquility in Motion

Denpasar-Bali, Indonesia (February 23, 2000) - Maria Clementine Wulia, a film

composer and independent filmmaker, have released "Are You Close Enough", a new short semi-

documentary film about the essence of traveling. The film is 3 minutes in length, with no dialogue

or narration, and is told in an experimental way using visual images that we usually see during

traveling.

On one Sunday afternoon in the busy district of Ginza, Tokyo, a monk was performing

his ritual. He walks very slowly, one step at a time, while people were walking with big and

hurried steps around him. "Are You Close Enough" interestingly captures this moment and stack

it up against other moments of images related to traveling, motion and repose, fast activities and

tranquil movements. Through this film, the filmmaker wonders where all our travel would end.

Where are we going, why do we hurry, are we not close enough to the place we long to be? The

monk featured in this film might have the answer: he takes his time, moving very slowly in a

distance. Is he close enough to the place we all long to be?

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"The best part that I like from traveling is that I usually had more time to contemplate. Maybe this is why the best view that I like when I travel is the "movie" I see from my car window, or in my train window. I could see how trees on my side of the street pass by so quickly, while other objects that are further in the background, like the houses, the windmills, and the mountains, pass by very slowly. Then I would see the sun and realize that the sun, because it's the farthest, makes the smallest movement," said Clementine Wulia. "The moment I saw this monk in Ginza, I was stunned, and I knew that he has something to do with what was going on in my mind. It was in January 1999. I made the connection much later, when I started to archive my travel videos."

"Are You Close Enough" was made in February 2000. The post-production took not more than one week, and during this process Clementine Wulia recollected her experience, "It was quite challenging, because everything was so spontaneous. I felt so fortunate that I have been experimenting with my Hi8 camera for years and was quite familiar with it. All lighting was natural and I had to work out the best exposure level in a very short time. I ran across the street and back to get different angles, and I had to make these decisions in such short time. I didn't have any tripod with me and when I zoomed the whole picture was shaking. I had no control of the environment and of all the other people, many times they just block the whole scene and I couldn't say anything except hoping that I could do something in the editing."

This film is presented without any verbal or written explanation. No sound effects were added, and all the sounds were recorded together with the shooting. Music was worked out by Clementine Wulia with her guitarist brother, Zeno Wulia. "I didn't write all the things down. I had an idea about which kind of chord qualities and sound colors I would like to hear with the

movie, and I communicate it verbally to Zeno. Because we are familiar with each other's ideas, he picked it up very easily and in no time we were already experimenting with his guitar effects. We recorded for some hours, then I edited all the wonderful materials in afterwards," said Clementine Wulia. All these process were done with a Macintosh PowerComputing PowerCenter Pro 210 (604e/210MHz, 32MB RAM, 2GB HD) equipped with a MiroMotion DC30 card.

Maria Clementine Wulia is a Denpasar-based film composer and filmmaker. She writes music for films since 1998, and produce her own short films since 2000. She has recently been voted as the Grand Prize Winner of Hitsquad.com's Computer Music Competition, for a 30-second music spot that she wrote and produced to promote hitsquad.com, the musician's web center (2000). Zeno Wulia is a visual artist, and guitar is one of his many passions. In his free time, he experiments with 3D modeller softwares. More information can be obtained by emailing clementine@wulia.com . Clementine Wulia's online portfolio is available for viewing at http://maria.wulia.com .