

BY THE TIME IT GETS DARK

(Dao Khanong)

A FILM BY ANOCHA SUWICHAKORNPONG



SYNOPSIS

By the Time It Gets Dark tells the interwoven stories of several characters; a film director and her muse who was a student activist in 1970s, a waitress who keeps changing jobs, an actor, and an actress. Their lives are loosely connected by almost invisible threads. The narrative sheds its skin several times in the course of the film to reveal layer upon layer of the complexities that make up our lives.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Dao Khanong (By the Time It Gets Dark) is my attempt to deal with the impossibility of making a historical film in the place where there is no history. What begins as a single narrative soon becomes fragmented, and ultimately devours itself. There are no beginning or ending points. Time is both transfixed and moving. The four main characters in the film (played by seven actors) relate to one another spatially, as well as temporally. They drift in and out of reality and dreams, suspended at the point where art intersects life – where cinema is born. It is my intention to create in Dao Khanong the fertile time for remembering. It is also an ode to cinema, the recording machine for memory and history.

When I was learning English in primary school, one of the most memorable lessons was the present perfect progressive tense – 'I have been', 'you have been', 'she has been'. For native English speakers, it's evident what this tense is. But as a speaker of Thai, one of many non-tense languages, including Chinese, it was hugely interesting. The present perfect progressive is used for something that is ongoing; for something that happened in the past and continues through the present. I remember how good I felt to be able to add a new tense to the three tenses that I had already mastered: past, present, and future.



Then, as my English got a little more advanced, I learnt that there was yet another tense, the past perfect progressive tense – ‘I had been’, ‘She had been’, ‘They had been’. As opposed to the present perfect progressive, in which something continues to happen, the past perfect progressive signifies that something used to happen in the past and continued to happen for some time, but it finished. Or maybe it didn’t finish. It just hasn’t continued.

Expiration.

There are far too many actions, anecdotes, incidents, and events that take place personally, socially, and historically in one’s lifetime. Perhaps that is why we are bound to forget. For if we could remember everything, how could we ever get out of bed in the morning? We would be so weighed down by the heavy burden of history.

We forget so we can go on living.

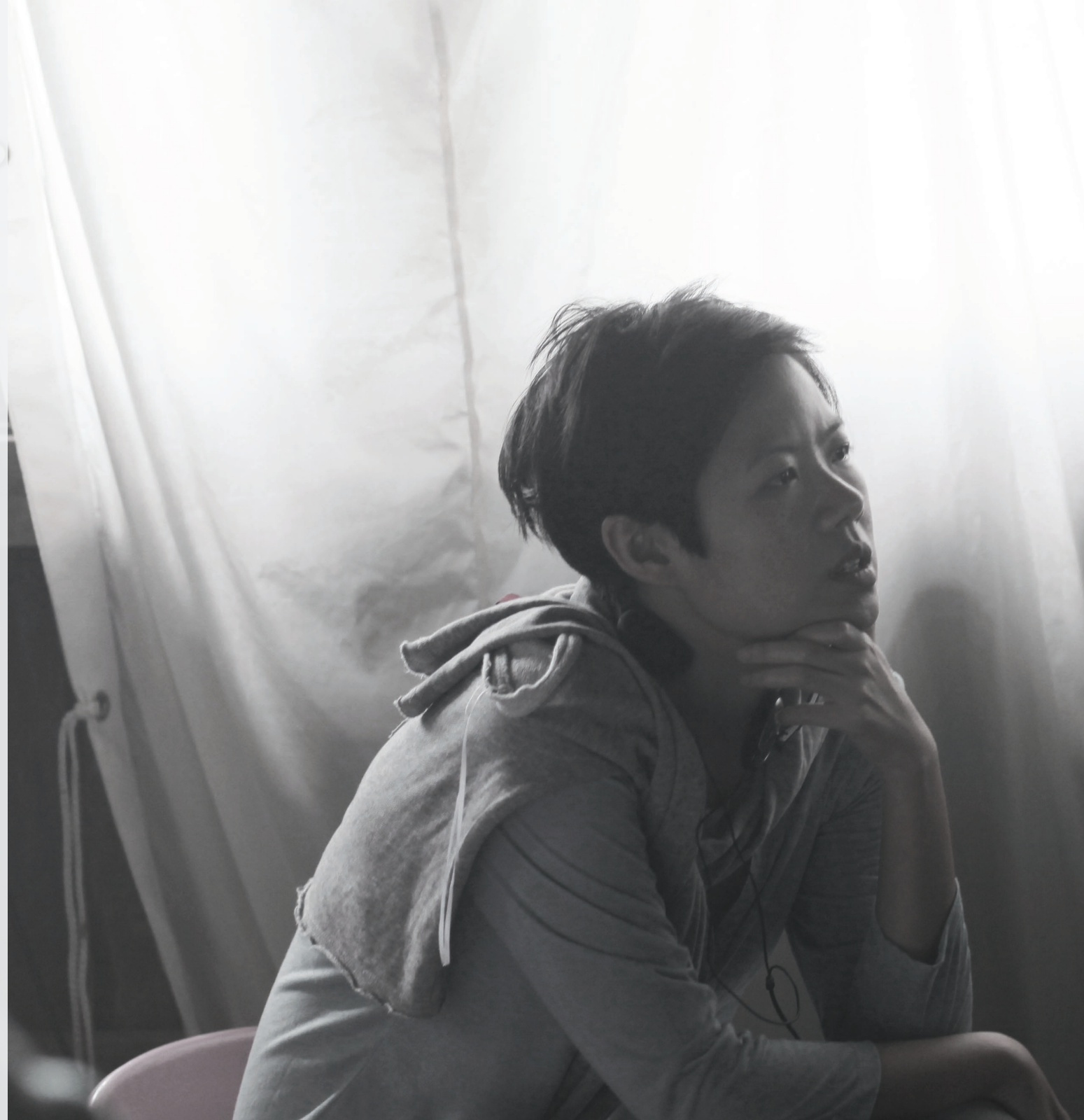
It is just as well.

We forget. It is just as well.

Perhaps only in our *dreams* can we remember.

A. Suwichakornpong
Bangkok, July 2016





ANOCHA SUWICHAKORNPONG

Anocha Suwichakornpong is a film director and producer from Thailand. Her first feature, 'Mundane History' won the Tiger Award at Rotterdam. She is currently working on her second feature, 'By the Time It Gets Dark', which won the Prince Claus Fund from CineMart and received financial support from Ministry of Culture (Thailand), as well as Hubert Bals Fund and Doha Film Institute. She has also produced "In April the Following Year, There Was a Fire" (IFFR 2012), "Concrete Clouds" (IFFR 2014), and "How to Win at Checkers (Every Time) screened at Berlinale 2015.



Selected Filmography

2006 Graceland (35mm, 17min)

2007 Jai (DV, 14min)

2009 Mundane History (35mm, 82min)

2012 Overseas (HD, 16min)



ARAK AMORNSUPASIRI

Arak Amornsupasiri is a Thai singer/songwriter and actor. His film credits include *Slice* (2009), *Best of Times* (2009) and *Cat a Wabb* (2015).



VISRA VICHIT-VADAKAN

Visra is a filmmaker/actress. She graduated from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, where she received the Reynolds Fellowship in Social Entrepreneurship and the Tisch Graduate Fellowship.

Visra's films have been screened at various prestige film festivals including International Film Festival Rotterdam, International Film Festival Oberhausen, Karlovy Vary Film Festival, and Tribeca Film Festival, among others.





RASSAMI
PAOLUENGTONG

Rassami is a renowned dramatist and educator. She was engaged in the student movement during 1970s in Thailand.

ATCHARA
SUWAN

A former barista, Atchara is an up-and-coming actress. She is also a part-time writer.





CAST

ARAK AMORNSUPASIRI *Peter*

ATCHARA SUWAN *Nong*

VISRA VICHIT-VADAKAN *Ann*

INTHIRA CHAROENPURA *Ann*

SORAYA NAKASUWAN *Ann*

RASSAMI PAOLUENGTONG *Teaw*

PENPAK SIRIKUL *Teaw*

THONGDEELERT JAWAREE *Auu*

APINYA SAKULJAROENSUK *Auu*

SAJEE APIWONG *Chompoo*

WAYWIREE ITTIANUNKUL *Female student*

NATDANAI WANGSIRIPAISARN *Male student*



Written and Directed by ANOCHA SUWICHAKORNPONG

1st Assistant Director MAENUM CHAGASIK

2nd Assistant Director NUTTAWAT ATTASAWAT

Script Supervisor WICHANON SOMUMJARN
PATIDA THIRAATHIPAT

Casting Director TULAPOP SEANJAROEN

TIPPAWAN NARINTORN

SOIFA SAENKHAMKON

Director of Photography MING KAI LEUNG

Camera Assistant CHARAN MUANG-ON

Editor LEE CHATAMETIKOOL

MACHIMA UNGSRIWONG

Sound Mixer AKRITHLERM KALAYANAMITR

Production Designer PARINDA MOONGMAIPHOL

VIKROM JANPANUS

Art Director DANAI PASINGCHOB

Prop Master SITTHIRAT PONGSINPORNRAK

Costume Designer

Hair Stylist

Make-up Artist

RUJIRUMPAI MONGKOL

THANON SONGSIL

KUBOON KUNSOOKSAN

Co-Producer

GUILLAUME MOREL

MAENUM CHAGASIK

Line Producer

PARINEE BUTHRASRI

Produced by

SOROS SUKHUM

LEE CHATAMETIKOOL

BENJAWAN SOMSIN

ANOCHA SUWICHAKORNPONG

Executive Producer

CHAYAMPORN TAERATANACHAI

EDWARD GUNAWAN

PITHAI SMITHSUTH

Original Title Dao Khanong
English Title By the Time It Gets Dark
Genre Drama
Running Time 105 minutes
Format Digital 2K/Color/Dolby SRD

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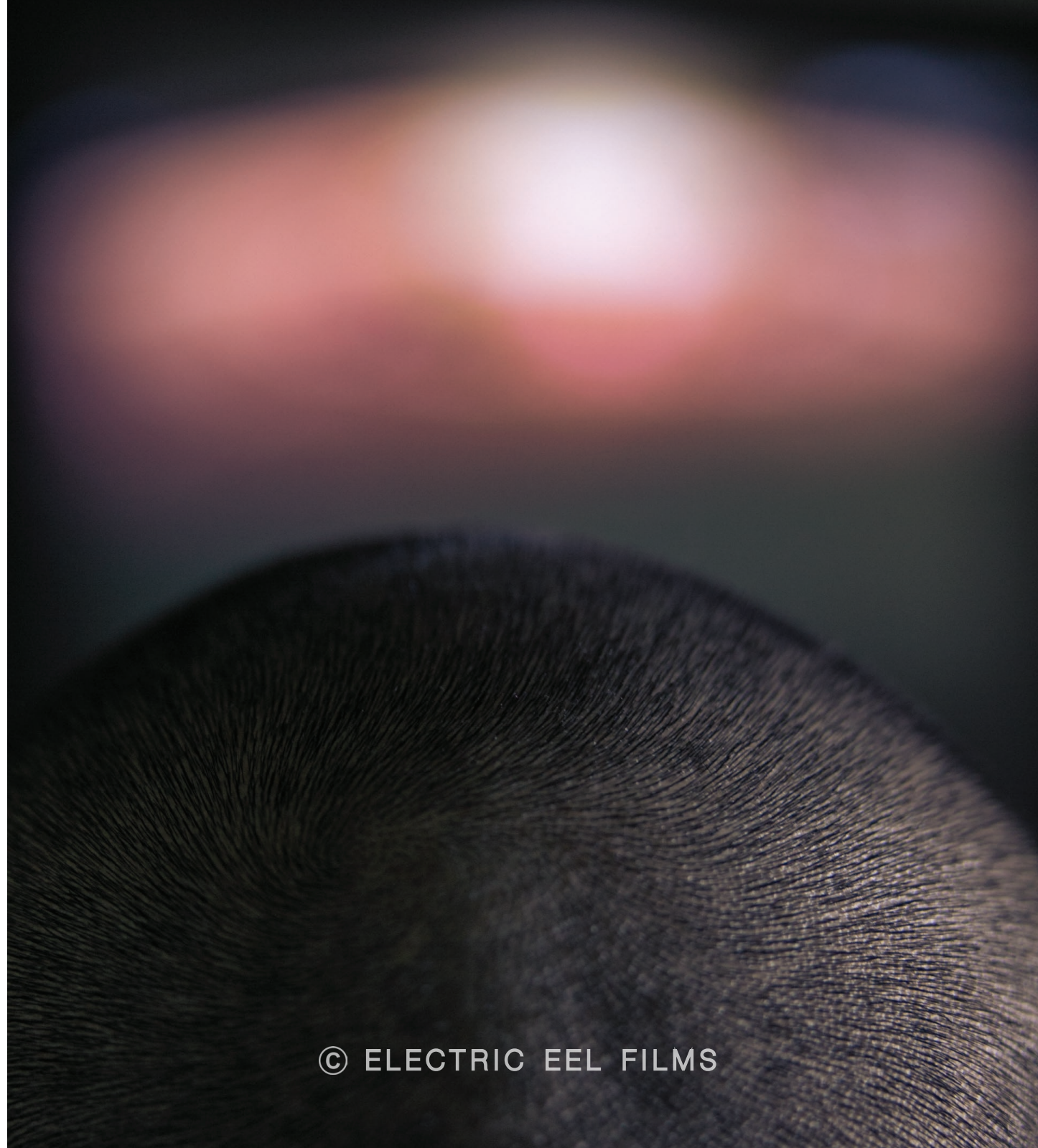
Prince Claus Film Fund Award, The Netherlands

Hubert Bals Fund, The Netherlands



Prince Claus Fund for
Culture and Development





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