



a J.P. Chan film

2013. 83 Minutes. Digital Cinema Package (DCP). Not rated.

**** WINNER - BEST SCREENPLAY: LOS ANGELES ASIAN PACIFIC FILM FESTIVAL ****
**** OFFICIAL SELECTION: BEND, SAN DIEGO ASIAN, CAAMFEST, DISORIENT, CHICAGO ASIAN, COLUMBUS, VANCOUVER ASIAN, AND SEATTLE ASIAN FILM FESTIVALS ****

Limited Theatrical Release: Opened June 20, 2014 in New York City
Now streaming on Amazon Prime, iTunes, Kanopy, and VHX.
100% Critics rating on Rotten Tomatoes

- “Subverts cliché...there’s enormous warmth.” – The New York Times, June 19, 2014 [A New York Times Critics' Pick]
- “This disarmingly low-key genre-hybrid delivers both dramatically and comedically.” – The Hollywood Reporter, May 24, 2014
- “A curiously likable, entertainingly laid-back Asian-American take on all-too-familiar dysfunctional family tropes, this Kickstarter-enabled effort boldly mines farce along with sentiment.” – Variety, June 27, 2014
- “Sensitive and understated, J.P. Chan’s A Picture of You balances humor and sentiment with an instinctive hand, skillfully unearthing honest, unexpected laughs amid intense grief.” – The Village Voice, June 20, 2014
- “Chan and his cast, especially the truly great Mei, find the truth in the ridiculous enough for it to work on its own modest terms.” – RogerEbert.com, June 20, 2014
- “A sharp, mischievous family drama with an ending that will stick with you for days.” – WayTooIndie.com, June 6, 2014
- “Smart and intimate...with impressive results.” – The Huffington Post, May 23, 2014
- “The stuff of life” – Los Angeles Times, September 12, 2014

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Synopsis

Kyle and Jen, estranged siblings, travel from New York City to rural Pennsylvania to pack up the home of their recently deceased mother. While there, they inadvertently make a shocking discovery that turns their world upside-down.

A serious movie about life that collides into a funny movie about death, *A Picture of You* is a story about loss, family, secrets, making up, and moving on.

A Picture of You is writer/director J.P. Chan's first feature film.

Director's Statement

When I lost my mother to cancer several years ago, I found myself devastated with grief. I couldn't imagine anything worse than a child losing his mother...until I realized that my stepfather had lost his wife, that my aunts and uncles had lost their sister, and that countless others had lost a good friend.

Collectively, we had all loved and lost the same person. But individually, we'd each lost someone who was entirely unique, and we were each left with a set of memories that was ours alone. And even if we could share all these memories, we'd still never have the entire picture of her.

But I realized that not knowing everything about her meant there might always be more to discover. An off-hand anecdote from an aunt, a photograph I hadn't seen, her handwriting on a scrap of paper – all these things were out there waiting to be discovered (or not). It kept her alive in a way I could never have imagined.

Anyone who's lost someone dear to them knows what a roller coaster the process of grieving can be. You're crushed with sadness even as you laugh uproariously thinking of the good times you shared. Out of nowhere, memories of the one you lost come flooding back when you least expect it, overwhelming you with feelings every bit as complex and contradictory as your loved one was in life.

I wanted to make a movie that reflects these ups-and-downs. But how do you capture all those feelings in a single film? I settled on the idea of a story that abruptly shifts genres, going from drama to comedy to drama again (with a few stops at mystery and suspense along the way). The task seemed impossible but also irresistible. Most importantly, it felt like the most honest way to honor those we'd lost. We *had* to do it.

Where most storytellers strive to maintain a consistent tone, I aimed here to keep it fluid but always true to what the characters were feeling. To put the audience in the same always-shifting state of grief, happiness, and confusion that the characters themselves had to navigate. To create a story where, as in life, expectations were frequently upended in ways impossible to predict. To create a movie that anyone who's gone through the experience can watch and say *Yep, it feels like this* — and know that they are not alone.

I hope you enjoy the ride.

Production Team

J.P. CHAN (Writer / Director / Producer) is a self-taught filmmaker living in New York City. His short films have screened at film festivals including Slamdance, SXSW, Tribeca, and Comic-Con. He holds a graduate degree in urban planning from NYU, and was born in New Jersey to working-class immigrant parents. He makes his movies and while working full-time as Assistant Director for Multimedia Production at MTA, the New York metro region's public transportation agency. Website: www.jpchan.com

YASMINE GOMEZ (Producer) is a New York-based freelance producer. As the Senior Video Producer for Eveo, she produced over 100 industrial and documentary films for the pharmaceutical industry. In addition to producing *A Picture of You*, Yasmine produced the ITVS-funded Women & Girls Narratives short film, *Not Another Word*, by acclaimed writer/director Cherien Dabis. As an independent filmmaker, Yasmine won Best Film in the 48 Hr Film Project San Francisco for the short film, *Consumed*, which she wrote and co-directed. Yasmine also directed a music video, *You Will Remember*, for San Francisco band Lumaya, and the mockumentary short, *Asian American Jesus*. Her latest short film, *Terra Cotta*, won the Grand Prize at the 2011 72-Hour Film Shootout, where Yasmine also won the honor of Best Director.

ROBERT M. CHANG (Producer) is an entrepreneur with experience at startups, Fortune 50, Harvard University and The Rockefeller Foundation. He has been a producer on three feature films, premiering at SXSW and Sundance, and has an MBA from Yale and an A.B. from the University of Chicago.

DUANE ANDERSEN (Executive Producer) produced Dave Boyle's award winning films *Daylight Savings* and *Surrogate Valentine*, which premiered at SXSW Film Festival in 2011 and 2012. He and Boyle previously collaborated on the festival favorites *White on Rice* and *Big Dreams Little Tokyo*. He is currently in production on the documentary *An Honest Liar* (about James "The Amazing" Randi). He has previously produced *Last Kind Words* (starring Brad Dourif), the Sundance short *Crazy Beats Strong Every Time*, and the comedies *Yes, We're Open*, and *Congratulations*. Duane is currently directing the documentary *The Rainbow Colored Peacock: When TV Came Out* and the narrative *Superpowerless*.

ANDREW REED (Cinematographer) is a native of upstate New York who followed practical academic pursuits east to Amherst College before recklessly veering south and landing at the North Carolina School of the Arts. Shortly after completing his studies, he shot his first feature with a handful of friends and few expectations. That film, the Brooklyn-set romance *Quiet City*, was featured as a New York Times Critics' Pick and earned an Independent Spirit Award nomination, as well as other festival and year-end honors. His following film, *Cold Weather*, was hailed as "2011's first great American indie" (*Indiewire*) and was released theatrically by IFC Films. The genre-bending mystery garnered widespread praise from critics, including Roger Ebert and Manohla

Dargis, and ranked on several lists among the best films of the year. Recently, Reed has worked as a Director of Photography for the Sundance Institute's Directors Lab and was named one of *Variety's* "10 Cinematographers to Watch." His latest film is *Land Ho!*, which premiered at the 2014 Sundance Film Festival and was released by Sony Pictures Classics in July 2014. He currently resides in Brooklyn.

SARA K. WHITE (Production Designer) is passionate about creating spaces that develop and support depth and history in characters. Trained as an interior designer, her production design credits include *The Cold Lands*, shown in the Berlin International Film Festival, *Big Words*, accepted in competition at Slamdance, *Stand Clear of the Closing Doors*, awarded a Tribeca Film Festival Special Jury Prize, Gillian Robespierre's *Obvious Child*, which premiered at Sundance 2014 and was released in June 2014 by A24, and the recently completed *My Dead Boyfriend*, starring Heather Graham. She cut her teeth art directing powerful indie dramas including *Pariah*, *Return*, *4:44 - Last Day on Earth*, and *Bluebird*. Her clients for short form work include Google, Citibank, Skittles, Hasbro, Kodak and Warner Brothers. Other work includes Art Director in Residence at the 2010-2012 Sundance Director's Labs.

KEVIN BARKER (Editor) wrote, directed and co-edited the feature film *Last Kind Words*, a southern gothic ghost story starring Brad Dourif and Alexia Fast, released by Image Entertainment. He also directed and edited the music documentary feature *The Family Jams*, a NY Times Critic's Pick which will be released on Factory 25. A graduate of Columbia Film School, Kevin is also a musician who was toured and recorded with Joanna Newsom, Devendra Banhart, Vashti Bunyan and Antony and the Johnsons. He is also a woodworker who builds furniture for Mark Jupiter Custom Furnishings in Dumbo, Brooklyn.

YEA-MING CHEN (Composer) is an Oakland-based singer-songwriter. Her music reflects nostalgia with the tradition of song containing elements of folk, pop and old country. Determined to capture the beauty of sadness housed in hopeful and catchy melodies, she continues to work with other artists and musicians with similar sensibilities. Her work includes but is not limited to topics such as break ups, estrangements, loneliness, poverty and dreams unrealized. All the good stuff! Yea-Ming is co-founder of the Bay Area pop band Dreamdate, a UC Berkeley School of Music graduate, and continues to flirt with poetry, acting and writing at her leisure. Her latest solo album, *When You Were Young*, is available at : yea-ming.bandcamp.com

Cast

JO MEI (“Jen”, co-story writer) can be seen in the indie feature *Adult World* alongside John Cusack and Emma Roberts. Her TV credits include guest starring roles on *Bone* and *The Good Wife*. Jo has worked at theaters across the US Including The Public Theater, Woolly Mammoth and Center Theater Group. She has collaborated with writer/director J.P. Chan on four previous short films and is a recent graduate of The Juilliard School.

ANDREW PANG (“Kyle”) appeared in *The Corruptor*, *The Blacklist*, *The Good Wife*, *Elementary* and *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, among others. In theatre, he's appeared on Broadway and Off-Broadway as well as in *After the Quake* and *Kafka on the Shore* both produced by the Steppenwolf Theatre Company in Chicago. In addition to his acting credits, Andy directed the short film *Works of Art* which won Best Short Film at the San Diego Asian Film Festival in 2010. Most recently, he has worked in post production on several films including, *All Is Lost*, *Margin Call*, *Silent House* and the upcoming feature *The Cobbler* starring Adam Sandler directed by Thomas McCarthy. Andy is a graduate of the Yale School of Drama acting program.

TEYONAH PARRIS ("Mika") is best known for her portrayal of Dawn Chambers in the AMC hit show *Mad Men* and as the lead in Spike Lee's *Chi-Raq*. Teyonah's recent screen credits also include *Dear White People*, *They Came Together*, and *How Do You Know*. She also appears in the Starz series *Survivor's Remorse*. Previously, Teyonah appeared on Broadway in Lincoln Center's production of *A Free Man of Color* with Jeffrey Wright and Mos Def.

LUCAS DIXON ("Doug") is a recent graduate of the Yale School of Drama acting program. He recently appeared in the critically-acclaimed CBS show *Elementary*. *A Picture of You* is his first feature film.

JODI LONG (“Mother”) is a veteran actress of Broadway, film and television, Jodi was most recently seen as Okcha, "the Tiger Mom" on TBS's hit comedy *Sullivan and Son*. Other television credits include *Cafe American* with Valerie Bertinelli, as Margaret Cho's mother in *All American Girl*, and Patty “the power lesbian,” in *that* episode of *Sex in The City*. Broadway: *Flower Drum Song*, *Nowhere To Go But Up*, *Loose Ends*, *The Bacchae*, and Stephen Sondheim's *Getting Away With Murder*. Film: *Beginners*, *The Hot Chick*, *Patty Hearst*, *Sour Sweet*. Jodi won an Ovation Award for her performance in the revival of *Flower Drum Song* at The Mark Taper in LA and was nominated for Best Solo Performance for her play *Surfing DNA*. She also wrote and produced *Long Story Short*, a documentary about her vaudevillian parents, which has won numerous film festival awards.