

# Shu Zhu

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## Education

**American Film Institute, Los Angeles, CA**  
Master of Fine Arts, Directing

**Class of 2018**

**New York University - Tisch School of the Arts, New York, NY**  
Bachelor of Fine Arts, Film and TV Production/Cinematography

**Class of 2015**

## Industry Experience

**Mokai Productions, Writer / Creative Director, Los Angeles / Shanghai**      **Sep 2019 – May 2021**

- Director of in-game cinematics for *Wild Dog*, an upcoming AAA game developed for Tencent Games.
- Supervising Director for TVC component of global marketing campaign for *State of Survival* starring **Norman Reedus**. (Collaboration with AMC's the Walking Dead)
- Working on development for an upcoming cyberpunk 3D animation series in collaboration with Tencent Videos.

**Noface Productions, Co-founder, New York, NY**      **May 2015 to June 2016**

- Creative partner and co-founder of Noface Productions, a full-service boutique production company based in New York.
- Produced/directed/shot various independent projects in various formats and media.

**He Xiangyu Studio, Artistic Consultant, New York, NY**      **May 2015 to December 2015**

- Consultant on Chinese artist's He Xiangyu's new media projects.
- Assistance with installations for project Turtle, Lion, Bear at 2015 **Biennale de Lyon**.

**Sikelia Productions, Executive Assistant, New York, NY**      **Aug 2014 – Apr 2015**

- Assistant for Dir. **Martin Scorsese**' production office
- Duties include: office administrative tasks and maintenance, expense reports, research.

## Selected Work (In Development/Pre-Production)

**Co-Writer/Director, "Ash Valley", feature film**      **2022**

- *After a meteor crashes in a decaying Northeastern China oil town, an impotent oil worker, a pregnant farm owner, and a dementia-ridden woman struggle to survive as otherworldly mutations infect the townsfolk and once-fertile land.*
- Produced by festival veteran ANDERSON LE's EAST FILMS (*Be Water*). Participant of NAFF BIFAN Industry Gathering, UDINE Focus Asia Project Market and IFFAM Project Market, where *Ash Valley* was the project with the most meetings booked.

**Writer/Director, "Codename: NeuralNet", transmedia franchise**      **2020**

- *In the near future, rampant global pollution and the advancement of brain-machine interface give birth to a society built upon a collective augmented reality, where the boundary between real and unreal is transgressed. When three senior detectives disappear while investigating a cryptic anarchist*

*organization operating in the Neural Dark Web, a cyborg agent must stop a virus from spreading on the NeuralNet before uncovering the truth of reality, both of hers and the world's.*

- In collaboration of Chinese animation company **Shanghai Mokai Technologies**, the maker behind “Legend of Gunslingers” with 1 BILLION cumulative views over three seasons across streaming platforms such as Tencent Videos, iQiYi, BiliBili.

**Writer/Director, “Codename: World of Tomorrow”, hour long episodic 2020**

- *A collection of cautionary tales regarding the ethics of emerging technologies in a rapidly advancing People's Republic of China.*
- Early stage of development deal with former head of CAA China Jonah Greenberg's Salty Pictures.

**Co-Writer, “in/HUMANE: CRUELTY IN THREE ACTS”, feature screenplay 2018**

- *In a dystopic America threatened by catastrophic climate change, a high school delinquent from Las Vegas embarks on an existential journey through the Mojave Desert. He must navigate psychotic delusions as he tries to find meaning through murderous anarchists, a utopic renewable energy corporation, and a torturous psychiatric facility.*

**Writer, “The Portrait of a Chinese Family”, feature screenplay 2017**

- *After the passing of their patriarch who left the family to become a monk, an estranged Chinese Canadian family gather together to reminisce their immigration experience in the past twenty years, and struggle to understand the father's departure and the impermanence of the world.*
- Second Round Finalist of **Sundance Screenwriting Lab 2018**.

## **Selected Work (Produced)**

**Writer/Director, “Border”, short film 2020**

- *A medical examiner in Arizona finds a dead body near the US-Mexico border.*
- Official Selection of **2020 Telluride Film Festival**.

**Writer/Director, “Use Me”/“Fly Away”, music video 2019**

- *Music videos in collaboration with pop artist Eleo*
- Finalist for Best Music Video at European Cinematography Awards.
- Nomination for Oniros Film Awards.
- Have garnered over 140,000 views on Youtube.

**Writer/Director, “Moth”, short film 2019**

- *An Asian-American actress struggles to revive her career in Hollywood. As she slowly unravels, her daily routine unfolds toward an inevitable transformation.*
- **Official Selection** at over 45 international film festivals, including LA Shorts, Las Vegas International Film Festival, Anonimul Film Festival, North American Chinese Directors Tour.
- Winner of **Grand Jury Prize** at **Chinese Young Generation Film Forum** organized by Chinese Filmmakers Association.
- Winner of **Best Directing** and **Best Actress** at **Chongqing Youth Film Festival**.
- Winner of **Best Post Modern Film** at **Calcutta Cult Film Festival**.
- Selected as one of “**Top 20 Best Short Films in 2019**” by **UK Film Reviews** and showcased at prestigious venues such as **Mexico National Museum of Art, National Film Archive of India, Jia Zhangke Art Center, American Film Institute**, among others.

**Writer/Director, “American Freak”, short film 2017**

- *In an attempt to be the ultimate hardcore, punker rocker and self-proclaimed “Messiah of the Underground” Jesus X. Christ declares he will kill himself live in his next show. When the act successfully attracts attention and he is invited to be on a mainstream talk show, how will he handle the newly found fame that he so craved? Inspired by the real-life stories of punk rocker G.G. Allen.*

- Director, “The Test”, short film** **2016**
- *When 16-year-old Annie finds out she is pregnant, she must find a solution on her own while keeping it a secret from her poverty-stricken family and her conservative town.*
- Writer/Director/Editor/Cinematographer, “The Creep”, horror short film** **2016**
- *A lone woman answers a mysterious phone call is revealed a terrifying secret.*
  - **Los Angeles Independent Film Awards**, Aug 2017
  - **Columbus International Film & Animation Festival**, Mar 2018
  - **Nightmares Film Festival**, Oct 2017
  - **Erie International Film Festival**, Dec 2017
- Producer, “Tell Tale”, short film, Noface Productions** **2015**
- *On a journey to warmer lands, a girl kills her lover and hides the truth from their friend.*
  - **Asian American Film Festival**, Aug 2017
  - **Columbus International Film Festival**, 2017
  - **NewFilmmaker NY**, New York, NY, 2017
- Writer/Director/Editor, “The Man who Fell from the Sky”, short film** **2015**
- *A lonely hunter shoots down a bird, only to find out that it has transformed into a boy. When the boy is found to be aging at an extremely fast rate, the two struggle to return the boy home before time runs out.*
  - **China Independent Film Festival**, Dec 2016
  - **New York Independent Film Festival**, New York, NY, Oct 2016
  - Exhibited at over 20 major cities in China as part of **“Qi Fang” Screening Tour.**
- Writer/Director, “Eros”, short film** **2013**
- **New York Independent Film Festival**, New York, NY, Oct 2014
  - **NewFilmmaker NY**, New York, NY, Dec 2014