

MAN ZOU: Beijing to Shanghai

Riding slowly through the rapidly changing landscape of China

GENRE: Documentary
RUNTIME: 102 minutes
COUNTRY: USA
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: HD
FILMING LOCATIONS: Beijing, Chengde, Qinhuangdao, Dalian, Yantai, Qingdao, Lianyungang & Shanghai



Man Zou: Beijing to Shanghai is an independently produced feature-length documentary shot in China in the fall of 2008. Arriving in Beijing three weeks after the Olympics, four American friends and their Chinese guide set out on a month long trip to bicycle 1,000 miles of China's countryside, filming their adventures along the way. Without support vehicles or permits, they were able to capture an intimate and unfiltered look at parts of China that are typically bypassed or flown over. In more ways than one, the bicycle trip is the vehicle to explore the environmental, economic and sociological issues facing China today, as the film intersperses the experiences of the team with the opinions of residents, expats, and academics.

Interviews include:

Ma Jun, an environmental visionary and author of *China's Water Crisis* (also named as one of the "100 most influential persons in the world" by Time magazine in May 2006) offers an expert point of view on China's rapid growth and its global environmental impact.

Kam-Wing Chan, a Professor of Geography at the University of Washington and internationally recognized for his research on migration, labor market and urban social issues in China, discusses the divide between urban and rural Chinese and the plight of China's migrant workers.

With only the gear on their bikes and a pre-mapped route, the team discovered remarkable similarities and drastic differences in the cultural and environmental landscape of China and its people. Beginning with open minds and an unbiased approach, their view into modern day life in China is a perspective not normally presented by Western media. In addition to interviews and observations, their 23-year-old guide, Doven Lu, provides a unique perspective into the mindset of China's next generation.

The "Man Zou" philosophy, borrowed from a common phrase in Mandarin that translates literally to "Walk Slow" guided the team as they bicycled through the varied urban and rural areas between Beijing and Shanghai and, in turn, opened a window into some of the many contradictions that exist in China today: old vs. new, rich vs. poor, development vs. environment and taking time to see things along the way vs. moving rapidly in modern world. Ultimately, the goal of *Man Zou* is to educate, entertain, inspire and spark conversation about China and its future.

DIRECTOR: JASON REID
PRODUCERS: IAN CONNORS & JASON REID
CINEMATOGRAPHY: IAN CONNORS
EDITING: DARREN LUND & JASON REID
ORIGINAL SCORE: JOHN LOW
STARRING: IAN CONNORS, KEVIN GRIFFIN, JASON REID, SEAN WELLNITZ, WITH: DOVEN LU, MA JUN & KAM WING CHAN
COMPANY: 2R PRODUCTIONS & 8 RIVERS FILMS
INFORMATION: www.2Rfilm.com/manzou/

One Year, Two Feature Films

Independent filmmakers Jason Reid, Ian Connors & Darren Lund have collaborated on many projects over the years. In 2008, they set an ambitious goal to complete two feature length documentaries in 12 months. The self funded trio produced **Man Zou**, which chronicled observations and interviews throughout a cycling trip from Beijing to Shanghai. Upon completion of **Man Zou**, they immediately started production of **Sonicsgate**, a film about the Seattle SuperSonics relocation to Oklahoma City, conducting more than 35 interviews and sorting through hours of archival footage. **Sonicsgate** premiered in October 2009 to sold-out screenings and rave reviews.

MAN ZOU: Beijing to Shanghai (2009)

City Artist Grant 2008 – Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs,
City of Seattle



Documentary Feature

Director: Jason Reid
Producers: Ian Connors
Jason Reid
Cinematography: Ian Connors
Editors: Darren Lund
Jason Reid

Information: www.2rfilm.com/manzou

Sonicsgate: Requiem for a Team (2009)

Online distribution – 50,000 views in the first
three weeks of streaming



Documentary Feature

Director/Producer: Jason Reid
Cinematography: Ian Connors
Darren Lund
Jason Reid
Editors: Darren Lund
Jason Reid

Information: www.sonicsgate.org

Production Team

Jason Reid: Director, Producer, Editor



Owner: 2R Productions (established in 2002)

Native of Seattle, Washington

Attended the University of Washington and studied Comparative Literature and Cinema Studies, graduating with a double major and distinction in 2000

Amassed a large body of creative work over the past 8 years consisting of producing, directing and editing: 1 narrative feature film, 2 documentaries, numerous short films and music videos

Directed corporate video projects for companies the likes of Microsoft, Costco and Nordstrom

Avid traveler and cyclist, completing tours in the United States, China and the Czech Republic

Ian Connors: Cinematographer, Producer

Owner: 8 Rivers Films (established in 2004)

Born and raised in Washington state

Studied filmmaking at Syracuse University and the Seattle Film Institute

As a combat cameraman in the military for 8 years, traveled and filmed all over the world including Bosnia, Croatia, S. Korea, Kuwait, and Iraq

In the past few years, he has directed and shot large budget marketing and training videos, documentaries, and narrative films; has also documented several stories for the Discovery Channel and covered Northwest Medical Teams International in New Orleans during the Hurricane Katrina disaster

Adventure racer and cyclist, completing the Seattle to Portland twice, plus touring in China



Darren Lund: Editor, Cinematographer



Born in Minnesota, raised in Seattle, Washington

Studied filmmaking and graduated with a degree in English from Dartmouth College in 2002

Has edited 3 feature films since 2007, and contributed to numerous locally-produced short films, most notably kung-fu short *Master Vengeance*, which has screened at international film festivals throughout the United States

Feeds his love of music by working on concert films and music videos for local artists

World traveler who has lived in several countries, including two years in Japan

Filmography: Jason Reid

MAN ZOU: Beijing to Shanghai (2009) – Director | Producer | Editor (1:42:00 HD)
Documentary Feature
City Artist Grant 2008 – Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs, City of Seattle

Sonicsgate: Requiem for a Team (2009) – Director | Producer | Editor (2:00:00 HD)
Documentary Feature
Online distribution with 50,000 viewers in the first three weeks of streaming

Across the Czech Republic (2008) – Director | Producer | Editor (5:00 Super 8)
Documentary Short
Official Selection – New York City Bicycle Film Fest, May 2008 (screened in 16 cities around the world)

Critical 72 (2007) – Producer | Editor (24:30 HD)
Narrative Short
Winner of three 2008 Telly awards, including editing

Haymaker & Sally (2007) – Director | Producer | Editor (77:00)
Narrative Feature
Official Selection – STIFF 2008 (Seattle's True Independent Film Festival), June 2008

Trucker's Lullaby (2007) – Director (4:30)
Music Video – Tim Seely
Official Selection – 1 Reel Film Festival 2008

Grey Linings (2007) – Cinematographer (6:30 HD)
Narrative Short
City Symphony film challenge at NW Film Forum, November 2007
Official Selection – 1 Reel Film Festival 2008
Official Selection – Da Vinci Film Festival, Corvallis, Oregon 2008
Official Selection – Rainier Independent Film Festival, Ashford, Washington 2008
Official Selection – STIFF 2008 (Seattle's True Independent Film Festival), June 2008

The Color of Black & White (2005) – Director | Producer | Editor (45:00 Super 8)
Live Music/Super 8 Presentation
Premiered at the Christoff Gallery in Georgetown

The Reid | Secret Olympics (2003) – Director | Producer (40:00)
Comedy/Documentary
Official selection – New York Independent Film and Video Festival 2003 (screened in L.A. & New York)

On the Film Scene (2003) – Editor (22:00:00)
Documentary Series
12-DVD box set about filmmaking edited for the production company Digicast