



Public Television Service  
and Taiwan Film Institute

Executive Producers:

Yu Peihua (於蓓華)

Liao Qingsong (廖慶松)

Wang Chun-chi (王君琦)

Producer: Chris Chiang

Nai-Yun (姜乃云)

Written & Directed by:

Chen Ting-Ning

(陳定寧)

Cinematography:

SevenTsai (蔡旻翰)

Production Design:

Huang Ming-ren (黃明仁)

Edited by: Chen Ting-

Ning (陳定寧) and

Chang Ya-ting (張雅婷)

Sound Design: How Lu

(盧之浩)

Music: How Lu (盧之浩)

Cast:

Janel Tsai (蔡淑臻)

Hsu Hsien-Chi (許仙姬)

2019

Colour and B&W

23 minutes



# Binding

## 燒肉粽 2019

### Synopsis

Having finally paid off her family debt at the age of 42, Xiuzhen goes to the station, ready to embark on a new life. But she finds herself mysteriously unable to leave. She takes a reading with a spiritual medium. Gradually, Xiuzhen realizes that the black-and-white images that haunt her and her relationship with her father are part of a past life...

### Commentary

*Binding* is part of the four-film *Somewhere 4 Some Time* project by Taiwan's Public Television Service and the Taiwan Film Institute to bring Taiwan's new generation of filmmakers into touch with the Taiwanese-Language Cinema of the 1960s and 1970s. The black-and-white images in this film are mostly drawn from Xin Qi's 1969 film, *The Rice Dumpling Vendors*, and the original title means "The Rice Dumpling Vendors 2019."

Using Xin Qi's film to represent the past life that Xiuzhen did not even know she had until she consults the medium communicates the status of the Taiwanese-Language Cinema well. Although over a thousand Taiwanese-Language films were made between the mid-1950s and the 1970s, they were long dismissed as cheap entertainment and most have been lost. Many people know nothing about them. Furthermore, the Taiwanese-Language Cinema era is also the Martial Law era, when Taiwan was under an authoritarian regime prior to the development of multi-party democracy. The film resonates delicately with the difficulties many Taiwanese experience in their efforts to deal with the traumas of the island's complex past.

Director Chen Ting-Ning won the student film Grand Prize at the 2015 Golden Harvest Awards for her short, *Winter, Fireworks and My Father*. In 2018, her short, *Lichao*, was selected for the Women Make Waves Film Festival in Taiwan.