



Paul Wong - Clip 9

Ordinary Shadows, Chinese Shade

Ordinary Shadows, Chinese Shade which is a feature length video shot in hi-8 is about being Chinese here and about going back to my roots... or my parents roots in China and being back here again. It's this kind of journey. It's called *Ordinary Shadows, Chinese Shade* because it's about ordinary people, doing ordinary things...but the tape is extraordinary because it really captures a sense of the Chinese and China at a very specific point and time. It is the most documentary of all the works.... It's an experimental documentary, is the way I look at it. That was the first time I returned to making a work almost entirely on my own. You know, when the cameras finally got that small, the quality got that good and I went there, sat in the fields, sat on the roadsides, travelling through the family network, and shot 40 hrs of tape over 3 months and then spent the next couple of years looking at it, clipping it and finally honing out this feature length work. So it was... a return to... in many ways...to myself. Working by myself, looking at myself, and looking at my culture, looking at my family.

