



WE ARE LIVING THINGS

Director ANTONIO TIBALDI

Writers ALEX LORA & ANTONIO TIBALDI

Producers FAN HE, ANDREW K. LI, ANTONIO TIBALDI

Executive Producers

ANDREW FIERBERG, SOPHIA MENG PAN,

RENPENG ZHAO, YAPING LI, MIA WEN LIU

US/CHINA/ITALY – 94MINS – 2.35: 1 – Dolby 5.1

SALES AGENT

TVCO

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EnMaze Pictures

Fan He

hefan@enmaze.com

www.enmaze.com

PRESS

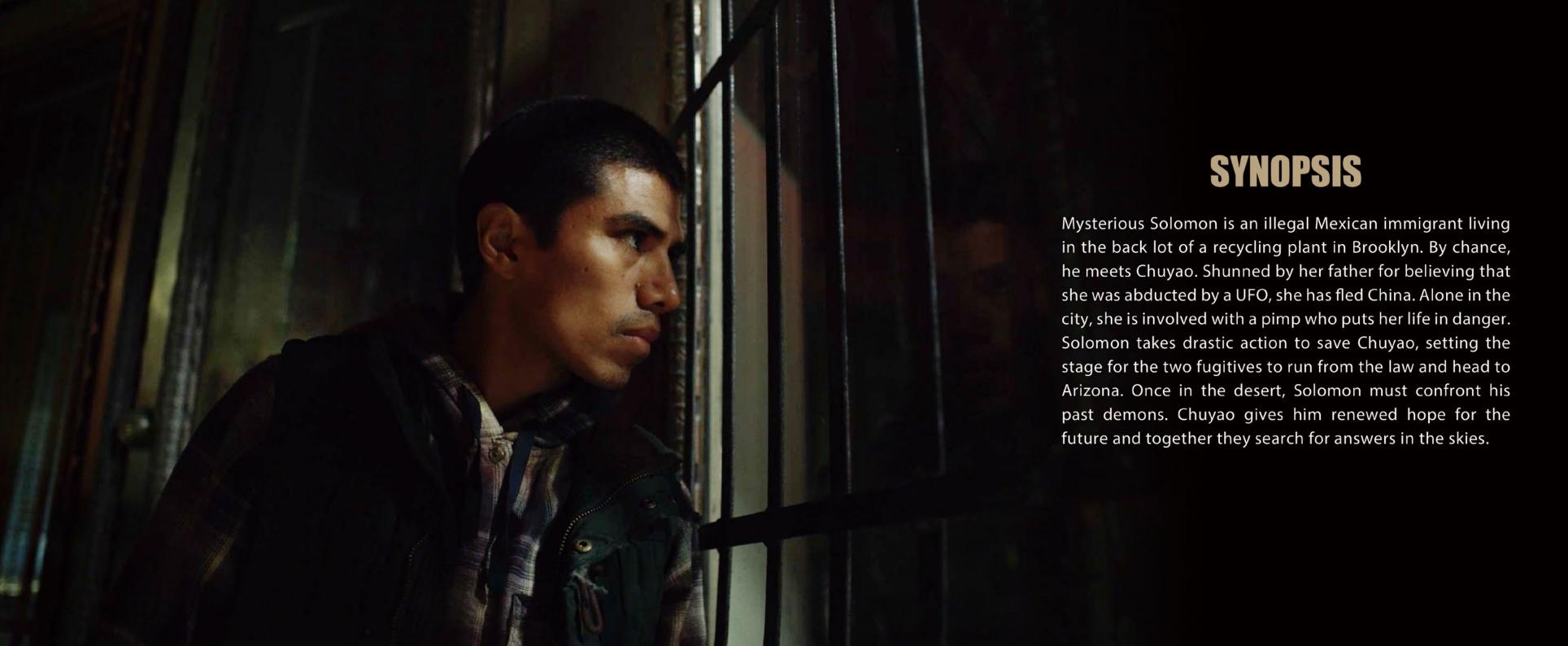
Michel Burstein

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www.waltfilm.com







Solomon JORGE ANTONIO GUERRERO

Chuyao XINGCHEN LYU

Tiger ZAO WANG

Constance O-LAN JONES

Darren PAUL COOPER

Director of Photography LUCA BIGAZZI

Production Designer KATE RANCE

Costume Designer VERA CHOW

Editor ALEX LORA

Composer IDEM

Post Production Sound TODD TOON

VFX Supervisor MAX COLT

Co-Executive Producers JUN PAN, RUI YANG, DI WU, JASON LI

Co-Producers STEFANO MUTOLO, HAIDER RASHID, XIBEI HU

DUODUO YANG, KYLER HUANG, JUAN AURA

Associate Producers DAMIANO PATERNÒ CASTELLO, TING LI

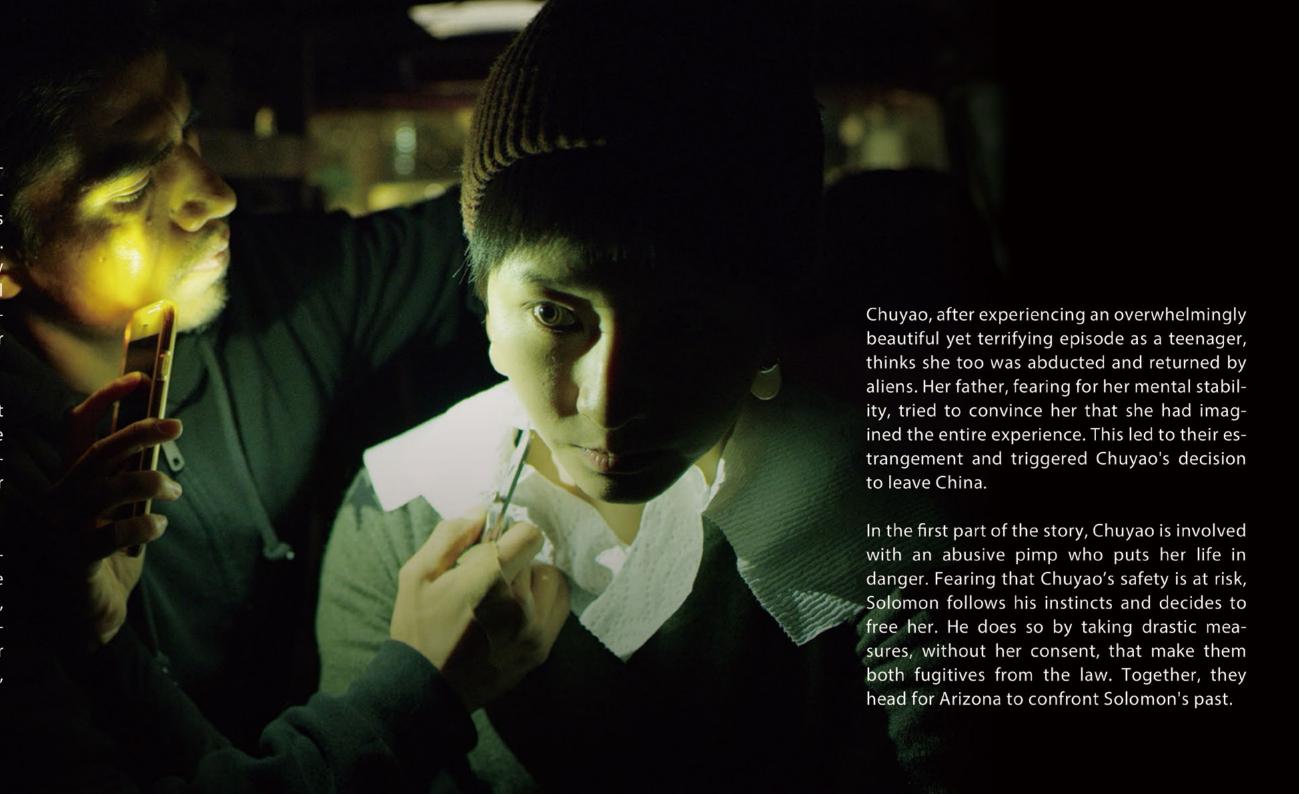
JINSHENG HU, YUHAN LIU, GRACE CHANG

DIRECTORS STATEMENT

WE ARE LIVING THINGS is the story of underdogs and outcasts, a theme that has added urgency in today's political climate. The drama is set in the United States with two illegal aliens as its main characters. Solomon and Chuyao meet accidentally. As events unfold, the characters begin to sense that they 'know each other from somewhere else'. They both have had powerful experiences that seem to indicate hidden dimensions behind reality, but they don't know what to make of these experiences or how to share them.

Solomon and Chuyao have had to overcome hardships for most of their lives. In order to survive and see light at the end of the tunnel, they are both believers. But what they believe in is not institutionalized religion, it's in the existence of an external, outer space life form that could save them.

Solomon grew up in the streets of Mexico City. His mother Magdalena was a street kid herself. When she became pregnant, she knew she could never take care of a baby. After she gave birth, she left him behind and headed north for the border. As a teenager, Solomon went searching for her. In an Arizona border town, he met Constance, who told him that she knew his mother, and that Magdalena had been abducted by aliens.



Without understanding why, Chuyao finds herself drawn to exploitative situations that replay her UFO abduction trauma – such as getting a chip implant from her pimp boyfriend, and being "abducted" by rich clients, drugged, and forced to submit to a risky fetish game that closely resemble the typical UFO abductee's experience of being strapped to a table and experimented on. Trauma victims often subconsciously find themselves reliving the trauma in different ways, falling into those same patterns over and over as they try to come to terms with the initial trauma. Chuyao finds herself caught in this kind of nightmarish feedback loop. She is likely not aware what is driving her towards these sordid and dangerous situations, but the pull of the unresolved trauma from her past is almost inescapable.

Once she and Solomon hit the road and head for the Arizona desert, the dynamic of their relationship shifts. Increasingly, we see that he is the one who is dangerously trapped by demons from his past, while she is the one who uses her strength and courage to help set him free. Surrounded by the magnetic rock formations and the vastness of the desert, Chuyao finds renewed energy. She guides and protects Solomon, and gives them both hope for the future as they await salvation from the skies.

Our story is an 'out of time' ironic fable with a science-fiction element that acts as a metaphor, yet we hope our film also captures something very immediate about the world we are living in right now, the "funhouse mirror" reality we have come to know. It also touches on the current national and global controversies over migration, protectionism, and border patrols.

Antonio Tibaldi









Writer / Director ANTONIO TIBALDI

Antonio Tibaldi is a NYC-based, Australian-born, Italian filmmaker. His fiction and non-fiction feature films have won numerous awards and screened at festivals such as Sundance, San Sebastian, Rotterdam, IDFA and Tribeca. His credits include "On My Own" starring Judy Davis, "Little Boy Blue" starring Nastassja Kinski, John Savage, Ryan Phillippe and Shirley Knight and "Claudine's Return" starring Christina Applegate and Stefano Dionisi. His films have been released by Miramax, Warner Bros., and Lion's Gate. He has worked for United Nations Television for over 15 years, directing nonfiction films that shed light on underreported stories around the globe. As a Fulbright Scholar, he received an MFA in Film at CalArts.





Writer / Editor

ALEX LORA

Winner of a New York Emmy, finalist for a Student Academy Award, and winner of a Gaudi Catalan Academy Award, ALEX LORA is a Spanish filmmaker based in New York City. In 2014, Variety's Cannes Edition listed him as one of the top 10 promising Spanish directors.



Producer

FAN HE

Fan He is a Chinese film producer based in Los Angeles. In 2013, he founded U.S. based EnMaze Pictures. Fan has produced/-co-produced dozens of China-U.S. co-production projects, including Wanda Pictures' "Mojin-The Lost Legend", Ivanhoe Pictures' "My Other Home" and the hit TV series "Wonderful Life".



Executive Producer

ANDREW FIERBERG

Andrew Fierberg has produced over 40 independent films. He recently completed Laurie Simmon's feature debut "My Art" which he produced with Lena Dunham. He is the Executive Producer of STARZ's "The Girlfriend Experience", written and directed by Lodge Kerrigan, produced by Steven Soderbergh.



Executive Producer

SOPHIA MENG PAN

Sophia Meng Pan is a bilingual screenwriter based in L.A. Writing for both Chinese and U.S. productions, her previous works include "Family Plan", "Stride" and original TV series "It Never Snows in Los Angeles". Sophia is also the Chief Creative Officer of EnMaze Pictures.







Cinematographer

LUCA BIGAZZI

Luca Bigazzi has lensed some of the most important Italian films of the last three decades. He has worked with directors such as Gianni Amelio, Mario Martone, Carlo Mazzacurati, Abbas Kiarostami. He shot Paolo Sorrentino's "The Great Beauty", winner of an Academy Award for Best Foreign Language in 2014. He has won a record 7 Davide Donatello for Best Cinematography, Italy's Academy Award equivalent.



Production Designer

KATE RANCE

Originally from the UK, Kate Rance is an award-winning production designer based in New York City. Her films have screened at the Berlinale "The Chair" and have won awards at festivals such as SXSW and the LA Film Festival.



Casting

HEIDEI LEVITT

Los Angeles-based Heidi Levitt has cast many award-winning films, from the Academy Award-winning "The Artist", to films by Oliver Stone, Wayne Wang, Sally Potter, Wim Wenders, Diego Luna, Kim Nguyen, and Victor Nunez.







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