



HAPPY ENDING

A film by Elodie Yung

SYNOPSIS

Like thousands of Asian women seeking a better life for their family, Chenda leaves Cambodia to work in a massage parlor in America. Isolated and without resources, she learns the hard way that her paycheck implies more than a simple massage. But Chenda carries a dark secret that she only shares with her doll...

Happy Ending is a neo-noir movie that explores the somber world of an illicit massage parlor through the eyes of a young female immigrant already struggling with grief. How will she react when she is pushed to the brink? Her story is one of revenge. Only because fiction, less brutal than real life, allows us to empower our anti-heroine, offering her a happier closure than reality does.

KEY SCENES





Chenda fearfully walking towards her fate.



Chenda giving handjob to multiple men.



Chenda escapes reality to her memories.



Chenda and Thavi on a wooden bridge in Kampot.



Chenda self-inflicting pain with chilis.



The motorcycle accident back in Cambodia where she lost her daughter.



Chenda at her breaking point.



Chenda pouring chili oil on Mark's delicate man bits.



It's a Happy Ending.

KEY CREW



ELODIE YUNG



Writer-Director-Producer

ÉLODIE YUNG can currently be seen in the starring role of 'Thony' in the hit Fox series THE CLEANING LADY created by Miranda Kwok and Melissa Carter.

In 2016, Yung starred in season 2 of the Netflix series DAREDEVIL, where she originated her version of the globally known Marvel comic book character 'Elektra Natchios'. She reprised that same role of 'Elektra' in THE DEFENDERS for Netflix alongside Finn Jones, Mike Colter, Charlie Cox, Krysten Ritter and Sigourney Weaver. That same year she also starred in Lionsgate's THE HITMAN'S BODYGUARD alongside Ryan Reynolds, Salma Hayek, Samuel L. Jackson and Gary Oldman.

Notably she also starred in films including Sony's THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO directed by David Fincher, Lionsgate's 2016 film, GODS OF EGYPT, directed by Alex Proyas, and Paramount's GI JOE: RETALIATION directed by Jon Chu.

After first earning a law degree in France where she was born and raised, Yung realized that she wanted to follow her lifelong passion of acting instead, which led her to enroll and later graduate from the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA).

HAPPY ENDING is her directorial debut.

JONATHAN HOWARD



Writer-Producer-Actor

JONATHAN HOWARD is an English actor known for his role as 'Ian Boothby' in THOR: THE DARK WORLD (2013), Darcy's intern and love interest, GODZILLA KING OF THE MONSTERS (2019) playing Charles Dance's son and for leading performances in SKYLINES (2020), TRESPASSERS (2019), THE FIVE RULES OF SUCCESS (2021), and Neil Marshall's THE LAIR (2022).

A graduate of the prestigious London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA), Howard began his career with prominent British TV performances in DREAM TEAM, Julien Fellows' critically acclaimed DOWNTON ABBEY and mini series TITANIC (2012), along with supporting roles in MR. SELFRIDGE and British/American sitcom EPISODES. In the US, he has recurred on TNT's THE LAST SHIP and KINGDOM.

HAPPY ENDING is his first film written and produced with his wife and partner Elodie Yung under their Ugly Duckling Production banner.

JASON McLAGAN



Producer

JASON McLAGAN is an award-winning producer, director, and animator.

He is the Executive Producer and Animation Director for Warner Bros./ Stage13's FAMILY STYLE (HBO Max). He produced the short films NIAN for Hulu's Bite-Sized Halloween program, AFI's HARANA (Grand Jury Prize, Sarasota Film Festival 2021), FLIP THE RECORD (Grand Jury Prize, Urbanworld 2017, shortlisted for the 90th Academy Awards), and HOOK UP 2.0 (Tribeca Film Festival 2019).

As the Animation Director for the LEGO® brands' hit web series THE BUILD ZONE, Jason oversaw 90 episodes with over 100 million views worldwide. His stop-motion short, AN ELEGY FOR EDEN, won "Best Short Film" at the AM/FM International Film Festival, and was in competition at Slamdance. For the 2022 California Midterm Elections, Jason produced and directed the animated GET OUT THE VOTE Campaign for the Asian American and Pacific Islanders For Civic Empowerment Education Fund (AAPI FORCE-EF).

Jason is the Co-Founder and Advisory Board Member of Cinema Sala, a screening and workshop series dedicated to the promotion of films and the performing arts of the Filipino diaspora. He is the CEO of Indie Pop Films.

MATTHEW KEENE SMITH



Producer

MATTHEW KEENE SMITH is an award-winning independent film producer and the founder of Twice Told Films where he focuses on director-driven narratives.

Matthew's feature credits include Heidi Saman's *NAMOUR* that won the LA Muse Jury Award at the 2016 Los Angeles Film Festival and Neil Drumming's *BIG WORDS*, a NY Times Critic's Pick that premiered at Slamdance, both released by Ava DuVernay and her distribution collective ARRAY; and *9 RIDES* from Oscar-winning Director Matthew A. Cherry that was shot on the iPhone and world-premiered at the 2016 South by Southwest Film Festival and was distributed by Gravitass.

Other credits include short films *THE THING ABOUT US* from Director Keely Weiss and Executive Producer Joey Soloway that premiered at Outfest 2019; Marie Jamora's *FLIP THE RECORD* that won Best Short at Urbanworld 2017 and Jamora's *HARANA* won Best Narrative Short at the Sarasota Film Festival in 2021 and was produced for AFI's Directing Workshop for Women; Sharmila Ray's *DEVOTEE* that premiered at the 2021 Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival; Vernon Jordan III's *ONE MAGENTA AFTERNOON* that premiered at Outfest Fusion 2022; Tiffany Frances's *DOT* that premiered at the 2022 Dances With Films Festival; Frances's short documentary *TEMPLE BEAUTY* that premiered at the 2022 Sarasota Film Festival; and Michelle Krusiec's *NIAN* that premiered on HULU in October 2022.

Matthew began his career at Marmont Productions working for legendary director Bob Rafelson on HBO's *POODLE SPRINGS* starring James Caan and as Associate Producer on Rafelson's *NO GOOD DEED* starring Samuel L. Jackson and Milla Jovovich.

MARIE JAMORA



Producer

Born and raised in Manila, Philippines, MARIE JAMORA is a director, writer, and producer.

She was an executive producer and the director of both seasons of FAMILY STYLE (HBO Max). She produced, wrote, and directed her films, FLIP THE RECORD, which won the Grand Jury Award for Best Narrative Short at Urbanworld, HARANA, which won the Grand Jury Award for Best Short Film at the Sarasota Film Festival, as well as WHAT ISN'T THERE (ANG NAWAWALA), which internationally premiered at the Slamdance Film Festival.

Marie began her career directing music videos during the golden age of the Philippine rock scene and founded Indie Pop Films in 2004 as a result. She recently produced Élodie Yung's short film HAPPY ENDING, Bianca Catbagan's LIGHTNING, Dana Nachman's HOOK UP 2.0, and 11-year old Emerson Basco's CAN WE PLAY.

After immigrating to the U.S. and with a desire to amplify Filipino stories, Marie founded CINEMA SALA, a platform showcasing Filipinx work in film and the performing arts. Marie teaches at the American Film Institute, is an Advisor for Sundance Co//ab, and has directed episodes for QUEEN SUGAR (OWN), FIRE COUNTRY (CBS), THE RESIDENT (FOX), ALL RISE (OWN), GREASE: RISE OF THE PINK LADIES (Paramount+), and both seasons of THE CLEANING LADY (FOX).

ALAN CAUDILLO



Cinematographer

After studying film at the University of Colorado with avant-garde pioneer Stan Brakhage, Los Angeles based Cinematographer ALAN CAUDILLO photographed his first feature film THE SHOT, starring Dana Carvey & directed by Dan Bell, in 1994. Alan has since photographed numerous films, commercials, music videos, documentaries, and television shows. Alan has had the privilege of working with directors Simon West, Allison Anders, Henry Jaglom, Eva Longoria, Mark Pellington, and many others.

He recently finished photography on the the hit series THE CLEANING LADY, QUANTUM LEAP, the David Ayers created drama DEPUTY for FOX, and the Simon West-directed blockbuster SKYFIRE.

JOE WILSON DAVIES



Composer

JOE WILSON DAVIES is a composer for film, television, and video games. Working at Hans Zimmer's Remote Control Productions since graduating from UCLA School of Music in 2017, Joe has contributed music for composers such as Ramin Djawadi (GAME OF THRONES), Lorne Balfe (TOP GUN), and Brandon Campbell (THE LETTER FOR THE KING).

He has also composed multiple scores in his own right across a range of feature films, TV series, and documentaries.

ANTI-ARCHIVE

ANTI-ARCHIVE is a Cambodian film production company created in January 2014 by Davy Chou, Steven Chen, Kavich Neang. In 2016, Park Sungho joined as a partner, and in 2020, Daniel Mattes joined as fifth partner.

Anti-Archive produces and co-produces fiction and documentary films by the emerging, new generation of Cambodian filmmakers, as well as films by international, independent directors shooting in Cambodia.

Deliberately provocative, the name Anti-Archives invites one to rethink the relationship of films and filmmakers with the past and history.

Co-Producer

KEY CAST



JASMINE SIM



JASMINE SIM is an American actress of Cambodian heritage born and raised in Long Beach, CA. Currently working as a Brand Marketing Assistant, she has studied acting at Margie Haber Studio, Playhouse West and UCB.

Jasmine recently wrapped filming the dramatic short film ROBERTA'S RULES directed by Derrex Brady and has an upcoming recurring role in the episodic comedy called OH, POSSUM COUNTY. Jasmine loves dancing, singing and playing the guitar in her free time. HAPPY ENDING is Jasmine's professional acting debut.

Chenda

MARTHA MILLAN



An Australian Filipino raised in Sydney, MARTHA MILLAN currently stars as a series regular on FOX's newest drama series THE CLEANING LADY in which she portrays the character of 'Fiona De La Rosa' and most recently was seen in the feature film THE DRUMMER with Danny Glover, and prior to that, the premium cable series SUCCESSION.

Enthralled after doing her first play in high school, Millan studied at The University of Sydney and then New York City, where she graduated from the American Academy of Dramatic Arts.

Jasmine

KRISTA MORIN



KRISTA MORIN has been acting on screen and stage for over 20 years. She is also a company member with Gracemoon Arts.

Selected Film/TV: THE HANDMAID'S TALE, SPOONING, SPOTLIGHT, REVENGE OF THE BLACK BEST FRIEND.

Yoga Lady

BEHIND THE SCENES





Day 1 of filming: In Kampot, Cambodia, with actresses Jolie Thorn (Thavy), Jasmine Sim (Chenda), Alan Caudillo (Cinematographer), and the whole Cambodian crew of Ant-Archive.



Day 2: Filming the accident in the streets of Phnom Penh. Jasmine Sim lying on the floor while Kavich Neang is keeping her in the shade between takes, Srey Lin making sure the traffic is stopping.



Filming in a little market in Phnom Penh.



Scene with actor Hout Sithorn in a Pagoda in Phnom Penh with the Anti-Archive crew.



Actresses Proud Sangouthai, Kimberly Sinardi, Jasmine Sim and Martha Millan posing outside the massage parlor.



Actor Jonathan Howard getting ready with make-up artist Mercedez Gonzalez.



Producer Jason McLagan working along side with our scrip supervisor Bia Freire inn our tiny office on set.



Meeting at the summit with cast and crew in the very narrow corridor of the massage parlor.

CREDITS

DIRECTED BY Élodie Yung

WRITTEN BY
Jonathan Howard & Élodie Yung

PRODUCED BY
Jonathan Howard
Marie Jamora
Jason McLagan
Matthew Keene Smith
Élodie Yung

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
Olary Yim Ambrosi

CO-PRODUCER
Bayonmera
Anti-Archives

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER
Remy Hou
Peter Kong
Phearath Hyzen Pho
Rene Uong

STARRING

CHENDA Jasmine Sim
JASMINE Martha Millan
MAY Tossapon "Didi" Banks
MARK Jonathan Howard
YOGA LADY Krista Morin
THAVY Jolie Thana Pho

FATHER Sithan Huot
CASHIER Moises Portillo
REGULAR #1 Tim Trobec
REGULAR #2 Christopher Parker
REGULAR #3 Damien Luvara
REGULAR #4 Layne Wootten
REGULAR #5 Ted Monte
REGULAR #6 Dullah Allen
REGULAR #7 Tupac Zapata
REGULAR #8 Giovanni Figueroa
DRIVER Sam Ly
MASSEUSE Proudpisut Sangouthai
MASSEUSE Tiffany Rothman

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
Alan Caudillo

PRODUCTION DESIGNER
Mark Snelgrove

EDITOR
Yu Jung Hou

CASTING DIRECTOR
Jessica Sherman CSA

COSTUME DESIGNER
Cocoa Rigal

KEY MAKEUP ARTIST
Mercedes Gonzales

COMPOSER
Joe Wilson Davies

MUSIC SUPERVISOR
Matthew Keene Smith

CREDITS

UNIT PRODUCTION MANAGER

Jason McLagan
Matthew Keene Smith

FIRST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR Maritte 'Marty' Go

SECOND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR Dino Pastrano

SCRIPT SUPERVISOR Bia Freire

CASTING ASSOCIATE Margie Vargas

PRODUCTION SOUND MIXER Monson Douglas

SUPERVISING SOUND EDITOR Bryan Parker

SOUND EDITOR Lily Adams

RE-RECORDING MIXER Kristen Hirlinger

COLORIST Paul Allia

TECHNICAL SCORE ASSISTANT HunOuk Park

LOS ANGELES UNIT

FIRST ASSISTANT CAMERA Matt Borek
FIRST ASSISTANT CAMERA Maud Laurent
SECOND ASSISTANT CAMERA Frank Juarez
GAFFER Kurtis Meyers
KEY GRIP Troy Cummings

ART DIRECTOR Masha Lyass
ASSISTANT ART DIRECTOR Dima Bocharov

WARDROBE Gabriela Piluk

EPK Gino Jose
BTS Bianca Catbagan

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR Bobby Javier

KEY PA Bartow Weiss

PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS
David Rosenblatt
Mateus Hueb
Sara Young Chandler

CAMBODIA UNIT

PRODUCTION COMPANY Anti-Archive

CO-PRODUCER Davy Chou

PRODUCTION MANAGER Danech San

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR Sreylin Meas

SOUND RECORDIST Sopheakdey Touch

CASTING DIRECTOR Sophea Kim

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT Suthida Megan Thearat

VAN DRIVER Reasey Pol

TUK TUK DRIVER Thorn Meas

SOUND EQUIPMENT Kongchak Pictures

KAMPOT LOCATION Les Manguiers

CREDITS

featuring "Hummingbird"

PERFORMED BY
Dengue Fever

WRITTEN BY
Senon G. Williams
Paul Dreux Smith
Ethan Holtzman
David Ralicke
Nimol Chom
Zachary Holtzman

COURTESY OF
Tuk Tuk Records and It's Alive
Media

VENDORS

Pictureshop

Formosa Group

B&G Thai

Hey What's Your Face

Panavision

Chapman/Leonard

Walk and Talk Production Rentals

Oak Massage Parlor

THE FILMMAKERS WOULD LIKE TO THANK

Armani Beauty
Bandiddh Prum
Bash and Tino, Inc
Bob Falfa
CAPE
Cedric Eloy
Chandara So
Fonki
Harana
Jess Vu
Josh Mills
Julie Lipsis
Kaylene Men & Kun Chap
Kavich Neang
Kenny Taing & Jenny Taing
Kimlong Meng
Minavann
Maria, Penny, and Truman
Mitchell Taing
Niza Oun-Nguyen & Merrick M Nguyen
Paul Tan Keo & Peter Tan Keo
Polene Mochi
Simon Hatt
Sophie Ung & Bruce Friedman
Sophie Uong
Thanet Thorn

A person is shown in profile, looking down, in a dark environment. The background is filled with out-of-focus, colorful bokeh lights, creating a dreamy and artistic atmosphere. The person appears to be wearing a dark jacket and a light-colored shirt.

CONTACT

UGLY DUCKLING PRODUCTIONS - johnnyhoward84@me.com

TWICE TOLD FILMS - mrmattsmith@gmail.com

INDIE POP FILMS - jasonmclagan@gmail.com