Visitors of the Night

Original title: Nachtelijke bezoekers

The failures of the ethnographic endeavor to discover reality are revealed in this expository and experimental film. The narrator-ethnographer embarks on an expedition to encounter the Mosou, an isolated and matrilinear tribe in the mountains of South West China. Their society is built on the principle of the axia-relationship, ties between visitors of the night. This means that a man only stays in his wife¬?s house at night and during the day he works for the benefit of his grandmother. Since men and women do not have economical obligations, their unique, polyandric relationships are based on love only. Recently due to funding by the Han government, The Lugo region has turned into a major touristic area, where tradition and modernity clash - particularly when the polyandry of the Mosuo is seen as prostitution by outsiders. Van Dienderen playfully reveals the distance between textual knowledge and the experience of a cinematographic journey in a thoughtful and fascinating documentary.

CREDITS

DIRECTOR: An Van Dienderen
PRODUCER: Jan Roekens, Sophie Schoukens
WRITER: An Van Dienderen
EDITING: Didier Volckaert
PHOTOGRAPHY: An Van Dienderen, Karen Van der borght, Didier Volckaert

CREATION DETAILS

TYPE: Film
PRODUCTION SHARE: Majority Flemish Production
YEAR OF PRODUCTION: 1998
PRODUCTION STATUS: Completed
ORIGINAL TITLE: Nachtelijke bezoekers
ORIGINAL LANGUAGE: Dutch, Chinese

TECHNICAL SPECS

RUNNING TIME: 34'
SOUND FORMAT: 5.1 (+sub)
RELEASE FORMAT: Analog Betacam
COLOUR: Colour

CONTACT & SALES

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