



A FILM BY
O.B. DE ALESSI



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT:

Kuo's Eyes was inspired by the true story of a Chinese boy who was found without his eyes in 2013 – the victim of an apparently unmotivated family drama. As I followed this boy's tragedy on the news and wished for his recovery, I started to imagine a story where he would find the person who had taken his eyes and be able to get them back. The story was initially conceived as an illustrated book, but eventually became a film.

Shot entirely inside an abandoned church in my hometown – a small city in the north of Italy – *Kuo's Eyes* is entirely self-produced and self-made. I opted to shoot the entire film in the same space because I wanted to create a sense of theatricality and spatial awareness which would have been lost otherwise.

The film was shot in Italian and is subtitled in English. It has an original soundtrack composed by the Australian musical trio Golden Fur.

An earlier version of *Kuo's Eyes* was screened in Reykjavík, Iceland at Nýlistasafnið (The Living Art Museum) as part of the exhibition “The Primal Shelter Is The Site For Primal Fears” (December 2016).

LOGLINE:

After suffering a brutal attack, eight year old Kuo is found in the woods without his eyes. With the help of his stuffed animal Bainfu, whose bright red eyes Kuo uses as a guide, he sets off on a journey to find the mysterious faceless woman who stole them.

SYNOPSIS:

Eight year old Kuo is found unconscious and bleeding in the woods near his house. After having taken him to the hospital, his parents are told that his eyes are missing. When he is reunited with his best friend, the stuffed animal Bainfu, Kuo realises that although he is now blind, Bainfu's bright red eyes are able to guide him in his journey to find the mysterious woman who stole his eyes.

CAST:

Alessandro Iacovoni - Kuo
O.B. De Alessi - Aunt/Mysterious Woman
Adriano Raia - Ghost
Valentina Rubini - Mother
Marco Monty Ferrari - Father
Christian Bellomo - Police Officer
Gianni Ferrari - Doctor
Michele Nicoletta, Aristide De Angelo - Spirits in the woods
Mario Balza - Creature in the woods

CREW:

Written, produced and directed by O.B. De Alessi
Director of photography: Michael Salerno
Original Score by Golden Fur
Sound editing and mixing by Alan F. Jones
Edited by O.B. De Alessi with Michael Salerno
Set design, creature design & costumes by O.B. De Alessi



DIRECTOR'S BIO:

O.B. De Alessi is a visual artist, director, writer and actor currently living in Paris. Born in Italy in 1984, she graduated from Chelsea College of Art and Design and later from Central Saint Martins, London.

O.B.'s videos, live performances, installations and drawings have been exhibited extensively throughout Europe, as well as in South America, Australia and Russia. Recent exhibitions include "The Primal Shelter Is the Site For Primal Fears" at The Living Art Museum, Reykjavik, Iceland. For this exhibition, O.B. presented an early version of her latest project, the short film *Kuo's Eyes*.

Also trained as an actor, O.B. has been involved in several theatre and film productions. In 2015 she co-wrote, co-directed and performed in the play *The Birthday State*, which premiered at the Juan Barnabe Theatre in Lebrija, Spain.

While often taking real events as starting points – as is the case with *Kuo's Eyes* and *The Birthday State* – O.B. sees each one of her projects as an opportunity to create a self-contained world which she can inhabit as one or several characters, of her own creation.

Kuo's Eyes is O.B. De Alessi's first short film.

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Distributor:

Kiddiepunk Film

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TECHNICAL INFO:

Running Time: 28:49 mins

Year: 2017

Format: HDV

Sound: Stereo

Aspect Ratio: 16:9

Country of shooting: Italy

Country of Production: France, Italy

Language: Italian

Subtitles: English

