

Strand Releasing presents

**ACADEMY AWARD<sup>®</sup> NOMINEE  
BEST FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM**

# **THE MISSING PICTURE**

**(L'IMAGE MANQUANTE)**

**A film by RITHY PANH**

*Cannes Film Festival, WINNER, Un Certain Regard*

*Official Selection:*

*Toronto International Film Festival*

*AFI Film Festival*

*New York Film Festival*

*Telluride Film Festival*

*Chicago International Film Festival*

**Country of Origin:** France/Cambodia

**Format:** DCP/1.85/Color

**Sound Format:** 5.1 Surround Sound

**Running Time:** 92 minutes

**Genre:** Drama

Not Rated

**In French with English Subtitles**

French Narration by: Randal Douc

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## **SYNOPSIS**

THE MISSING PICTURE recounts director Rithy Panh's firsthand experience of his family and friends' suffering at the hands of Pol Pot's communist regime. It tells of how citizens were rounded up and taken to labor camps and how personal effects were destroyed. Since most of the existing recorded artifacts of that time are propaganda footage, Panh utilizes beautifully sculpted clay figurines and elaborately detailed dioramas to recreate the missing images from his memory. His recollections of his family and friends before and after the regime's rule are poignantly told through a narrator's poetic voice, as written by Panh. THE MISSING PICTURE is a unique documentary that manages to recreate a historical moment that would never be told if not for the sheer creative mind of Panh and his innovative storytelling method.

## DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Rithy Panh was born in Phnom Penh in 1964. After his family was forced from Phnom Penh by the Khmer Rouge in 1975 and later died in a refugee camp, Rithy Panh fled to Thailand in 1979. He then ended up in Paris, where he became interested in film, and attended film school. Life under the Khmer Rouge and the legacy of that regime became the major themes of his films. Panh made his debut in 1989 with *Site 2*, and in the years that followed made a range of documentaries about life in Cambodia, eventually returning to the country of his birth. Since then, he has been a key figure in the documentary industry in Cambodia, and not only because of internationally recognised films such *S21*, *The Khmer Rouge Killing Machine* (2003) and *Duch, Master of the Forges of Hell* (2011). Panh is also the founder and director of the Bophana: Audiovisual Resource Center in Cambodia, which aims to preserve the history of Cambodian film and photography.

Panh has also produced films such as *Lida Chan* and Guillaume Suon's *Red Wedding*, a documentary supported by the IDFA Bertha Fund which in 2012 won the IDFA Award for Best Mid-Length Documentary, and which also deals with the legacy of Pol Pot's regime. Rithy Panh's latest film, *l'Image Manquante*, had its première in the Un Certain Regard section at the Cannes film festival.

Born in Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Graduated from IDHEC (Institut des Hautes Etudes Cinématographiques, Paris)

- 1989 *Site 2*
- 1990 Souleymane Cissé
- 1991 *Cambodge, entre guerre et paix*
- 1994 *Rice People*
- 1995 *The Tan's family*
- 1996 *Bophana, a Cambodian tragedy*
- 1997 *One evening after the war*
- 1997 *Lumières sur un massacre 10 films against 110 000 000 land mines*
- 1998 *50 ans et un monde Van Chan, a cambodian dancer*
- 1999 *The Land of wandering souls*

## MOVIES

- 2000 ***Que la barque se brise, que la jonque s'entrouvre***
- 2002 ***S21, the Khmer Rouge Killing Machine***
- 2003 ***The people of Angkor***
- 2005 ***The Burnt Theater***
- 2006 ***Paper cannot wrap up embers***
- 2008 ***THE SEA WALL***
- 2010 ***Duch, Master of the forges of hell***
- 2011 ***SHIIKU***

## **BOOKS**

**S21, the Khmer Rouge Killing Machine**, *Flammarion*  
with Christine Chaumeau

**Paper cannot warp up embers**, *Grasset*, April 2007  
with Louise Lorentz

**L'Elimination**, *Grasset*, January 2012  
with Christophe Bataille

## **CREW**

**Written & Directed by**

**Produced by**

**Text written by**

**With the voice of**

**English narration**

**Music by**

**Sculptor**

**Director of Photography**

**Editing**

**Special Effects**

**Sound Mixing**

**Coproduction**

**With the support of**

**In collaboration with**

**The participation of**

**With the support of**

Rithy Panh

Catherine Dussart

Christophe Bataille

Randal Douc (French-version)

Jean-Baptiste Phou

Marc Marder

Sarith Mang

Prum Mésa

Rithy Panh & Marie-Christine Rougerie

Narin Saobora

Eric Tisserand

CPD, ARTE France, Bophana Production

Région Ile-de-France

Centre national du cinema et de l'image animée

MEDIA Programme of the European Commission

Procirep – Société des Producteurs, Angoa