



# ASIAN STORIES

FOR MORE INFO  
**ASIANSTORIESMOVIE.COM**

**LOVE HAPPENS**

STARRING JAMES KYSON LEE KATHY UYEN KIRT KISHITA LAUREN MARY KIM LUIS FERNANDEZ-GIL CHRISTOPHER DINH ERIC HAILEY  
DIRECTED AND WRITTEN BY RONALD ODA PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY KRIS ANTHONY CHIN ASSOCIATE PRODUCER AND EDITOR KATSUYUKI "KATZ" UENO ASSOCIATE PRODUCER WENDY HO  
ORIGINAL SONG BY THOMAS' APARTMENT ORIGINAL MUSIC BY GEORGE SHAW DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JONATHAN HALL ASSISTANT DIRECTOR CECILIA TSAI  
A PRODUCTION OF FLIX FACTORY PRESENTED BY MULTIVISIONNAIRE PICTURES & CINEMA EPOCH (C) 2008 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

**PRESS KIT**  
JULY, 2008

**CINEMA  
EPOCH**



# ASIAN STORIES



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## ***Asian Stories Fact Sheet***

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- **Title:** Asian Stories – (formerly “Asian Stories (Book 3)”)
- **Total Running Time:** 98min
- **Language:** English
- **Genre:** Dramedy
- **Director:** Ron Oda
- **Producers:** Kris Chin, Katsuyuki “Katz” Ueno (Associate) & Wendy Ho (Associate)
- **Filming Format:** Super 16mm
- **Screening Copy:** Currently Available in Digibeta & DVCAM – Stereo Mix
- **Official Web Site:** [www.asianstoriesmovie.com](http://www.asianstoriesmovie.com)
- **Distributor (US):** Cinema Epoch
- **Representation:** MultiVisionnaire Pictures
- **Theatrical Release:** Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008 (US)
- **DVD Release:** Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 (US)

## ***Film Synopsis***

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### **One-Line Synopsis**

When Jim is jilted by his bride-to-be, he decides to convince his ex-con and best friend, Alex to kill him before Valentines Day and put him out of his lonely misery.



### **Synopsis**

Asian Stories is an amazing feature length film that tells a story unlike any other. Jim is a young closefisted Chinese American living in LA who desperately finds himself with a stack of white flower themed disposable cameras, fleur-de-lis invitations, a number of champagne bottles, and a ten-thousand dollar engagement ring bill. The only thing missing is a bride. In financial debt and miserable for having his fiancé leave two weeks prior to Valentine's day, Jim tries to resurface his dignity and wash away his wretchedness by asking his best friend, a Japanese hitman whose passion for cooking fancy entrees extends far beyond his kitchen, to kill him just in time to miss the Hallmark holiday. With less than four days to live, Jim, while wearing his wedding tuxedo the entire time, treks to the mountains to find his fate, meet a pizza delivery boy with lucky charms, the funeral spot of his choice, and a girl. (text by Rominna Villasenor)



## ***Filmmaker's Statement***

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We had a dream - to make a movie reflecting our Asian American heritage that we've never seen on screen. Whether you're Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, or whatever – there are just some jokes that are not told outside of our ethnic circles.



Therefore, we decided to bring them out. It may not be politically correct – but it's real. We also wanted a good story, so we brainstormed on a topic that we could relate to.

Here it is, a movie that hopefully shows a kind of humor rarely seen or heard of. We hope you will enjoy the characters as they reflect real people who we've either known or encountered in our own lives.

And most of all, that you share in our dream to see more movies that make you laugh, make you cry, make you feel...

Kris A. Chin

## ***Director's Statement***

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Dear Supporters of Independent Film,

Kris Chin and I have hated watching crappy movies way before our college days. But as the years went by, it just got worse and we kept paying our eight bucks to see movies that just plain sucked.



Although, we had absolutely zero experience writing, directing or producing, we figured we couldn't do any worse than the blockbuster epics known as "Glitter" and "Catwoman". So last year we finally quit complaining and decided to make a movie that we would want to see and hopefully didn't suck too bad.

Does it suck? The jury is still out. Let us know if you think it doesn't suck, otherwise, just add us to the ever growing list next to "Gigli".

Thanks for supporting Independent Film.

Ron Oda

## ***Production Credit***

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### **Cast**

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**Jim Lee** – James Kyson Lee

**Alex** – Kirt Kishita

**Amanda** – Kathy Uyen (Nguyen)

**Katherine** – Lauren Mary Kim

**Ed** – Luis Fernandez-Gil

**Minh Phuc** – Christopher Dinh

**Pizza Delivery Guy** – Eric Hailey

**General Store Manager** – Matt Witt

**Cocktail Waitress** – Michelle Guest

**Bar Patron** – Michelle Prenez

**Gangster #1** – John Roy

**Howard** – Kevin Stafford

**Southern Bar Patron #1** – Susie Heckendorn

**Southern Bar Patron #2** – Kira Gurnee

**Southern Bar Patron #1** – Todd C. Smith

**Southern Bar Patron #2** – Dwayne Ward

**Southern Bar Patron #3** – C. William Chappell IV

**The Rainbow Suspender Guy** – Lang W. McDonald

**Deli Customer** – Matt Braunger

**Voice of Cook** – Katsuyuki “Katz” Ueno

**Gangster #2** – Greg Bishop

**Bank Teller** – Heather Klinke

**Pizza Guy’s Friend** – Alan Achterberg

**Amanda’s Ex-Boyfriend** – Jonathan Hepburn

**Bowling Alley Girl** – Ruth Snyder

**Coffee Berry** – Michelle Conry

**Latin Male** – Gabriel Lozano

**Latin Female** – Priscilla Soto

**Gangster #3** – Mike Dalager

**Kalbi The Dog** – Caesar

## Filmmakers

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**Director & Writer** – Ron Oda

**Filmmaker** – Kris Chin

**Director of Photography** – Jonathan Hall

**Associate Producer & Editor** – Katsuyuki “Katz” Ueno

**Associate Producer** – Wendy Ho

**Original Music & Theme Song** – Thomas’ Apartment

**Original Music** – George Shaw

**Assistant Director** – Cecilia Tsai

**2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Director** – Janet Po

**1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Camera** – Benjamin Longworth

**2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Camera** – Alan Achterberg

**Gaffer** – Keith McNulty

**Gaffer/Grip** – David Tagarda

**Grips**

Rob Ji

Parish Geocha

Deshawn Calloway

**Steadicam Operator** – Gary Gomez

**Grip/Lighting Equipment by** – McNulty Nielsen, Inc.

**Art Director** – Apoorva Vishwanath

**Art Work by** – James Oku

**Makeup Artist** – Yoko Nobushi

**Amanda’s Wardrobe** – Sour Pop Apparel

**Sound Mixers**

Derek Horn

Brian Rainwater

Ed Turner

Katsuyuki “Katz” Ueno

**Casting Director – Will Tiao**

**Production Assistants**

Karen Ma

Albert Lee

Ed Wong

Julie Yeh

Renee Lee

Masami Morita

Tomomi Morita

**Script Consultant – Lynne Pembroke**

**Ethnic Consultant – Srin Vishwanath**

**Ghetto Food Consultant – Keith Shutta**

**Ju-ju Consultant – Jimmy Schneider**

**Sommelier – Chris Lum**

**Assistant Editor – Wendy Ho**

**Sound Designer, Re-recording Mixer and etc – Katsuyuki “Katz” Ueno**

**Music Produced by**

George Shaw

**Additional Music by**

Bo Han

**Guitar**

Bo Han

Eugene Huang

**Other Music Produced by**

Ron Reyes

Dwayne Ward

**Special Thanks** (in alphabetical order)

Pallacios Family

Eric Byler

Michelle Conry

Steve Dorsey

Mike Giam

Tony Gonzales

Patricia Headrick

Rocky Jo

Patty Kim

Lionel Lee

Renee Lee

Sonia Lyn

Sudeep Mathur

Yaeko Morita

Tim Morrison

Akiko Oda

Dave Oda

Christina Omoto

Grace Omoto

Robert Rhuy

Donna Shaffer

Kristin Shaffer

Jeff So (TVB)

Joy Tanaka

Melissa Wang (TVB)

Mary Wong

Julie Yeh

Jim Huang

Orchid Bar, Los Angeles, CA

Coffee Berry, La Verne, CA

M3 Telecom



Coin Depot, La Verne, CA  
Kiwi Cafe, Glendora, CA  
The Lounge, Covina, CA  
Genes Grinders, Covina, CA  
Howard's Auto Repair, Los Angeles, CA

## ***Cast Biography***

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### **James Kyson Lee – Jim Lee**

James Kyson Lee currently stars as "Ando" on NBC's HEROES. He grew up in NYC and Boston, where he studied Communications & Broadcasting. After moving to Los Angeles he began training in musical theatre, comedy improv, and acting.



At his first small screen audition, he landed a guest-starring role on CBS' "J.A.G.", and has since appeared on NBC's "Las Vegas", "The West Wing", "Heist", as well as ABC's "Threat Matrix", and FOX's "All About the Andersons".

In addition to "Heroes," James will star in four feature films in 2009, including the highly anticipated "Termination Shock", "Necrosis", "Then There's the Afterlife", and "Destiny".

For more upcoming appearances, visit: [www.jameskysonlee.com](http://www.jameskysonlee.com)

### **Kirt Kishita – Alex**

Distant relative to director Ron Oda.... whereabouts currently unknown...



### Kathy Uyen – Amanda

Kathy Uyên was born and raised in San Jose, CA. Prior to *Asian Stories (Book3)* she has played leading roles in films such as *Oan Hồn (Spirits)*, directed by Victor Vũ and *Kieu* directed by Thu Ha Vu. Her most recent films include Harrison Ford's *Crossing Over*, *Skid Marks* directed by Karl Kozak and *Finishing the Game* directed by Justin Lin. Along with films, she has been in commercials including Direct TV, K-Swiss, NBC Winter Olympics, Chevrolet, etc. Aside from acting, she also loves to MC/Host, and has MC many events, concerts and award nights within the Vietnamese American Community.



### Lauren Mary Kim – Katherine (ex-fiancé)

Lauren Mary Kim's love for performing started at a young age with a wide variety of talents including tap, ballet, jazz, acrobatics, and acting.

Lauren grew up in Stockton, California where her stage presence, magnetism, and enjoyment in performing were readily apparent to the audiences. Lauren's talent and determination led to successful stints with three NBA dance teams, the Sacramento Kings, Golden State Warriors and the Los Angeles Lakers.

After completing her dance career, she began training in martial arts and gymnastics,

Currently she is devoting more of her time in becoming an accomplished actress and can be seen in the fourth season of *Reno 911* and in early 2006 she will be in the Tritan-Northstar Entertainment film called *Backlash*, directed by two time Emmy winner, Dave Chameides.

[www.laurenmarykim.com](http://www.laurenmarykim.com)



### Luis Fernandez-Gil – Ed (The Nicaraguan Friend)

Luis trained and started his professional acting career on stage in New York with the Broadway terms production of *"Don Quixote of La Mancha"* (apparently his accent and look made him the perfect Spanish priest... ironic). After touring and performing on stages around USA he decided to make LA his new home in April 2003.

On the big screen, Luis major credits consist of over 30 movies including *"Weapon of Mass Destruction"* (Asahi TV) and *"The Yearbook"* which received the Best Picture award on the 2005 Chicago International Really Short Film Festival.

On TV, you will see Luis from September 2006 onwards as a Series Regular on KLSC on the upcoming sitcom *"English for Success"*.



### **Christopher Dinh – Minh Phuc**

Christopher Dinh starting his acting career at UCLA, not as a theatre major, but as a Biology major with his sights fixed on Med School.

While working at a coffee shop on campus, he was befriended by a theatre professor who talked him into taking his first theater class. He continued to take acting classes at UCLA and at East West Players in Downtown sporadically throughout college and eventually found himself involved in independent films both in front of and behind the camera.



### **Eric Hailey – Barry - The Pizza Guy**

Eric would like to thank Ron and Kris for casting him in this charming picture.

First reared on the stage in his hometown of Nashville, TN, Eric set off for NYU to continue his creative journey. After spending a semester there, or what Eric likes to call lunch, he found a suitable nest in the Theatre department at the University of Alabama.



Since that time, he has been flailing in the confines of relative obscurity and profound indentured servitude that is the city of Angeles.

## ***Filmmaker Biography***

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### **Directors' Bio (Combined) – Ron Oda & Kris Chin**

Ron and Kris are long-time college friends. Two years ago, they decided to make a feature film. Their bible of filmmaking was "Filmmaking for Dummies." In fact, the crew had witnessed that Ron kept his "Filmmaking for Dummy's" in the back seat of his SUV during the production, which Ron's family bought for him.

Both Ron and Kris are addicted serial entrepreneurs. They were a way far away from any filmmaking experience. However, they sat down two years ago and agreed to make a feature film. Ron started writing a script with zero experience in screen writing. Kris went to Borders a couple days a week to browse filmmaking handbooks to learn filmmaking.

Two years later, they completed their very first feature film on Super 16mm film.

### **Kris Chin – Filmmaker**

Kris Chin was born in New York, raised in Miami, and lived most of his adult life in Los Angeles, China, Japan, and Korea.

An addicted serial entrepreneur, he owned businesses in Asia and the U.S. before landing a real job at DIRECTV heading the International Programming Acquisitions Department.

In 2004 he convinced his college buddy, Ronald Oda to pursue the dream they shared of making the Asian American comedy that they wanted to see on the big screen. So he quit his job, immersed himself in learning the craft of filmmaking, and embarked on a crazy adventure of making a movie.



### **Ron Oda – Director & Writer**

Ron is an entrepreneur. He has owned various businesses. But he doesn't want to reveal himself too much. (We suspect that he's crazy or shy.) Anyways, all he says is "Just Watch The Movie."



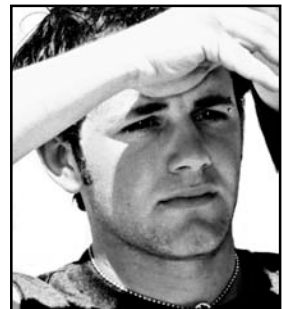
### **Jonathan Hall – Director of Photography**

Jonathan began his interest in cameras at the age of 7, when he would steal the families' camcorder and use to make movies with his childhood collection of action figures.

Soon after his 14th birthday, Jonathan began doing camera work on commercials and multi-camera events. From that point on, Jonathan's love for the camera bloomed into a fully evolved passion for creating images.

Jonathan enrolled in Brooks Institute of Photography directly following high school. Upon graduation, Jonathan received an award of honor from his class for his amount of professional experience and work quality. Over the years Jonathan has shot on literally, every format of film and videotape of value today.

Today, Jonathan lives in Hollywood, where he continues to evolve himself with new and innovative projects. This is Jonathan's 3rd feature film.



For more information, visit [www.hallwaypictures.com](http://www.hallwaypictures.com)

### **Katsuyuki “Katz” Ueno – Associate Producer, Editor, Sound Designer, Webmaster, Sound Mixer and Publicity**

When Katz (Katsuyuki Ueno) came to Los Angeles from Japan in 1999 to pursue his goal to be a filmmaker, he was just a pure and innocent Japanese guy with a lot of hope. However, then, he somehow met Ronald Oda and Kris Chin. He joined Asian Stories, and everything went wrong.

He now owns production and marketing company, deerstudio in Japan and US, worked over several dozens of film projects, including award winning films.

For more information, visit [www.deerstudio.com](http://www.deerstudio.com)



### **Wendy Ho – Associate Producer**

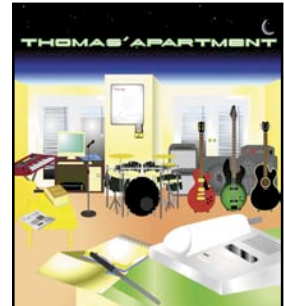
After working for the Features and Commercial departments at Rhythm and Hues since 2000, Wendy Ho joined the family of Asian Stories (Book 3). Her projects include the movie Daredevil and Disney, Motorola, KCRW, Burger King, Target, Geico, and Mercedes-Benz commercials. Asian Stories is her 2<sup>nd</sup> feature film project.



### **Thomas' Apartment – Original Music and Theme Song**

Thomas' Apartment is an Asian indie-alternative-rock band formed by five guys who met while attending UCLA. Their musical style fuses wide-ranging influences from 80's rock to electronica to modern rock.

Following the release of their self-produced debut album in 2004 and their follow-up album, Synchrony, in 2007, Thomas' Apartment is currently recording their third album.



For more information, visit [www.thomasapartment.com](http://www.thomasapartment.com)

### **George Shaw – Original Music**

George Shaw is a rapidly rising composer who has worked on Hollywood and independent films. He is a versatile composer with the skill for crafting rich orchestral tapestries as well as producing cutting edge sounds to match the visual images in movies. George recently received 3 best score nominations for the 2007 Film & TV Music Awards, won Best Music in a Short at the Garden State Film Festival Movie Music Competition, and 5 Gold Medals at the Park City Film Music Festival. (cont'd)





Shaw studied composition and film scoring at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, taking part in its world-class Scoring for Motion Pictures and Television program. He also participated as a 2007 fellow in Film Independent's Project: Involve, a filmmaker mentorship program. Shaw plays clarinet, piano, guitar, and a variety of exotic woodwind instruments from around the world, and is currently training to become a virtuoso Rockband videogame drummer. George resides in Los Angeles, where he can surf and snowboard in the same day.

For more information, visit [www.georgeshawmusic.com](http://www.georgeshawmusic.com)

### **Cecilia Tsai – Assistant Director**

Born in New Jersey, raised in Taipei, Cecila Tsai has devoted the last three years to increased visibility for Asian Americans in mainstream media. She began this endeavor promoting "Better Luck Tomorrow" and "Charlotte Sometimes" in 2003. Since then, she has worked on numerous Asian American features including "Americanese," "Tre," "Gold Fish" and "My Life Disoriented" (PBS) as script supervisor and/or 1st AD.



Cecilia recently started a production company, Scopotone Entertainment, and is currently producing a variety of programs-- including animation, music videos, episodic series, and comedy/variety shorts for a new mobile channel geared toward pop/hipster audiences.

Cecilia wants to thank Ron and Kris for a wonderful hilarious adventure. Not a shooting day went by on set without outrageous events or infectious laughter.

### **Keith McNulty – Gaffer**

Keith McNulty started his career doing cue cards for his father Barney McNulty in 1975 working on the Grammys, Emmies and thousands of other shows.

He launched his first company *McNulty's Computer Prompting* in 1989, and worked in all areas of the teleprompting including operating prompters for (3) three presidents.



He is now partnered with Erik Nielsen to create *mcnulty nielsen, inc*, specializing in Grip/Electric Trucks, Teleprompting, Cue Cards, Camera Rental and Production Sound based out of North Hollywood, CA.

For more information, visit [www.mcnultynielsen.com](http://www.mcnultynielsen.com)

## **Contact Information**

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**Web Site:** [www.AsianStoriesMovie.com](http://www.AsianStoriesMovie.com)

**MySpace:** [www.myspace.com/asianstories](http://www.myspace.com/asianstories)

**YouTube:** [www.youtube.com/asianstories](http://www.youtube.com/asianstories)

### **Representation (International)**

**MultiVisionnaire Pictures**

[www.multivisionnaire.com](http://www.multivisionnaire.com)

**Tel:** +1 (626) 737-8357

**Fax:** +1 (626) 407-4197

**Office:** 3080 West Valley Blvd, Suite B, Alhambra, CA 91803, USA

**Mailing Address:** PO BOX 1477, Alhambra, CA 91802, USA

**Email:** [sales@multivisionnaire.com](mailto:sales@multivisionnaire.com)

### **Distributor (US)**

**Cinema Epoch**

[www.cinemaepoch.com](http://www.cinemaepoch.com)

**Address:** 10940 Wilshire Blvd 16th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90024, USA

**Tel:** +1 (310) 443-4244

**Email:** [info@cinemaepoch.com](mailto:info@cinemaepoch.com)

### **Production Office (To reach filmmakers)**

c/o deerstudio

[www.deerstudio.com](http://www.deerstudio.com)

**Address:** 12021 Wilshire Blvd Suite 398, Los Angeles, CA 90025, USA

**Tel:** +1 (310) 820-7129

**Fax:** +1 (310) 526-6891

**Email:** [info@deerstudio.com](mailto:info@deerstudio.com)