

'5000 Years of Good Advice', 1987

Writer, Director

14 minute video

Co-produced with Mary-Ann Liu

Based on Confucius' stone tablets, the only authenticated works that have survived the ravages of time, 5000 Years is a hard look at militarism, at progress and decay. The text is delivered in Mandarin, Fukienese, Cantonese, and finally English.

What I was experimenting with was the creation of a visual vocabulary and the reordering of these images to create different contexts for the narrative.

We shot this in China, on super eight film – then transferred it to video for manipulation. One image still lingers with me after all this time, that of the gaunt pacing tiger in the Guangzhou zoo.

What I found so compelling in China was the sheer weight of the historical continuity. By contrast the skies here are clear of ghosts.

- Current touring Canada with **'Yellow Peril Revisited'** exhibition
- Selected for **Asian American Film and Video Festival**, New York 1989
- Exhibits at Chisenhale Gallery with **Yellow Peril: New World Asians** sponsored by **Canadian High Commission**, London, England 1988
- Premiers at **Asian New World Video Exhibition** in conjunction with Asia Pacific Festival. 1987