

Text version of English subtitles

Kenneth Bi
Film Director and Writer

“Rice Rhapsody” wasn’t my inspiration

It’s other people’s inspiration

When Director Fruit Chan was filming in Singapore

he found that many gay men were trying to approach his crew

They all wonder why men are so popular in Singapore?

And this was how the idea hit upon

After he told me the story, I started to write the story “Rice Rhapsody”

Another person told me his inspiration

and I created the tone and manner of the film

We then spent a long time in Singapore doing research

Inspiration isn’t everything

Most of the ideas that come to mind while sitting in a room aren’t practical

And fantasizing by yourself is of no use

You need to meet people

For example, we met and talked to homosexuals

We asked them questions

Through these interviews, I realized how ignorant I was

I still have many questions to ask

On site, you must be familiar with all technical matters
So as to keep the production team under control
I had spent a lot of time learning these technical things
I had filmed almost everything
Music videos, advertising, films, editing
I had done and learned them all
So when I'm really shooting my own film,
I can understand the difficulties my crew encountered
What I can do to help them
Mr Lau Tin Chi said repeatedly
“Technical skills are important, but sensitivity matters more.”
Sometimes, we need to train our sensitivity
City dwellers have seen and heard so many things ...
that it's easy to be numb and lose sensitivity.
Everything around us is important
They are our inspirations
You just don't get it
Sometimes, we have to teach ourselves
Look at things around us in a different way
However, even getting an inspiration
There is still much work to do
It takes a long time to transform an inspiration into a film

You need to convince and get the approval of many people

You have to be patient and find a way to work it out

It takes fortitude to turn an inspiration into a work of art

You need these qualities even for writing a poem

When you're writing a poem alone at home

You'll see if the poem is good enough after finishing

If not, you can make changes to it

If you haven't got the mastery, there's no way you can polish it further

So, you have to ask yourself

What should I do if I am not good enough

Attending a class? Or travelling around the world?

(The measures adopted by) Everyone is different

I think what really matters is ...What you do after you're inspired