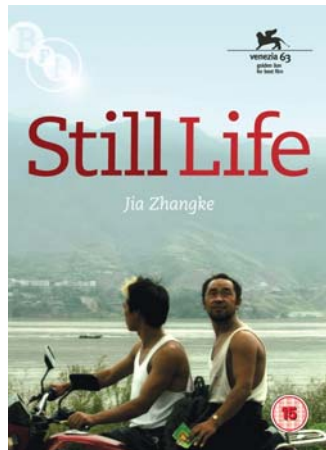


## DVD press release



### Still Life

A film by Jia Zhangke

**Winner of the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival 2006, *Still Life* is a vivid and absorbing tale of two individuals struggling to keep up with the dizzying pace of change in 21<sup>st</sup> century China**

Set against the spectacular landscape of the Three Gorges region, Jia Zhangke's humane and moving Golden Lion winner tells two contemplative and compassionate stories of a man and a woman searching for absent spouses in Fengjie – an ancient town on the Yangtze River which is being demolished and will soon vanish for ever in the flooding caused by the controversial Three Gorges hydroelectric dam project.

At the same time as offering a revelatory, thought-provoking portrait of people adrift in a world they no longer recognise, *Still Life* also reveals their energy, resilience and ability to reach new understandings.

With long, uninterrupted takes, Jia Zhangke subjects the changing landscape to intense lyrical scrutiny, illuminating the relationship between individuals and their environment and the strange co-existence of man-made squalor with so much natural beauty.

37-year-old Jia Zhangke has been hailed by *The New York Times* as 'one of the world's most important filmmakers'. *Still Life* was released theatrically by the BFI in February 2008 coinciding with a retrospective of Jia Zhangke's work at BFI Southbank.

#### Special features

- Feature commentary by Tony Rayns
- *Dong* (Jia Zhangke, 2006, 66 mins), a documentary companion piece to *Still Life* on painter Liu Xiaodong and his subjects: male labourers from *Still Life* and female entertainment workers in Bangkok
- Newly translated English subtitles\*
- 34-page illustrated booklet with essays by Chris Berry and Jia Zhangke and interviews with Jia

\*NB. This DVD release of *Still Life* has been awarded a 15 certificate by the BBFC as the feature English subtitles translate to stronger language than appeared in its PG-rated UK theatrical release.

#### Release date: 25 August 2008

RRP £19.99 / cat. no. BFIVD753 / cert 15

China / 2006 / colour / Mandarin language with English subtitles / 109 mins / DVD-9 /

Original aspect ratio 1.78:1 (16x9)

BFI DVDs are available from the Filmstore at BFI Southbank, all good DVD retailers; by mail order from 020 7815 1350 or online at [www.bfi.org.uk/filmstore](http://www.bfi.org.uk/filmstore)

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