



THE DON HAIG FOUNDATION

Yung Chang
2008 Don Haig Award Winner



Yung showed a remarkable sense of cinematic storytelling in his first feature-length documentary, ***Up the Yangtze***. The film used the controversial Three Gorges Dam as an unsettling backdrop to life for the displaced families in the rural flood plains along China's legendary Yangtze river banks. *Up The Yangtze* made Yung a critical darling.

The film produced by EyeSteelFilm screened at numerous festivals including Sundance, Full Frame, Hot Docs, and IDFA, winning Best Documentary at Vancouver, and earned the director an Independent Spirit Award nomination in Los Angeles.

China Heavyweight is his 2012 follow up. Again, Yung takes us to rural China where we meet a past champion wanting one last shot, an arrogant young fighter wanting to be Mike Tyson and his best friend, a talented fighter with confidence issues. We see them against the backdrop of a rampant, developing China; they're all in training for the Olympics. *China Heavyweight*, debuted at Sundance in 2012. Zeitgeist Films has acquired US rights. The film played live in Cineplex theatres and the Bloor Cinema – a first for a Canadian film and for Hot Docs.

Yung Chang is based in Montreal. He has a degree in film production from Montreal's Concordia.