COMING OF AGE IN MYANMAR
An Art of Documentary Filmmaking Workshop held by the Yangon Film School in 2009

Since its inception in 2005, the non-profit organisation Yangon Film School has brought together experienced filmmaking tutors from around the world and young Burmese men and women with some prior experience in the media for residential trainings in all aspects of filmmaking – from screenwriting to editing – with a particular emphasis on documentary.

In November 2009, twelve new Burmese participants from very different backgrounds embarked on the Yangon Film School’s third beginners’ Art of Documentary Filmmaking Workshop. It was these participants’ first encounter with filming the real – and for some it even marked their first brush with the medium of film. Guided this time not only by international tutors but also by their more experienced YFS peers, the participants launched into three intense weeks of seminars, screenings and exercises – culminating in the production of four lively portraits of young Burmese on the brink of adulthood.

This DVD showcases the Beginners’ four final films on the topic of Coming of Age in Myanmar. It also contains their First Film Exercises and a film About the 2009 Yangon Film School Workshops featuring comments from tutors, student-trainers and participants not only on the beginners’ workshop, but also on some of the other YFS courses – The Poetic Camera, Ways of Seeing: A History of Film Form and the Pitching Competition – which were also held in 2009.

In 2009 the Yangon Film School Workshops were supported by:

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