**Dr JINGRU (CYAN) CHENG**

Dr. [Jingru (Cyan) Cheng](https://www.rca.ac.uk/more/staff/dr-jingru-cyan-cheng/) is a transdisciplinary design researcher. At the intersection of architecture, anthropology, performance, and filmmaking, Cyan’s collaborative work is committed to generating new sensibilities and imaginaries. She received commendations by the RIBA President’s Awards for Research in 2018 and 2020 from the Royal Institute of British Architects. Her work has been exhibited at Driving the Human: 21 Visions for Eco-social Renewal (2021), Critical Zones: Observatories for Earthly Politics (2020–22), Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism (2019), Venice Architecture Biennale (2018), among others, and included in the Architectural Association’s permanent collection. Cyan holds a PhD by Design from the Architectural Association (AA), and was the co-director of the AA Wuhan Visiting School (2015–17). Cyan co-leads an architectural design studio (ADS7) at the Royal College of Art in London, exploring politics of the atmosphere.

**CHEN ZHAN**

Chen Zhanis an architect, anthropologist, and independent filmmaker. Holding a master in anthropology from SOAS University of London, Chen’s research develops a critical analysis of future-making at the intersection between design, material culture, and consumerism. Situated in the approach of visual anthropology, Chen’s film practice focuses on the sociopolitical struggles of the marginalised through the lens of the everyday. Her short documentary, *Ahmad*, tells the story of a Lebanese asylum seeker who rebuilds his life through cooking and food-sharing. The film premiered at the London International Documentary Festival (2019). As an ARB/RIBA charted architect trained at the Architectural Association in London, Chen worked at Heatherwick Studio on projects across scales and sectors. She dedicated three years to the realisation of Maggie’s Cancer Care Centre in Leeds, which received multiple awards in honour of its architectural design.

Cyan and Chen are also collaborating on ORCHID, BEE and I, a fictional ethnography of a dystopian future world, prompted by shared pandemic experiences.

**RIPPLE RIPPLE RIPPLING**

The short documentary film looks into the everyday practice of families in Shigushan village, Wuhan, China. ‘Rippling’ is a way of living, a form of knowledge, and a frame of mind—rooted in precarity. It derives from a context of the dissolved household in contemporary rural China. They are families of China’s 285 million floating population, who have seen the absence of a middle generation. The complexities inherent in the dissolved household interweave traditional socio-cultural roots, a recent history of China’s national collectivisation and the contemporary re-appropriation and reinvention of familial forms towards intergenerational and cross-household dependency. This documentary is a prologue to a transdisciplinary framework—at the intersection of architecture, anthropology, performance, and filmmaking—concerning the articulation of non-discursive, bodily knowledge and how to make it perceived and felt.

**Credits:**

Co-Directors: Jingru (Cyan) Cheng & Chen Zhan

Local crew: Yizhuo Gao and Yunshi Zhou

Editing: Chen Zhan

Consultant: Laura Belinky

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