Autumn Moon

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Argument

Through the examination of both character movement and patterns of cinematography we can better understand the characters' struggle to find identity in the cultural hybridity of Hong Kong.

Clip

- http://www.viddler.com/explore/english345/
  videos/105/ingroup/uwenglish345/

Pui-Wai

- Physically stationary within the frame

- Completely Still Camera

- The rigid structure of the setting in the frame dictate her disconnect from her emigrating family and her contemplative nature.

- Her movement is very strategic and exemplifies her steady search for her identity before she emigrates to Canada

Limited Movement
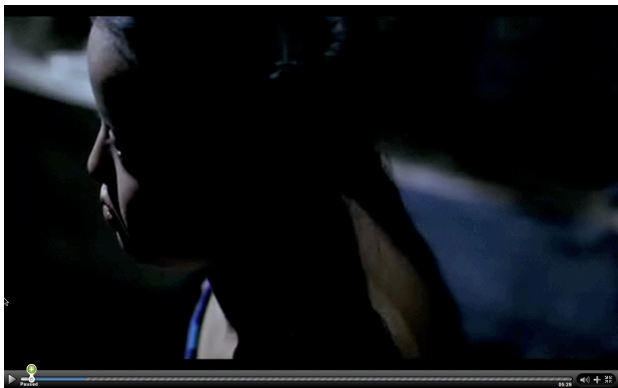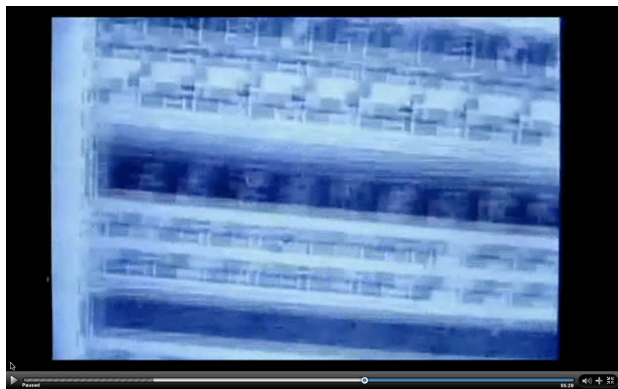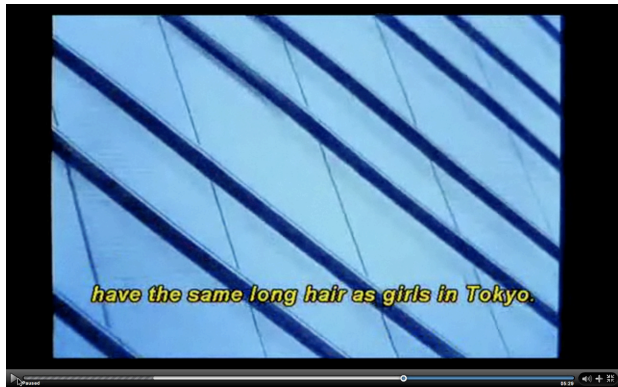
Metaphoric Movement

- Pui-Wai is heading towards a very important move from her home to a foreign land

- Her stationary movement refers to the permanent nature of her move.

- She searches for her own identity to be content with herself before this drastic move.

- Her search for identity begins very passively, much as her choice to emigrate is not her own.

Tokio

- Movement within the frame
  - Getting out of the car
  - Filming the plane/city

- Chaotic Camera Movement
  - Indicates the sporadic nature of his identity search
  - Objectifies the city he is entering
  - Bizarre images of buildings indicates that the answers are not in the location…they are in the people

Chaotic Buildings

Active Movement

Metaphoric Movement

- Tokio has be moving constantly looking for some form of authenticity

- His objectivity within his travels is what hinders him from gaining any true personal understanding

- He is very much a temporary traveler which relates to the sporadic camera movement in his voiceover

- He needs to settle long enough to establish connections with people to truly find what he seeks

Hong Kong's Cultural Hybridity

- Hong Kong is the melting pot of Asia causing a blend of different cultures

- This creates a barrier to some forms of authenticity which Tokio and Pui-Wei seek, but inevitably do not exist.

- This is why they must combine their two different cultures, bound by the third dimension of the English language, to help each other in their quest for identity.

Conclusion

The hybrid nature of Hong Kong poses as an interesting background on which to examine these characters in their search for personal identity. The use of movement both with the camera and within the frame at the beginning as we meet these characters allows us to understand their differences while recognizing how they will eventually help each other towards greater understanding.