

## Msian wins New Talent Award



A MALAYSIAN filmmaker has been recognised as one of the best new directors at the National Film Festival For Talented Youth in the United States, reported Sin Chew Daily.

Mickey Lai, who graduated with a bachelor's degree in Broadcasting (Hons) from Tunku Abdul Rahman University College, was presented with the New Talent Award for her film *The Cloud Is Still There* (pic).

The short film was part of Lai's coursework in completing her master's degree in Film and Television Production at London's MetFilm School.

It tells a story of a Christian woman and her relationship with her Taoist mother, which is based on Lai's life experiences.

Lai said she wanted to highlight the different ways the mother and daughter prayed to God in a bid to save the terminally-ill grandfather.

"I wanted to explore the conflict in many Malaysian Chinese households with different beliefs. I wanted to produce a film that tugs at the heartstrings of viewers," she said.

*The Cloud Is Still There* won Lai best film director in the South-East Asia Short Film Festival in September and had been nominated in the Norwich Film Festival and the National Film Festival For Talented Youth.

