

**Film Title and Release Date:** *Finding Kukan* (2016)

**Length of Film:** 76 minutes

**Film Genre:** Documentary

**Reviewer Name and Grade:** Wendy T., 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Date Reviewed:** March 19, 2022

This film is about the documentation of Robin Lung and her journey to discover whether Li Lang-Ai deserved more credit than what she got for *Kukan*, a movie made by Li Lang-Ai and Rey Scott. *Kukan* tells the story of China during WWII. Many Americans at the time were focused on the war in Europe, and didn't pay attention to Asian countries. Because of this, *Kukan* was most Americans' first time viewing China's hardships. The information presented in this film is very good, as everything is explained well and is easy to understand. This documentary is successful in reaching the audience about Li Lang-Ai, the film *Kukan*, and the struggles of China during the war. *Finding Kukan* also explains the struggles and triumphs during the making of *Kukan*. Lang-Ai wanted America to know how much China was struggling, and that hundreds of people were dying every day. *Kukan* was promoted as Scott's film, and not Lang-Ai's. Various other people also took credit as producer for *Kukan*, while Lang-Ai was the rightful producer. Because of this, Lang-Ai never got the credit she deserved. In the end, although Scott did capture the footage for *Kukan*, he would've never been able to without the help of Lang-Ai. The documentary ends with Lung being able to make a copy of *Kukan* and going to China. She allows all Chinese citizens to watch the film and learn from it.

*How did you find the film on Kanopy (by title search, subject search, casual browsing, etc.)?*

I found this film by searching up "20's". We learned about it in History, and the topic interested me.

*Did the plot (for fictional movie) or presentation of information (for documentary) keep you interested?*

Yes, it was entertaining to watch as pieces of the puzzle were put together.

*Was the pace of the film too fast, too slow, or just right?*

The pace of the film was just right for me.

*What grade level(s) is this film appropriate for?*

I think this film is appropriate for anyone in or above 8th grade.

*5 stars: I'm really glad I watched this film; it was awesome!*

I rate this film 5 stars because I liked how it talked about both the successes and struggles of Lang-Ai. It talked about racism and how Lang-Ai didn't get the credit that she rightfully deserved, which I find important. I also liked how Lung flew out to China to share the film so people could learn from it. Overall, I recommend this film if you're interested in history.