



Angst Essen/Eat Fear

Ming Wong

2008

27 minutes ■ Digital video installation

In Love for the Mood

Ming Wong

2009

4 minutes, loop ■ 3 channel digital video installation

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melodrama *Ali: Fear Eats the Soul*. Ming Wong himself plays all the roles, including the Moroccan male and German female protagonist. Amazingly, these remakes successfully convey the precise emotional language of the original films. Too discomfiting to be camp drag, they raise vexing questions about race and gender representation as it relates to narrative expectation. They also display an effusive love for cinema and its heroines that is hard to resist.

■ Noah Cowan

Ming Wong explores performance, identity and the moving image by creating his own "world cinema", often drawing from classic or cult films where he either directs "mis-cast" actors or plays all the roles himself. He represented Singapore at the Venice Biennale in 2009 with the exhibition *Life of Imitation* that re-visited Singapore's "golden age" of cinema in the fifties and sixties, for which he received an honourable mention.

Presented at TIFF Bell Lightbox, Learning Studios, September 12 to 19.

Image: Courtesy the artist.

Originally commissioned for the 2009 Venice Biennale for the artist's solo exhibition *Life of Imitation* at the Singapore Pavilion, *In Love for the Mood* is inspired by Hong Kong filmmaker Wong Kar-wai's meditation on love and infidelity, *In the Mood for Love*.

A Caucasian actress plays both the leading man and woman and attempts to deliver the lines in Cantonese. Her faltering line readings are recorded in three loops, played simultaneously on three screens. *Angst Essen / Eat Fear* is a compressed remake of Rainer Werner Fassbinder's intercultural