

Door Games Window Frames: Near Drama / Linda C.H. Lai

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Technical details: Meta-data & Rule descriptions

Clip description master table:

All clips will be tagged manually, based on these criteria: Clip no / Group / duration / size of shot [FS, MS, MCU, CU / frontal, tableau] / lighting [day, evening, silhouette profile, dark-out] / narrative punctuation [door, window] / facial expressions (emotions) [puzzled, curious,] / Clip content [door drama, window drama / solo-m / solo-w / 2-shot, objects] / Sequence / Source / main performer 1 / main performer 2

| Clip no | Group | Duration | Size of shot [FS, MS, MCU, CU / frontal, tableau] | Lighting [day, evening, silhouette profile, dark-out] | Narrative punctuation [door, window] | Facial expressions (emotions) [puzzled, sad, curious, angry, shocked, shy, ashamed] | Clip content [door drama, window drama / solo-m / solo-w / 2-shot, objects] | Sequence (drama events) | Source | Main performer 1 | Main performer 2 |
|---------|-------|----------|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------|--------|------------------|------------------|
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All clips are divided into 5 groups based on their micro-narrative functions:

Group A – Door punctuations

Combinatorial from 4 sets of criteria:

-Open / closed (2)

-opening / closing (2)
-Exiting / Entering (3)
-Hand pushing / person MS / person MCU / person FS (4)
(*Based on the 4 sets of criteria, there are already a total of 48 types of clips.)
[Sequencing: random, or based on set order]

Group B – Window punctuations

Combinatorial from 3 sets of criteria:
-open / closed (e.g. shut, blind drawn down) (2)
-watching from window / idling / opening / shutting (4)
-watching with binocular / watching with a camera / watching (3)
- one person watching / 2 persons watching
(*Based on the 3 sets of criteria, there are already a total of 48 types of clips.)
[Sequencing: random, or based on set order]

Group C – Drama events

1/ Window drama
2/ Door drama
3/ Running through door series
4/ Corridor series
5/ Crowd entering/exiting
6/ Staircase series

Group D - Objects (close-up shots)

1/ Clock
2/ Telephone
3/ Radio / gramophone
4/ Food

Group E – real outdoor locations in the city space of Hong Kong in the 1960s

HK Island

Kowloon

The New Territories

Rules (to be finalized):

- Window I is the main generator. Each clip in this window will assign clips in Window II and subsequently Window III.
- Clips on Window I are mainly from Group A and Group B.
- Within Window I, clips are arranged according to tightness of shots, the tighter shots (CU) will come before wider shots.
- For every five 'Door punctuations' clips, one 'Window punctuations' clip will follow.
- Another set of rules govern across-window sequencing and frequency of repetition.
- Clips in Group C will only appear in Windows II and III.
- Each clip in Group C will be divided into 3 segments of equal duration. For example, if a clip is 9 seconds long, segment (a) will be 3 seconds, segment (b) will be 6 seconds long and segment (c) will be 9 seconds long.
- Playing pattern: always playing from the start of the clip:
(a) – (b) – (c) – (a) – (b) – (c) etc.
- Clips in Group C will run in the order of C-1, C-2, C-3 in ascending order
- Clips in Group D will appear only in Window II.
- Clips in Group E will appear in the order of Window I, II and III playing every 30 clips on each window.

List of clips: thriller + melodrama

All movies were made in the 1960s.

| | Film title | Director | Main actors | Genre |
|----|--|-----------------|-------------|---|
| 01 | <i>Blossoms in Rainy May I</i> 《五月雨中花》上集 | QIN Jian | XX, JL, JX | Family romance |
| 02 | <i>Blossoms in Rainy May 2</i> 《五月雨中花》下集 | QIN Jian | XX, JL, JX | Family romance |
| 03 | 《捉姦記》 (catching the adulterous ones) | WU Hui | ZY, JL | Thriller (Hitchcockian style) + romance |
| 04 | 《夜半奇談》 (strange tales at midnight) | XIE Hong | ZY | Thriller (haunted house) + family |
| 05 | <i>Rear Window</i> 《後窗》 | CHEN Pi, ZHU Ji | ZY | Thriller (Hitchcock's <i>Rear Window</i> adapted) |
| 06 | <i>The Splendor of Youth</i> 《黛綠年華》 | ZUO Ji | ZY | Family romance |
| 07 | 《難兄難弟》 (unbreakable fraternity) | QIN Jian | XX | Social reality + comedy + romance |

Shot notation:

MCU = medium close-up / CU – close-up / MS – medium shot / FS – full shot / FV = frontal view / TB = tableau

Marks in red = location shots showing real outdoor views of Hong Kong in the 1960s

Abbreviations in orange = key performers

The following list shows how movie clips were tagged in the original research-viewing.

***Blossoms in Rainy May I & 2* 《五月雨中花》上集、下集 (1960 / Dir. QIN Jian 秦劍)**

XX = Xie Xian 謝賢 / JL = Jia Ling 嘉玲 / JX = Jiang Xue 江雪

**clips already cut up for experimental video *Door Game* (Linda Lai / 2005)

《捉姦記》 [catching the adulterous ones] (Dir. WU Hui 吳回)

ZY = Zhang Ying 張瑛 / XP = Xia Ping 夏萍 / JL = Jia Ling 嘉玲

Beautiful shot of 1960s busy road – in Kowloon???: 00:04:10 – 00:04:20

00:06:58 – 00:07:08 (CU – facial expression man solo) ZY

00:07:57 – 00:08:02 (FS – m and w in uniform framed by door, w enters) ZY JL
 00:08:34 – 00:08:37 (narrow door entrance on L, w enters)(**possible vertical cropping)
 Beautiful shot of 1960s Cathay Pacific plane at old Kai Tak Airport plus plane landing by Lion Rock: 00:09:24 – 00:09:46
 00:10:19 – 00:10:27 (FS FV – m enters through gate with luggage to camera) ZY
 00:10:27 – 00:10:35 (FS – m walks thru doors into house from outside) ZY
 00:13:00 – 00:13:07 (FS – door opens, m enters from R, m greets from L)
 00:15:13 – 00:15:18 (MS – m gets up from chair to window)
 00:16:21 – 00:16:25 (MS – m rushes R to door, out to staircase)
 00:16:25 – 00:16:35 (FS – m goes downstairs in 2 shots, watching)
 00:16:39 – 00:16:40 (MCU – facial expression, m stares from staircase) ZY
 00:16:48 – 00:16:50 (MCU – facial expression, m stares from staircase) ZY
 00:16:55 – 00:16:57 (MCU – facial expression, m dashes away on staircase) ZY
 00:16:57 – 00:17:03 (FS – m drunk opens door singing give me a kiss)
 00:17:03 – 00:17:14 (MS – w1 and w2 looks perplexed in silence) XP
 00:17:13 – 00:17:36 (FS – m drunk climbs up staircase)
 00:17:37 – 00:17:42 (MS – w1 and w2 look perplexed in silence) XP
 00:18:11 – 00:18:14 (FS – w opens door to bedroom in 2 shots) XP
 00:18:16 – 00:18:21 (MS – w closes bedroom door behind her smiling) XP
 00:18:55 – 00:18:58 (MS – w walking to close the windows) XP
 00:18:58 – 00:19:42 (MS – sequence ‘playing with knife’) ZY XP
 00:18:46 – 00:20:00 (MS – sequence ‘playing with knife’) ZY XP
Look for playing with knife sequence in 《夜半奇談》 / around 01:00:00
 00:20:43 – 00:20:54 (curtain flowing with wind at window morning)
 00:21:50 – 00:21:58 (m eavesdropping, ear on door) ZY
 00:21:59 – 00:22:07 (w crossing door, m hiding) ZY XP
 00:22:11 – 00:22:25 (w crossing doors, m hiding) ZY XP
 00:22:25 – 00:22:27 (CU – m turns his head towards camera, ‘What?’) ZY
 00:23:35 – 00:23:42 (MCU – facial expression m puzzled, pulling his tie) ZY
 Beautiful shot of 1960s Wader Studio (film studio) 華達製片廠 and ??? Picture & Development: 00:23:52 – 00:24:06
 00:26:27 – 00:26:34 (FS FV – m enters through gate holding manuscript staring)
 00:26:47 – 00:26:50 (MS – m stands at door entrance staring at living room)

00:27:25 – 00:27:28 (FS – m opens door and finds wife in washroom)
00:31:04 – 00:31:07 (curtain flowing with wind at window evening)
00:32:33 – 00:33:03 (curtain flowing at window evening) (**crop to keep L 1/3 or 1/4)
00:33:15 – 00:33:19 (m rises to flowing curtain and turns back)
00:37:45 – 00:37:56 (FS – m closes door and retreats to bedroom, puzzled)
00:40:04 – 00:40:13 (FS – m rushes down staircase upper R to lower L exit door on R)
00:40:13 – 00:40:18 (FS – m rushes away from camera towards main gate)
00:42:04 – 00:42:09 (MS – m rises and dashes to door exit L)
00:42:13 – 00:42:21 (MS – w1 opens door and w2 enters) (**may crop away R 1/3)
Beautiful shot of 1960s night scene cinema (Princess Theatre??) showing *The Scarlet Hour* (location unknown): 00:43:10 – 00:44:33
00:43:56 – 00:44:03 (FS – m walks to gate L)
00:44:03 – 00:44:12 (FS FV – m enters thru gate towards camera, throws cigarette)
00:47:16 – 00:47:19 (MCU – facial expression, w solo nodding her head with a smile)
00:49:29 – 00:49:37 (MS – zoom-in to MCU, m solo facial expression, m staring)
00:51:27 – 00:51:29 (MS – m turns L to open door and exit)
00:52:01 – 00:52:16 (FS – m enters thru main door slowly, contemplating)
00:52:45 – 00:52:56 (FS – w enters thru main door slowly, limping)
00:53:25 – 00:53:28 (MS – m exits thru main door, briskly, closing door behind him)
Beautiful shot of 1960s outdoor scene, a car arriving in Castle Peak Hotel, Castle Peak: 00:54:29 – 00:55:11 (followed by in-door sequence of hotel interior)
00:55:43 – 00:55:55 (MS – m knocks on hotel room door, enters, closes door behind him)
00:56:10 – 00:56:18 (MS – m opens room door, exits, closes door behind him, looks)
00:56:45 – 00:56:49 (FS – m opens door, enters foreground, window frame in foreground)
00:57:25 – 00:57:28 (FS – w opens door, enters foreground, window frame in foreground)
Beautiful shot of 1960s outdoor scene (wide shot), a car arriving in Castle Peak Hotel, Castle Peak: 00:59:59 – 01:00:14
01:01:12 – 01:01:21 (FS – w enters) (*crop to keep only R ¼)
01:01:23 – 01:01:25 (FS – drama framed by doors, m and w turn to camera, m kneels)
01:01:38 – 01:01:40 (FS – m watches w exit door on R)
01:01:53 – 01:01:58 (MS – m turns back from door and closes door behind him)
01:02:24 – 01:02:34 (MS – 2 w open car door, enter and close car door)
Beautiful shot of 1960s outdoor scene, car leaving Castle Peak Hotel, Castle Peak: 01:02:35 – 01:02:46

01:10:58 – 01:11:00 (FS-deep focus, m stands at door at end of corridor)
01:11:12 – 01:11:14 (FS-deep focus, m stands at door at end of corridor)
01:11:27 – 01:11:35 (MCU – m puts ear on door to listen)
01:11:40 – 01:11:55 (FS – m puts ear on door to listen) (*crop to keep only R 1/2)
01:12:50 – 01:12:53 (MCU – facial expression, w solo, turns head from door to camera)
01:13:16 – 01:13:31 (MS – m opens door forcefully, stares at couple, closes door)
01:16:29 – 01:16:39 (lower half of door opens with m's legs stepping forth, camera up...)
01:17:26 – 01:17:52 (sequence, low angle, feet come down staircase) (*to be cut up)
01:18:15 – 01:18:18 (MS – m and w stare from behind door)
01:18:18 – 01:18:30 (FS-deep focus, long corridor, m attempts to open door)
01:19:02 – 01:19:04 (FS FV – m and w looking from window)
01:19:35 – 01:19:39 (FS – w pushes open door, enters room, and closes door behind her)
01:19:44 – 01:20:18 (sequence, MS – m steals his way through the door, followed by indoor view, opens drawers etc. and hides behind another door)
01:20:17 – 01:20:25 (FS - door opens, w at door, m's hand gesturing)
01:20:26 – 01:20:28 (MCU – m peeping behind door)
01:20:28 – 01:20:34 (FS - w at door, m's hand gesturing)
01:20:34 – 01:20:36 (MCU – m peeping behind door)
01:20:58 – 01:21:00 (MS – door opens, m's silhouette)
01:21:01 – 01:21:05 (MS – m's silhouette enters, m closes door)
01:21:37 – 01:21:39 (FS – w closes door, MS - m moves out from behind door)
01:21:42 – 01:21:46 (CU – hand inserts key into door lock)
01:21:46 – 01:22:05 (MS - m moves out from behind door, L to R, finds next door locked)
01:23:34 – 01:23:48 (MS – m and w open car door, enter and close car door)
01:24:49 – 01:24:50 (CU – room number on door: 303)
01:24:55 – 01:25:06 (MCU – m opens door of RM303 with gun in hand)(closes door)
01:27:14 – 01:27:18 (CU – facial expression, m solo, looking up L)
01:27:22 – 01:27:25 (CU – facial expression, m and w, sweet look, cuddling)
01:29:55 – 01:30:05 (MS – m strangles w, CU – m's face in anger)
01:30:06 – 01:30:27 (sequence: m throws w on bed, exits via door in background)
01:30:46 – 01:30:51 (zoom from FS to MCU – facial expression, m solo, fierce)

01:30:52 – 01:30:55 (FS – m walks towards door in background) (*crop to keep L half)

01:32:17 – 01:32:24 (MS - ending sequence: couple reunion)

《夜半奇談》 [strange tales at midnight] (Dir. XIE Hong 謝虹)

ZY = Zhang Ying 張瑛 / BX = Bai Xuexian 白雪仙

00:02:20 – 00:02:27 (MCU – hands knocking door preceded by shadow on wall)

00:02:41 – 00:02:54 (MCU - door w/ c-thru frames and spider web, shadow, candlelight)

00:02:54 – 00:03:06 (MS – 2-shot / door drama / m1 and m2 knock on door, door opens, candlelight...)

00:03:40 – 00:03:44 (FS – group enter thru door)

00:05:12 – 00:05:14 (MS – 2-shot, mum and son, anxious)

00:05:40 – 00:05:41 (CU – clock showing 12:30 midnight)

00:06:04 – 00:06:10 (CU – facial expression 2-shot, mum and son, turning L and R)

00:06:10 – 00:06:19 (CU – facial expression, w solo, followed by m, anxious)

00:07:09 – 00:07:12 (MS – 2-shot, mum and son) (**crop to keep 50% L)

00:07:36 – 00:07:40 (CU – 2-shot, mum and son, anxious)

00:10:49 – 00:10:59 (FS – circular entrance, m1 and m2 standing)

00:17:26 – 00:17:30 (MS – walking L to door, shadow reflection on wall)

00:17:37 – 00:17:48 (FS – m closes door, exterior cut to interior 180-degree)

00:17:56 – 00:18:00 (scream to shadow of ghost on wall) (*keep sound-track)

00:18:00 – 00:18:05 (CU – facial expression, m solo, frightened, ghost in mirror)

00:18:09 – 00:18:12 (FS – m runs L to door)

00:19:26 – 00:19:38 (MS – m and w enter shot backward, facial expression)

00:26:23 – 00:26:32 (MS – m and w reunion at entrance) (*keep sound-track)

00:30:12 – 00:30:27 (FS – walking sequence group, R to L) (*keep sound-track/music)

00:30:27 – 00:30:39 (FS – walking sequence group, R to L) (*keep sound-track/music)

00:34:36 – 00:34:43 (CU – window with frames and spiderwebs)

00:38:07 – 00:38:09 (CU – facial expression, m solo)

00:38:24 – 00:38:26 (CU – facial expression, m solo, smoking)

00:43:40 – 00:43:45 (CU – facial expression 2-shot, man+wife, slowly turning, ashamed)
00:45:36 – 00:45:39 (MS – 2 men exiting via arch)
00:45:39 – 00:45:46 (MS – w stares from behind door)
00:46:49 – 00:45:57 (MS – m1 and m2 exiting via arch)
00:47:21 – 00:47:29 (MS – m solo entering room via door w/ round structure outside)
00:47:29 – 00:47:31 (MS – m solo entering room via door w/ round structure inside)
00:48:36 – 00:48:42 (MS FV – m solo pushing door open from outside)
00:49:17 – 00:49:26 (FS – m1 and m2 exiting door into corridor)
00:49:26 – 00:49:31 (MS – mum and son behind doors looking, closing door)(**possible vertical cropping)
00:49:32 – 00:49:55 (FS – m1 and m2 chat at door entrance)(**possible vertical cropping)
00:49:55 – 00:50:05 (MCU – m stares at door entrance)(**possible vertical cropping)
00:50:19 – 00:51:03 (MCU – m1 and m2 hide-and-seek, end with one man closing room-door)

..... (so on and so forth... I have completed a total of 7 films.)