

Ruikang Wang

Visual Storyteller | Field Filmmaker |
Environmental Media



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EDUCATION

Duke Kunshan University Aug 2022 – Present
B.S. in Environmental Science (Biogeochemistry) Kunshan, China
Dual Degree

Duke University Jul 2024 – Dec 2024
Exchange Semester Durham, US

SKILLS

Documentary Filmmaking | Cinematography (Ground & Aerial) | Editing & Color Grading |
Field Research | Visual Storytelling | Cross-cultural Communication

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

Video Editor & Colorist Oct 2025
National Geographic China Expedition China
Edited and color graded aerial and ground footage documenting giant panda habitats in Tangjiahe and Wanglang Collaborated with field researchers to align visual storytelling with conservation science

Cinematography May 2025 – Present
Mekong Field Documentary China / Thailand
Filmed hydropower infrastructure and riverine communities along the Lancang-Mekong River Focused on environmental and social impacts of large-scale river development

Director Apr 2025
IGHE Global Launch Video Duke Kunshan University
Led full-cycle production for an institutional launch video involving international academic and policy stakeholders Coordinated filming, interviews, and post-production across multiple locations

Director May 2025 – Present
The Forest Within a Tea Leaf Xishuangbanna, China
Directed a field-based documentary exploring biodiversity restoration in tea agroforestry systems Conducted on-site interviews with researchers and local farmers Led narrative development, cinematography, and post-production

Director*AI & Climate Documentary*

Produced a short documentary examining the environmental implications of artificial intelligence reflexive insights

Aug 2024
Duke University

Project Lead*TEDxDKU Video Series*

Directed and produced the first official TEDx video series at DKU
Established production workflow and visual identity for the series

Feb 2024 – Mar 2024
Duke Kunshan
University

PROFILE

Environmental filmmaker and visual storyteller working at the intersection of ecology, science, and human narratives. Experienced in field-based documentary production across China and Southeast Asia, with a focus on biodiversity, river systems, and community-based conservation. Skilled in translating complex environmental issues into compelling visual narratives through cinematography, editing, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

FIELD ENGAGEMENT

Mekong Documentary Fieldwork*Cinematography*

May 2025 – Present
Yunnan, China

We'erba "Boundary Walker" Program*Selected Participant*

Long-term field-based storytelling initiative focused on ecology and community narratives

Present
Tibetan Plateau

Mekong School Citizen Science Program*Media Facilitator*

Jul 2025
Thailand

RECOGNITION

CITES Global Photo Competition*First Prize*

"CITES and People" Category

Nov 2025
Samarkand, Uzbekistan

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Student Leaders Board (SLB)*Co-Chair*

Jan 2025 – Jan 2026
Duke Kunshan
University

Houtu-Docu Documentary Project*Founder & Co-Leader*

Led documentary fieldwork across 10 provinces Produced over 3TB of original footage Organized interdisciplinary storytelling and research collaboration

2022 – 2024
China