

HUNGRY GHOSTS

First produced by the Orange Tree Theatre, London, 2010

Synopsis:

Top British racing driver Tyler Jones arrives in Shanghai for the Chinese Grand Prix. His life is airports, hotels, racetracks, corporate events and 'brolly dollies'. For Tyler, Shanghai is no different from Bahrain or Melbourne. He's happy to toe the corporate party line as long as he can do what he lives to do: race cars. But when he meets and falls for Chinese dissident Pin-de, their worlds collide. Racing ambition seems suddenly futile set against Pin-de's struggle for survival in authoritarian China. How can he square his newfound awareness about the reality of life and death in China, and help Pin-de, without losing everything he has?

"It's not that it's good for business. It is business. We are China. China is us. And no one, not even God, can undo that...Look. There's a saying. Helps them deal with the powerlessness. 'Mei you ban fa.' Roughly translates as you can't do a thing about it. Not a thing, Tyler. Not in your power".

Casting:

Number of characters: 5
Men: 3 (35, 47, 50s/60s)
Women: 2 (35, 44)

Setting:

Multi-locational, in and around Shanghai, specifically the Shanghai International Racing Circuit during a Formula One weekend