

Wadah hiburan video Viddsee memberi ruang buat sutradara muda menghasilkan dokumentari sosial tentang Generasi Z. Menerusi siri *Gen Z Starter Pack*, anda dibawa meninjau kehidupan Generasi Z yang memiliki identiti tersendiri dari segi slanga Internet yang digunakan serta definisi jaya mereka yang berbeza. **BERITA HARIAN** melaporkan kisah dua dokumentari arahan anak Melayu.

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KETIKA melursuri aplikasi TikTok sewaktu tempoh pemutus rantai jangkitan Covid-19 tahun lalu, Cik Nuryin Adryana Abdul Halim teruja melihat usaha golongan sebayanya memasarkan pelbagai jenis perniagaan. Antara yang menarik perhatian adalah kegaitan pengasas jenama aksesori Whoaa!, Cik Apphia Ling, 24 tahun, menghasilkan barang kemas 'gila-gila' seperti anting-anting daripada barang terpakai atau objek yang dekat di hati warga Singapura.

Ia langsung memberi idea buat Cik Nuryin, 23 tahun, mahasiswa tahun ketiga ijazah Sarjana Muda Seni (Kepujian) dalam Perfilman, menghasilkan dokumentari sosial tentang Cik Ling yang memburu impian bisnes tanpa mengabaikan kerja sepenuh masanya.

Dokumentari tujuh minit berjudul *Hooked On Apphia-Ling* itu disiarkan di platform video hiburan Viddsee sebagai sebahagian siri *Gen Z Starter Pack* yang bermula pada 13 Oktober lalu.

Siri ini mengetengahkan dokumentari sosial hasil ilham lima kumpulan pembikin filem muda yang menjelajah topik yang dekat di hati mereka bagi memberi definisi nyalanya, budaya dan matlamat hidup dari lensa Generasi Z.

Generasi Z yang juga dipanggil 'zoomers' adalah generasi selepas milenial yang dilahirkan pada pertengahan atau akhir 1990-an hingga awal 2010-an.

Ketika dihubungi *Berita Harian*, Ketua Studio dan Penerbit Eksekutif *Gen Z Starter Pack*, Viddsee, Enick Kenny Tan, menjelaskan pihaknya sering berminat memperkasa 'sang pencerita' (pembikin filem) untuk berkongsi cerita dan perspektif mereka yang unik.

"Kohort Generasi Z adalah kelompok yang besar di Singapura, membentuk sekitar 30 peratus penduduk di sini. Ini adalah generasi yang menghargai keberanian dan matlamat hidup."

"Bersandarkan minat kami mengetahui dan berkongsi perspektif sah Generasi Z, maka siri *Gen Z Starter Pack* yang merupakan sebahagian slot dokumentari Viddsee, VOICES, tercipta."

"Kami mahu bekerjasama dengan pembikin filem muda di Singapura yang buat masa ini mengikuti kursus sepenuh masa dalam pengajian filem atau media bagi menghasilkan dokumentari sosial ringkas tentang isu melibatkan Generasi Z yang dekat di hati mereka. Justeru, ia karya Generasi Z buat Generasi Z," tambah Enick Tan.

Mengulas pemilihan dokumentari *Hooked On Apphia-Ling* bagi siri ini, beliau menambah konsep Cik Nuryin adalah antara yang pertama dipilih untuk dikomiyen berdasarkan kajian terperinci dan nyalanya rasanya menceritakan tentang usahawan wanita dalam kalangan Generasi Z yang berdaya sambilan mengimbangi tugas sepenuh masa.

"Menjalankan pelbagai tugas serentak dan keinginan mencuba berkarir adalah ciri ketara golongan Generasi Z yang mendapik perubahan dan pengalaman baru."

"Kami juga tertarik pada lapisan kisah pemerkerasan wanita dalam dokumentari arahan Nuryin ini yang sangat memberi inspirasi dan relevan," tambah Enick Tan. Cik Nuryin memilih bidang perfilman kerana didorong keinginan menjana cerita sendiri untuk dikongsi bersama rama. Inspirasi buku yang banyak dibaca dan filem yang sering ditonton.

"Saya seronok melihat bagaimana seseorang perkeri tercipta. Pembikinan filem tiada pengecualian. Saya masih kagum dengan bagaimana sesuatu yang visual da-

Dokumentari papar bisnes 'gila-gila' Generasi Z

Kerja seni siswa Lasalle tentang semangat waja usahawan muda disiar platform video Viddsee



PAPAR IDENTITI ANAK MUDA SEBAYA: Cik Nuryin Adryana Abdul Halim menjadikan dokumentari sebagai wadah berkongsi kisah inspirasi di samping meluputkan stereotip Generasi Z golongan yang lemah. - Foto-foto BH oleh KHALID BABA



VISI USAHAWAN GENERASI Z: Dokumentari 'Hooked On Apphia-Ling' membentangkan kisah pengasas jenama aksesori Whoaa!, Cik Apphia Ling, yang memajukan bisnes anting-anting 'gila-gila' sebagai projek peribadi sambil meneruskan pekerjaan sepenuh masanya. - Foto VIDDSEE

tas berbentuk mesin ATM, yang lengkap dengan kad dan resi yang keluar darinya," cerita Cik Nuryin lagi. Baginya, meskipun masalah yang dihadapi setiap individu Generasi Z berbeza, setiap daripada mereka mampu menghayati pengalaman dan perasaan yang dilalui satu sama lain.

"Setiap generasi ada sesuatu untuk dipelajari dan sesuatu untuk diajar dalam sebuah pelantar, bukan sahaja filem. Penting untuk bikin filem dengan isu yang ingin anda perjuangkan. Tak mengapa kalau ada yang payah menghadam atau menerimanya dengan baik kerana filem itu subjektif," jelasnya.

Menerusi dokumentari ini, beliau juga pelajari Generasi Z bukan generasi yang lemah seperti disangka sesetengah pihak. Sebaliknya, golongan ini sudah mengamati dan belajar daripada generasi sebelumnya, lantas penting hak untuk hidup, bukan sahaja demi penakatan.

"Cik Ling adalah contoh bagaimana kita harus bangga dengan setiap usaha kita, buat yang terbaik dan menikmati perkara kecil dalam hidup."

"Anting-anting pelik membuatnya gembira dan menjadi satu unsur luahan rasa. Saya yakin ramai dalam kalangan Generasi Z boleh mengaitkan diri mereka dengan perihal identiti. Malah, Cik Ling sendiri membangun kelompok masyarakat atau pengikutnya sendiri berteraskan identiti yang dibina," tambah Cik Nuryin, yang berharap dapat menghasilkan kisah tentang perkongsian ibu dan anak tentang gangguan seksual yang mereka hadapi di tempat kerja dan sekolah.

"Isu gangguan seksual ini lebih mendalam dan wajar dibincangkan filem agar kita dapat pupuk kesedaran mengenai perkara ini."

"Saya seorang bella yang peka dengan perihal hak wanita. Kadangkala isu sebegini sering terlepas pandang atau berat nak dibincangkan secara terbuka. Filem salah satu wadah yang saya anggap berkesan," kongsiyanya.

pat dibangunkan secara menarik berbekal cerita yang mudah," kongsiyanya.

Baginya filem adalah satu-satunya wadah yang dapat menterjemah kata-kata menjadi visual.

Lebih menarik lagi apabila sebuah karya pemilisan dapat diubah menjadi kerja seni yang segar dan baru hasil takrifan dari sutradara.

"Cik Nuryin terkejut apabila dokumentarinya di raih Viddsee."

"Pada masa itu, saya tidak begitu pasti ingin menjadi pengarah. Bagaimanapun, saya setakat mencuba dan melihat sejauh mana idea saya ini dapat direalisasikan."

"Jalan cerita dokumentari ini santai sahaja kerana saya ingin mengubah tanggapan ramai bahawa dokumentari biasanya berat dan serius."

"Saya juga mahu paparkan subjek saya iaitu Cik Ling dengan cara yang berbeza," tambahnya.

Antara cabaran yang dihadapi dalam menghasilkan dokumentari ini adalah langkah keselamatan Covid-19 yang berubah-ubah mengikut keperluan.

Hampir tempoh penggambaran, Singapura menguatkusakan Fasa 2 (Kewaspadaan Dipertingkat). Salah satu syarat yang ditetapkan adalah hanya dua orang dibenarkan berkunjung ke sebuah isi rumah setiap hari.

Kru penggambaran dokumentari Cik Nuryin terdiri daripada enam orang. Sulit membuat penggambaran di rumah Cik Ling, di mana kebanyakan keperluan pemilisaannya tersimpan.

Justeru, beliau perlu memikirkan cara lain untuk menampakan visual bagi kerja seninya, lantas teringatkan inspirasi daripada dokumentari ringkas, *The Claudia XClub Club*, mengenai salah satu watak yang digemari dari pada siri buku kegemaran *The Babysitters Club*.

"Dokumentari itu menggunakan teknik henti gerak dan keratan kertas yang digabungkan dengan wawancara paras kepala dan bahu subjek."

"Penerbit dan pengarah seni saya, Winnie Tay, banyak membantu, misalnya, menghasilkan potongan ker-

Suara hati band 'hardcore punk' luput stereotip

WALAU PUN menganggap dirinya bukan dalam kalangan Generasi Z yang lebih muda, mahasiswa jurusan perfilman, Enick Muhammad Harris Saifudin, kagum dengan nyalanya rasa dan tenaga meluap-luap golongan ini.

Maka, terhasillah dokumentari mengenai budaya muzik 'hardcore punk' yang diperjuangkan band Spiral, bertajuk *Voices of Youth*, yang terliup bagi sian platform video hiburan Viddsee di bawah siri dokumentari sosial *Gen Z Starter Pack*.

Mengulas pemilihan dokumentari arahan Enick Muhammad Harris, 28 tahun, Ketua Studio dan Penerbit Eksekutif *Gen Z Starter Pack*, Viddsee, Enick Kenny Tan, berkata:

"Dokumentari Harris dipilih kerana profil band 'hardcore punk' yang mengejutkan dan menarik, terdiri daripada anggota Generasi Z yang muda lagi mencetus inspirasi."

"Kebiasaannya, sebut sahaja 'hardcore punk', orang akan terfikir tentang muzik kasar dan ganas, dengan kebanyakan peminat dan anggota band yang lebih berusia. "Harris berupaya mengubah stereotip ini dengan profil individu muda yang membolehkan penonton lebih berupaya memahami dan menghargai budaya sampin muzik setempat yang juga mempunyai kisah positif dan inspirasi di sebalik tanggapan awal ramai mengenainya."

Iktu wawancara *Berita Harian* bersama Enick Muhammad Harris mengenai dokumentarinya.

SOALAN (S): Apakah yang membuatkan anda memilih bidang pengajian filem untuk diceburi? Siapa sumber inspirasi anda dalam pembikinan filem?

ENICK MUHAMMAD HARRIS (MH): Sekian lama, saya memang kagum dengan keupayaan menyampaikan sebuah kisah.

Apabila saya menyertai Maktab Seni Lasalle, perspektif saya terhadap dunia perfilman dan pawagam menja-



UBAH STEREOTIP: Melalui dokumentari *Voices of Youth* tentang band 'hardcore punk' Spiral, Enick Muhammad Harris Saifudin papar semangat positif band ini apabila dianda bandi pandemik Covid-19, jauh daripada imej muzik ganas dan kasar yang 'melekat' pada band 'hardcore punk'. - Foto BH oleh KHALID BABA



PERJUANGAN MUZIK: Band 'hardcore punk' Spiral merupakan anak muda Generasi Z dengan visi dan misi memajukan genre muzik mereka yang sering disalah anggap dan biasanya diperjuangkan pemuzik lebih berusia. - Foto VIDDSEE

di lebih luas lagi. Saya memang peminat filem Taiwan baru dengan pengarah seperti Tsai Ming Liang, Hao Hsien dan Chen Kunhou.

Namun, bagi memahami bagaimana ia mempengaruhi dan mencetus inspirasi buat sutradara dari pelbagai ceruk dunia adalah sesuatu yang payah dipercayai.

S: Apa perasaan anda tentang bikin dokumentari buat Viddsee?

MH: Tawaran Viddsee ini menarik. Kebetulan pada waktu itu saya sedang bersembang dengan beberapa penggiat muzik 'hardcore punk' mengenai persada seni mereka dan bagaimana muzik mereka ini dipaparkan ser-

ta dikaitkan dengan keganasan sehingga mencetus amarah orang sekeliling.

Saya anggap menarik untuk menunjukkan perspektif berbeza tentang budaya 'hardcore punk' selari dengan tema tentang Generasi Z.

Saya juga merasakan orang ramai tidak menyedari bagaimana muzik berkembang dan berubah termasuk konsep band baru yang sedang naik. Beberapa band yang saya tahu menjadi tidak aktif kerana Covid-19 atau mereka bukan tergolong dalam Generasi Z.

S: Apakah cabaran yang dihadapi dalam menghasilkan dokumentari ini?

MH: Keprihatinan saya ketika menerbitkan dokumentari ini adalah bagaimana menyampaikan kandungan dan mengatur struktur filem ini.

Lagi pun pada tempoh Fasa 2 (Kewaspadaan Dipertingkat), tidak mampu saya wujudkan babak konsert atau 'gig'.

Secara peribadi, berkunjung ke 'gig' dan konsert adalah cara bagaimana orang dapat menyelami persada muzik. Kalau tiada babak ini, bagaikan hilang pengalaman bermakna dalam menghadapi kisah sebuah genre muzik.

Mujurlah, penstrinan 'live' masih boleh dihasilkan pada fasa berkenaan. Kami berbincang dengan anggota band Spiral dan menggunakan platform ini sebagai luahan alternatif bagi band ini berinteraksi.

Pandemik telah mengubah dunia konsert. Saya juga melihatnya sebagai peluang mempertingkat kesedaran tentang cara persada muzik ini terjerjas dan bagaimana peminat masih boleh menikmati dan menyokong pemuzik kegemaran mereka dalam tempoh mencabar ini.

S: Apa yang anda kagum tentang Generasi Z?

MH: Mereka mengambil kesempatan penuh di atas sumber seperti media sosial bagi meluahkan rasa secara positif. Ia adalah unsur penting yang ingin saya tunjukkan kepada penonton.

*The Viddsee video entertainment platform provides a space for young directors to produce social documentaries about Generation Z. Through the Gen Z Starter Pack series, you are taken to explore the lives of Generation Z who exert their own identity in terms of the Internet slang used and their varied definitions of success. **BERITA HARIAN** reports on two documentaries directed by Malay youth.*

A documentary showcasing the 'crazy' business of Generation Z

Work of art by LASALLE student about the brave spirit of a young entrepreneur broadcast on the Viddsee video platform

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WHILE browsing the TikTok app during the COVID-19 Circuit Breaker period last year, Ms Nuryn Adryana Abdul Halim was thrilled to see the efforts of her peers at marketing various types of businesses.

Among the highlights was the perseverance of the founder of Whoaa! accessories, Ms Apphia Ling, 24, who produces 'crazy' jewellery such as earrings from second-hand items or objects close to the hearts of Singaporeans.

It immediately gave Ms Nuryn, 23, a third-year student in the BA(Hons) Film programme at LASALLE, the idea to produce a social documentary about Ms Ling chasing her business dream without having to neglect her full-time job.

The seven-minute documentary titled *Hooked on Apphia-Ling* was aired on the Viddsee entertainment video platform as part of the Gen Z Starter Pack series that began on October 13.

The series features social documentaries inspired by five groups of young filmmakers who explore topics close to their hearts, through which they showcase passions, culture and life goals from the lens of Generation Z.

Generation Z, who are also called 'zoomers', are the post-millennial generation born in the mid or late 1990s to early 2010s.

When contacted by Berita Harian, Viddsee's Head of Studio and Executive Producer of Gen Z Starter Pack, Mr Kenny Tan, explained that his team is often interested to empower 'the narrator' (filmmaker) to share their unique stories and perspectives.

"The Generation Z cohort is a large group in Singapore, making up about 30 percent of the population here. This is the generation that values personality and life goals."

"Based on our interest to learn and share the authentic perspectives of Generation Z, the Gen Z Starter Pack series which is part of Viddsee's documentary slot, VOICES, was created."

"We want to work with young filmmakers in Singapore who are currently pursuing full-time courses in film or media studies to produce short social documentaries on issues involving

Generation Z that are close to their hearts. Thus, it is the work of Generation Z for Generation Z," added Mr Tan.

Commenting on the selection of the *Hooked on Apphia-Ling* documentary for the series, he added that Ms Nuryn's concept was among the first selected for commissioning based on her detailed research and her passionate narration of a Generation Z woman entrepreneur who is self-employed and balancing a full-time job.

"Taking on various tasks simultaneously and the desire to try different things is a significant feature of Generation Z who embrace change and new experiences."

"We are also interested in the multilayered narrative of female empowerment in this documentary directed by Nuryn which is very inspiring and relevant," added Mr Tan.

Ms Nuryn chose film-making because she is driven by the desire to create her own story to share with others. She is inspired by books she has frequently read and movies she has often watched.

"I enjoy observing to see how some things are created. Filmmaking is no exception. I'm still amazed at how something visual can be developed in an interesting way with a simple story," she shared.

For her, film is the only medium that can translate words into visuals. It is even more interesting when a piece of written work can get transformed into a fresh and new work of art as a result of the director's interpretation.

Ms Nuryn was surprised when her documentary was chosen by Viddsee.

"At that time, I wasn't so sure I wanted to become a director. Anyway, I just tried it to see how far this idea of mine could be realized.

"The storyline of this documentary is quite relaxed because I wanted to change the perception of many people that documentaries are usually heavy and serious."

"I also wanted to present my subject, Ms Ling, in a different way," she added.

Among the challenges faced in producing this documentary was the COVID-19 safety measures which varied according to needs.

Near the end of filming, Singapore was enforcing Phase 2 (Heightened Alert). One of the conditions set then was that only two people were allowed to visit a household every day.

Ms Nuryn's documentary filming crew consisted of six people. It was hard to do filming at Ms. Ling's home, where most of her business necessities were stored.

As a result, she had to think of other ways to display the visuals for her work. Fortunately, she was inspired by a short documentary, *The Claudia Kishi Club*, about one of her favourite characters from the popular book series *The Babysitters' Club*.

"The documentary uses stop-motion techniques and paper cut outs combined with head and shoulder level interviews of the subjects."

"My publisher and art director, Winnie Tay, helped a lot, for example, she crafted a piece of paper in the shape of an ATM machine, complete with cards and receipts coming out of it," Ms Nurnyn added.

To her, although the problems faced by each Generation Z individuals are different, they can appreciate the experiences and feelings that each of them goes through.

"Every generation has something to learn and something to be taught through a platform, not just movies. It's important to make a film with issues you want to fight for. It doesn't matter that someone may find it difficult to digest or accept it well because film is subjective," she explained.

Through this documentary, she also learned that Generation Z is not a weak generation as some people think. On the other hand, this group has observed and learnt from the previous generation, so they prioritise their right to live life, not only for the sake of self-improvement.

"Ms Ling is an example of how we should be proud of our every effort, to do our best and to enjoy the small things in life."

"Strange earrings make her happy and have become her element of self-expression. I'm sure many among Generation Z can relate themselves to the subject of self-identity. In fact, Ms Ling herself builds her own community group or followers based on her self-constructed identity," added Ms. Nurnyn, who hopes to produce a story about a mother-child sharing accounts of the sexual harassment they face at work and school.

"The issue of sexual harassment is more deep-rooted and should be discussed through film so that we can raise awareness on this matter."

"I am a young person who is sensitive to women's rights. Sometimes such issues are overlooked or difficult to discuss openly. Film is one of the platforms that I consider effective," she shared.

SHOWCASING THE IDENTITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE: Ms Nurnyn Adryana Abdul Halim made the documentary as a platform to share inspirational stories as well as dispel the stereotypes of Generation Z as a group of weaklings. – BH photographs by KHALID BABA

THE VISION OF A GENERATION Z ENTREPRENEUR: The documentary *Hooked On Apphia-Ling* presents the story of accessory brand founder Whoaa, Ms Apphia Ling, who developed her 'crazy' earring business as a personal project while balancing a full-time job. – VIDDSEE photograph

‘Hardcore punk’ band conscientiousness dispels stereotype

Although he does not consider himself among the younger Generation Z, film student Muhammad Harris Saifudin was impressed by the passion and energy of this group. Thus, a documentary was produced about the ‘hardcore punk’ music culture championed by the band, Spiral, entitled *Voices of Youth*, which was selected for broadcast on the Viddsee entertainment video platform under the Gen Z Starter Pack social documentary series.

Commenting on the selection of documentaries directed by Mr Muhammad Harris, 28, Head of Studio and Executive Producer of Gen Z Starter Pack, Viddsee, Mr Kenny Tan, said:

“Harris’s documentary was chosen because of the ‘hardcore punk’ band’s surprising and compelling profile, made up of young and inspiring Generation Z members.

Usually, just at the mention ‘hardcore punk’, people will think of rough and violent music, with most fans and band members being older.

Harris was able to alter this stereotype with a profile of young individuals which allowed the audience to better understand and appreciate local music’s alternative culture, with a positive and inspiring story behind the initial perceptions many might hold of it.”

Follow the *Berita Harian* interview with Mr Muhammad Harris about his documentary

QUESTION(S): What made you choose the field of film studies to pursue? Who is your source of inspiration in filmmaking?

MR MUHAMMAD HARRIS (MH): For a long time, I have been impressed with the ability to tell a story. When I joined LASALLE College of the Arts, my perspective on the world of film and cinema became even broader. I am indeed a fan of new Taiwanese films with directors such as Tsai Ming Liang, Hao Hsio Hsien and Chen Kunhou.

CHANGE THE STEREOTYPE: Through the documentary *Voices of Youth* about ‘hardcore punk’ band Spiral, Mr Muhammad Harris Saifudin features the positive spirit of the band when hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, it was a far cry from the image of violent and rude music associated with ‘hardcore punk’ bands. – Photographs by KHALID BABA

MUSICAL STRUGGLE: The ‘hardcore punk’ band Spiral is comprised of Generation Z youths with a vision and mission to advance their music genre which has often been misunderstood and is typically championed by older musicians. – VIDDSEE photograph

However, to understand how it (the ability to tell stories) influences and inspires directors from various corners of the world is something to be believed.

Q: How do you feel about making a documentary for Viddsee?

MH: This Viddsee offer is attractive. Coincidentally at that time I was chatting with some ‘hardcore punk’ music activists about their art scene and how their music was being portrayed and associated with violence provoking anger in the general public.

I find it interesting to showcase a different perspective on 'hardcore punk' culture that is in line with the theme of Generation Z.

I also feel like people don't realise how music has evolved and changed to include new concepts by bands which are on the rise. Some bands I know of have become inactive because of COVID-19 or they don't belong to Generation Z.

Q: What are the challenges faced in producing this documentary?

MH: My concern when producing this documentary was how to present the content and organise the structure of this film. After all, during Phase 2 (Heightened Alert), I couldn't afford to create a concert or 'gig' scene.

Personally, going to 'gigs' and concerts is a way for people to immerse themselves in the music scene. Without this scene in the documentary, it is like losing a meaningful experience that could help in understanding the story of a music genre.

Fortunately, 'live' streaming could still be produced during the Heightened Alert phase. We talked to members of Spiral and used this platform as an alternative solution for the band to perform.

The pandemic has changed the world of concerts. I also see it as an opportunity to raise awareness of how this music scene is affected and how fans can still enjoy and support their favourite musicians during this challenging period.

Q: What do you admire about Generation Z?

MH: They take full advantage of resources such as social media to express themselves positively. It's an important element which I want to show the audience.