

Green Dongguan Short Documentary Shooting and Production

Xinyuan Xie1, Yukun Yin2,*

¹Student of Digital Media and Art, Guangdong University of Science and Technology,
Dongguan, China

²College of Art and Design, Guangdong University of Science and Technology, Dongguan,
China

*Yinyuk810@163.com

Abstract. In film and television works, documentaries have a variety of social functions such as reflecting life, recording history and disseminating knowledge. Taking ecological civilization and environmental protection development as the theme, this design have conducted research on Dongguan Urban Wetland Park through case studies, field visits and other methods, and combined the research with the production of the documentary *Green Dongguan*. This work adopts a variety of filming techniques and methods, such as aerial photography, time-lapse photography, in order to show the diversity and vitality of the wetland. This paper mainly shows the production process of the short film and analyzes the use of images and sound in the short film. Through the audio and visual presentation of the short documentary, the audience can feel the natural beauty and ecological value of Dongguan Wetland Park more intuitively and vividly, and raise the awareness of the protection of the ecological environment.

Keywords: Documentary; Short documentary; Environmental protection; New Media

1 Introduction

With the process of industrialization, Dongguan is faced with the challenge of managing highly polluting and energy-intensive enterprises, and the ecological environment was once a source of concern. Therefore, Dongguan has also begun to focus on environmental development in the process of industrialization. In recent years, the Dongguan municipal government has actively promoted the development and implementation of environmental protection policies, such as the promulgation of the Dongguan Environmental Protection Regulations and the Dongguan Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Air Pollution. These policies focus on reducing pollution and protecting the ecological environment, while strengthening penalties for environmental violations. Urban greening projects in Dongguan have achieved remarkable results. The environmental quality of the city has been enhanced through initiatives such as tree planting and park construction. The Dongguan Wetland Park is one

of the representatives. The Dongguan Wetland Park has a strong sense of environmental protection and has adopted a series of protective measures. Firstly, it has strengthened the environmental protection education for visitors and raised their awareness of ecological protection. Secondly, the protection of the wetland ecosystem has been strengthened to maintain and improve the wetland ecological environment. In addition, the protection of wildlife has been strengthened, and illegal hunting and picking are prohibited, providing a good living environment for wildlife. Dongguan Wetland Park not only has a beautiful natural landscape, but also has a long history and culture.

The development of digital technology has provided more people with access to a wider range of cultures. Since the increase in diversity has been one of the main positive impacts associated with digital technology [1], the sharing of diverse content on social media platforms has been an advantage that has attracted many audiences. In recent years, differently positioned, and content-rich social platforms have gradually become the main way for audiences to consume their fragmented time, as well as an effective way to gain economic benefits. This work is produced in the form of a short documentary, and is planned to be placed in a number of short video new media platforms at a later stage. Through the short video platform, the ecotourism and cultural construction of Dongguan will be spread to a certain extent. Green Dongguan is a short documentary about the environmental construction of Dongguan. By telling the achievements of Dongguan in environmental protection and green development, this film shows a beautiful picture of harmonious coexistence between human and nature. Dongguan Wetland Park is not only a treasure trove of natural ecology, but also a showcase of humanistic ecology. This film will focus on the humanistic landscape and citizen's life in Dongguan Wetland Park, showing the city's achievements in the construction of ecological civilization. This project aims to show the ecological environment of the wetland park, its biodiversity and the value of its application in human life through the filming of the documentary. Through this project, this design hopes to raise people's awareness of the wetland park and its protection, and at the same time explore the combination of film and television production and wetland research[2]. This film aims to comprehensively show Dongguan's efforts and achievements in environmental protection and ecological construction through in-depth on-site filming and elaborate post-production. Through the lens, this work will capture Dongguan's cityscape, natural landscape, humanistic flavor, as well as the citizens' desire and pursuit of green life[3].

2 Design Analysis

2.1 Theme of the Work

The main body of this design is centered on the concept of Green Dongguan, from industrial pollution in Dongguan to the ecological construction of Dongguan, and is expressed by the main object of the wetland park, which is centered on the ecology, culture and community life of Dongguan Wetland Park, which, as a green oasis in the city, possesses rich biodiversity and unique natural landscape. This work will show the

natural beauty of the wetland park through the lens of the morning mist, the lake under the sunset, the flocks of birds and so on, which can let the audience feel the harmony and tranquility of nature. Showing the Wetland Park as a popular place for citizens' leisure and people's activities in this place for a day, it allows viewers to have a deeper understanding of the multiple values of the Dongguan Wetland Park, and inspires people to pay attention and take action for its protection and sustainable development.

2.2 Selection of Subjects

Dongguan Wetland Park, as a green clean land in the city, carries the mission of ecological protection and nature education. This documentary film captures the unique charm of the wetland park through the lens, showing its ecological diversity, humanistic landscape and the moving moments of people's activities in the park[4]. Against this background, this work digs deep into the natural beauty and humanistic feelings of the wetland park, hoping to raise the public's awareness of wetland ecology protection through the power of images[5]. This film adopts the visual style of natural documentary, focusing on realistically and vividly showing the original ecological landscape of the wetland park. Photographically, it uses various means such as drone aerial photography and stabilizer follow-up photography to capture the spectacular scenery and vivid details of the wetland park[6].

2.3 Expression

Adopting the expression form of documentary, a variety of lens types can be used, such as pushing lens, pulling lens, shaking lens, moving lens, etc., to capture the natural scenery, ecological details and humanistic flavor of the wetland park, and the picture composition: focus on the balance of the picture, the sense of contrast and hierarchy, and show the harmony and beauty of the wetland park through careful composition[7]. When shooting the natural landscape, aerial photography and close-ups are adopted to show the magnificent scenery of the wetland and the unique charm of the living creatures. For the humanistic elements, follow-up shots and interviews are taken to truly record the moments and stories of human-nature interactions[8].

2.4 Audio-visual Analysis of Short Documentary

Adopting the visual style of natural documentary, focusing on real and vividly showing the original ecological landscape of the wetland park. In terms of photography, it utilizes various means such as drone aerial photography and follow-up photography to capture the spectacular scenery and vivid details of the Wetland Park from various perspectives. At the same time, it focuses on the use of light and shadow to create a warm and harmonious visual atmosphere. In addition, the documentary also combines the humanistic landscapes in the wetland park, such as observation decks and walkways, to show the beautiful picture of harmonious coexistence between human and nature.

This design utilizes different camera languages to show the natural scenery and humanistic landscape of Dongguan Lixiang Wetland Park. High-altitude aerial shots allow the audience to overlook the entire wetland park and feel its vastness and grandeur; ground followers allow the audience to experience the ecological environment of the wetland park in an immersive environment; and close-up shots allow the audience to understand the ecological characteristics and habits of plants and animals[9].

Apart from visual elements, auditory elements are also an important part of the documentary[10]. When filming the Dongguan Wetland Park, the sound elements of the wetland, such as birdsong, insects, and the sound of water flow, were captured to show the vividness and vitality of the wetland. At the same time, combined with background music and narration, it presents a more infectious audio-visual feast for the audience. In terms of sound effects, natural sounds recorded on site are used to make the audience feel as if they are in the wetland park. The soundtrack is composed of relaxing and soothing music, which complements the theme and visual style of the film and enhances the audience's viewing experience[11]. The film adopts a linear narrative approach, using time as the axis to tell the story of the wetland park. Through the rhythmic arrangement of fast and slow combination, the audience can enjoy the beautiful scenery while feeling the ecological rhythm and humanistic atmosphere of the wetland park[12].

3 Design Implementation

3.1 Shooting Process Plan

This film centers around the development of ecological civilization in Dongguan Wetland Park. In the pre-preparation stage, this work will carry out a detailed site survey of Dongguan Wetland Park, and select representative attractions and ecological areas as the filming sites to ensure that the ecological characteristics and humanistic style of the wetland park can be better demonstrated. It also prepares for the mid-term shooting.

3.2 Script Creation

The script of this film centers on many aspects of *Green Dongguan*, including urban development and ecological construction, natural ecology and biodiversity, public participation and education, cultural and historical heritage, and sustainable development practices. Each part shows the unique charm of Dongguan Wetland Park to the audience through carefully designed camera language and narrative structure[13]. At the same time, the script creation also focuses on emotional rendering and storytelling, allowing the audience to understand the importance of wetlands and wetland parks more deeply through vivid scene depictions. As shown in Figure 1.

Simple Documentary Script:

- 1.Basci information including: title, theme, purpose, and audiences.
- 2.Location and time of shooting: Dongguan wetland Park, 4 weekends.
- 3. Shooting equipments: HD digital camera, drone for aerial shooting.
- 4.Shooting content and process: whole pictures of park, people in park. we will also interview people about Dongguan environmental protection.
- 5. Publicity and promotion: we will upload the video clips to major video platforms, social media and so on.
- Expected effects: Let more people know the importance of environmental protection and the efforts and achievements Dongguan has made in the transformation and development of the city.

Fig. 1. Shooting script

3.3 Conceptualization and Creation of Sub-shots

Through the design of the script for the creation of sub-shot conception, the following is a panoramic view of the wetland park and the park environment and human activities and other preconceived images, as shown in Figure 2.



Fig. 2. key sub-shots

3.4 Shooting Lens Design

To create a short documentary, according to the pre-conceived ideas and the overall framework structure of the shooting of the required images, and at the same time refer to some of the same type of humanities documentaries, learn the rhythm and composition of the images, and apply them to their own images, the following are some of the shooting images.

Using aerial photography to show the panoramic view of the wetland park, shooting the overall layout and geographical environment of the wetland park, showing its unique natural features and ecological characteristics. As shown in Figure 3. Photographing Wetland Vegetation focuses on the various types of vegetation found in wetland parks and demonstrates their role and importance in the wetland ecosystem. As shown in Figure 4.



Fig. 3. Extreme long shot of park



Fig. 4. Close-up shot of park plant

Photograph people moving around the park to show how the wetland park is a great place for people to recreate. As shown in Figure 5. Time-lapse photography was utilized to capture the effect of the city's cars coming and going and the passage of time. As shown in Figure 6.





Fig. 5. Peole in the park



Fig. 6. Street of Dongguan

3.5 Post-editing

Organize all the filmed materials into categories according to different themes or scenes. For example, it can be categorized into wetland landscape, animal and plant ecology, tourists' activities and so on. This will help to quickly find the required materials when editing, and choose suitable background music and sound effects. Music can enhance the infectiousness of the picture, while sound effects can enhance the immersion of the audience. Use soft music to show the tranquility and beauty of the wetland, and use some special effects and color grading techniques to enhance the visual effect of the picture. Use slow motion to show the dynamic beauty of the wetland.

3.6 Picture Show

In the finished short documentary, show the natural scenery of the wetland park through aerial photography, and show the function of the wetland park as a place of leisure and recreation for the public. As shown in Figures 7.



Fig. 7. Picture of Green Dongguan

4 Conclusion

This short film takes Dongguan Wetland Park as the main object of filming. During the production, the team has examined Dongguan's urban ecological environment in many aspects, and this short film focuses on showing the ecological environment of the park, including various birds, aquatic plants, insects, and so on. Through the lens, the audience can feel the magic and beauty of nature. In addition to the natural ecology, Dongguan Wetland Park is also a good place for local residents to enjoy leisure and

recreation. Short films can record people's daily life in the park, such as morning exercise, picnic, parent-child activities, etc., showing the beautiful picture of man and nature living in harmony. Use various photographic techniques, such as slow motion and time-lapse photography, to show some special scenes in the park, such as the sunrise and sunset, the change of light and shadow on the water surface, and the flight of birds. Try to combine some scenes in the park with the story of the characters to tell a story about man and nature, environmental protection, and harmonious coexistence through the short film to increase the fun and viewability of the short film.

This work adopts the integration of environmental protection theme, the short film highlights the theme of environmental protection and calls on everyone to care for the environment and protect the ecology. Through interviews with local residents and other means, it learns about the changes of the park era and conveys the importance of the wetland park and the significance of protecting the wetland and cherishing the ecology. In addition to the video itself, the short film can be combined with other media forms, such as graphics and audio, to form a cross-media communication method and expand the dissemination scope and influence of the short film.

Acknowledgments

1.2023 University-level Research Project: Research on the Communication and Application of Dongguan Urban Ecotourism Culture in New Media Matrix. (No. GKY-2023KYYBW-57).

2.2021 School-level Research Project: Application and Mode Exploration of Short Video Platform Promotion in City Branding - Taking Dongguan as an Example (No. GKY-2021KYYBW-97).

Reference

- Nesta (2017) Digital Culture. Available at: https:// media.nesta.org.uk/documents/digital culture 2017.pdf (accessed on 2023,05.12).
- Lv Huijin. Ruminations on the Relationship between Authenticity and Viewing of Documentary Films and Methods of Integration[J]. Ancient and Modern Literature and Creativity. 2023(37).
- 3. Li TY. The flux of image narrative features in environmental documentaries[J]. *China TV*,2019,(06):25-29.
- 4. Song Jing. Film and television short film creation[M]. *Zhejiang Photography Press*, 2020(4):74.
- 5. Xu Chen, Niu Guangxia. Meaning expression and value transmission of environmental documentary[J]. *Young Reporter*, 2017, (18):69-70.
- 6. Wu Geer. Discourse Stance and Narrative Characteristics of Chinese Environmental Documentaries[J]. *Journal of Zhejiang Media College*,2015,22(06):77-83+153.
- 7. Liu Zhongbo.The development status and research trend of Chinese documentary theory in 2019[J]. *China TV*,2020,(04):26-31.
- 8. Pan Hong, TANG Guangting. Innovative Research on Chinese Natural Ecology Documentaries in the Digital Era[J]. *Research on Ethnic Arts*, 2023, 36(04):71-78.

- 9. Li Jiangbo. Analysis of shooting techniques and lens utilization in documentaries[J]. Western Radio and Television. 2022,14:2.21.
- 10. Seed Fai. Exploration of empathic narrative path of nature documentary[J]. Western Radio and Television, 2023, 44(15):165-167.
- 11. Tian Longchao, WANG Kun. Exploring the Ecological Aesthetics of Natural Ecology Documentaries[J]. *Art Research*,2022,(06):48-50.
- 12. Habermas, T., Silvia E., & Cybèle, D. S. (2010). The development of the temporal macrostructure of life narratives across adolescence: beginnings, linear narrative form, and endings. *Journal of Personality*, 77(2), 527-560.
- 13. Dharaniya R.,Indumathi J. & Kaliraj V..(2023). A design of movie script generation based on natural language processing by optimized ensemble deep learning with heuristic algorithm. *Data & Knowledge Engineering*, 146.

Open Access This chapter is licensed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/), which permits any noncommercial use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons license and indicate if changes were made.

The images or other third party material in this chapter are included in the chapter's Creative Commons license, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the chapter's Creative Commons license and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder.

