

I'm not not not Chen Zhou

Chen Zhou Solo Exhibition
Curated by Su Wei
18 April to 16 July 2013

I'm not not not Chen Zhou
Curator: Su Wei

About three months ago, by chance I began discussions with Chen Zhou regarding this exhibition. It began with one unpredictable exchange starting with that moment. Many words were spoken here and there, there were many desires to search for answers, and there were many times when we looked repeatedly at the role of the ego – all these things were accounted for within these contours of the time portrayed.

I first came into contact with Chen Zhou's work two years ago. In his video work, there was never a moment when the experiments with aesthetic languages stopped. Whether forms were enlarged or simplified to direct how meaning could be expressed, he would also obscure or even mock his own relationships to meaning. He alternates between performing the roles of Chen Zhou the filmmaker and Chen Zhou the artist – it is this casual attitude, which reinforces the aesthetic indeterminacy of his practice. Chen Zhou boldly uses the term 'hedonism' to describe this stage of his work. To some extent, art has always paradoxically been nourished by things, which have also impeded it. If hedonism is what Chen Zhou indulges in – how can the straw that breaks the camel's back be transformed into something that redeems him?

I have also become embroiled in the word 'hedonism' myself. The pressure of my role to perform increases in this split moment. In the imagination of people, there is never a danger of going without an identifiable connection to bridge the separate roles between the artist and the curator. Inevitably, I have become implicated in Chen Zhou's predicaments. Under the pressure of this word, I have no delusions about Chen Zhou. I have no delusions of the unbridgeable gap between Chen Zhou and myself, whether this could ever be reconciled, or even if we are able to still give answers to our own individual aspirations. Following on from these gradual step-by-step exchanges, we have initiated the beginning of a kind of 'return'. In other words, we

have not continued in the direction that goes forward, but this time our biggest inspiration has been to accept the failures of our fantasies.

In Chen Zhou's film *I am not not not Chen Zhou*, he deliberately uses yellow as an ostentatious mock tribute to 'failure'. I am grateful for not appearing in the work and I am also glad to see a silent dialogue between the space of 'You' and 'I'. In the film, twin brothers are used to perform alternatively as Chen Zhou and his artist companions. Inexplicably and for no apparent reason, a soliloquy appears in the midst of this narrative movement. There are a plethora of ambivalent cues and teasers that still stubbornly subside. But undeniably, to curb the revelry of aesthetics and sociology, Chen Zhou has needed a return of sorts to the 'distance of origin' (Urdistanz). He is seemingly compelled to embark on a 'reality trip'. It appears that this time, he is destined for a detour, shedding light on blurry connections, and bringing together fragments of things that constitute together ideas of 'You' and the 'Ego'.

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Installation View



放映时间表
Screening Schedule

11 : 00

11 : 45

12 : 30

13 : 15

14 : 00

14 : 45

15 : 30

16 : 15

17 : 00

17 : 45

片长35分钟，中场休息间隔10分钟

Video length: 35 min. 10 min. interval.

请将您的手机调至静音

Please switch your cell-phone to the mute mode









陈冠中 (Chen Guanzhong)



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周泽鑫 / Yu Honglei “什么是自由” / "what is freedom"



李然 / Li Ran "没有模仿" / There is no mimicry



李明 / Li Ming "今天无事发生" / "today nothing happened"

李明

Li Ming

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Art Works

只有失望不会欺骗你



I'm not not not Chen Zhou
2013
HD digital film, color, sound
35'

第一章

偶像

Chapter One - Idols



I don't know this person.

"杰克，别老拿着望远镜，远处和你现在看见的不一样。"

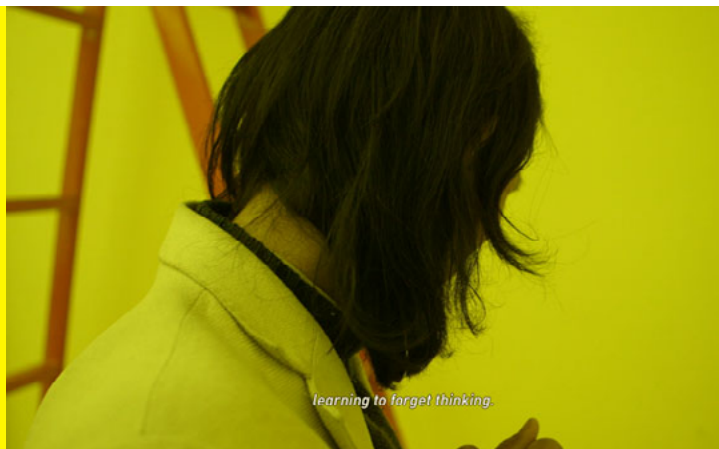
"The far away places and what you see now is not the same."



第二章

自由

Chapter Two - Freedom



自由 : Freedom
自 : I / 由 : come from

This is where we originally come from.



第三章

神山

Chapter Three - Sacred Mountain



在原则上试图单靠可观察量来建立理论那是完全错误的。实际上恰恰相反，是理论决定我们能够观察到的。 — 爱因斯坦

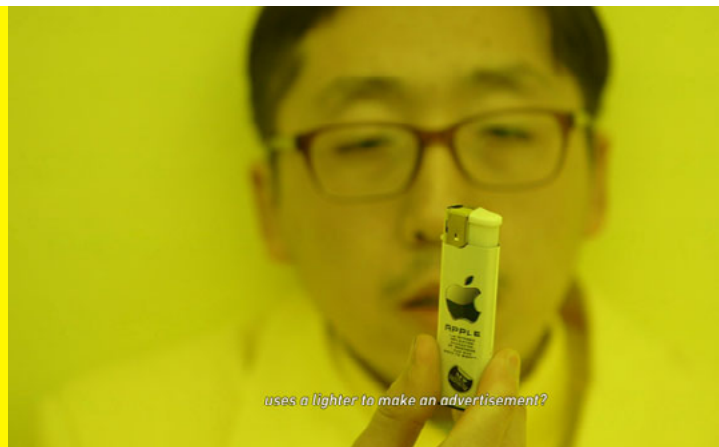
It is theory that dictates our ability to observe - Albert Einstein.



第四章

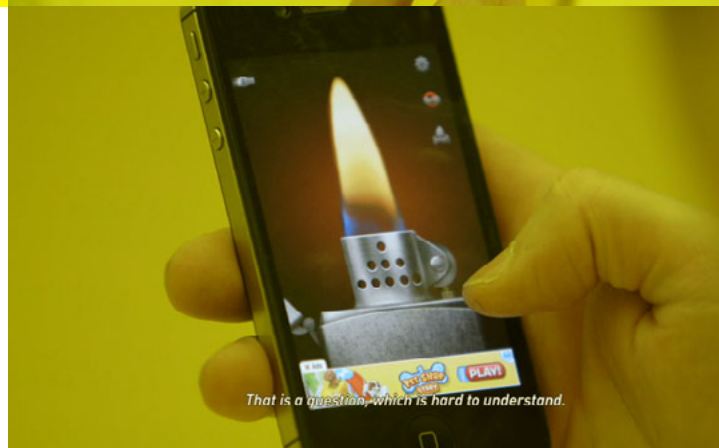
LOGOS

Chapter Four - Logos



P, 停顿, 一件极其重要的事情

P, pause, one extremely important matter.



That is a question, which is hard to understand.

第五章

结局

Chapter Five - The Ending



Artist Statements

This film has developed following its own duration of time. It is like being in a river, where time is the water, which remains unpurified of its debris. Deposits build along the river edges and slowly an appearance begins to materialize. Some pieces of glass debris remain that cut the hand. There are also some human skeletons, a madman that hasn't quite drowned, and a pair of soulless twins. I have simply smeared these things with the color yellow and extracted scattered fragments of daily life with some sporadic conversations with people such as Li Ran, Yu Honglei, and Li Ming. The rummages of my thoughts have also been picked up along the way.

As a result, this is almost a film without a director. The director has turned into a meandering kind of scrounger. Or maybe he has simply become a receptacle filled with the visible fragmented scraps. These pieces of fragments lead us to what kind of person? A person with the attributes of Chen Zhou or is it someone sharing similarities to Chen Zhou? A person that radiates Chen Zhou or something more like the audience itself. Anyway, in the end it is more like a comedy. If you it makes you laugh at loud then this is exactly what I wanted to do.

- Chen Zhou

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Chen Zhou CV

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Chen Zhou

1987 Born in Zhejiang

2009 Graduated from China Central Academy of Fine Arts, Media Art Lad with BFA,
Currently lives and works in Beijing

Solo Exhibitions

2013 *I'm not not not Chen Zhou*, Magician Space, Beijing, CN

2012 SH Contemporary 'Hot Spots' Project, AIKE-DELLARCO, Shanghai Exhibition
Center, Shanghai, CN

2009 *Talk*, Platform China Contemporary Art Institute, Beijing, CN

Group Exhibitions

2013 *I am not Involved in Aesthetic Progress – A Rethinking of Performance*, Star
Gallery, Beijing, CN

My Dear, You Shouldn't Believe in Fairytales, 2P Contemporary Art Gallery,
Hong Kong, CN

ON|OFF: China's Young Artists in Concept and Practice, Ullens Center for
Contemporary Art, Beijing, CN

2012 *Contemporary Visions on China*, Yi&C, Taipei, CN

Dressing the Screen, Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, CN

Unfinished Country: New Video from China, Contemporary Arts Museum
Houston (CAMH), Houston, USA

Until the End of the World, Tang Contemporary art, Beijing, CN

Accidental Message: Art is not a System, not a World - The Seventh

Shenzhen Sculpture Biennale, OCT Contemporary Art Terminal (OCAT),
Shenzhen, CN

Focus on talents Project-Finalists Exhibition, Today Art Museum, Beijing, CN
Chinese Young Artists Contemporary Art Exhibition, 18 Gallery, Shanghai,
CN

Moving Image in China 1988-2011, Centro Per L'arte Contemporanea "LUIGI
PECCI", Prato, Italy

2011 *Video Art in China*, MADATAC, Reina Sofia Muesum, Madrid
Little Movement, OCT Contemporary Art Terminal, Shenzhen, CN

Gallery Hotel Art Project, Gallery Hotel, Beijing, CN

XXX-Next 10 years of Contemporary Art, China, Today Art Museum, Beijing,
CN

Youth Artist Experimental Season-3th Round Exhibition, A4 Contemporary
Arts Center, Chengdu, CN

The Personal is Public, AIKE-DELLARCO, Shanghai, CN

In a Perfect World, Meulensteen Gallery, NY

2010 *Get It Louder*, Sanlitun SOHO, Beijing/Shanghai, CN

798 Art Festival Theme Exhibition-Young Artists Promotion Exhibition, 798 Art
Zone, Beijing, CN

Mummery, Art Channel, Beijing, CN

A Project-Incommunicable, Platform China Contemporary Art Institute,
Beijing, CN

D-No.3 Video Art Exhibition, D-lounge Gallery, Beijing, CN

"Scene • Area • Emotion" New Video Media Art Exhibition 2010, Beijing, CN

Jungle – A Close-Up Focus on Chinese Contemporary Art Trends, Platform
China Contemporary Art Institute, Beijing, CN

2009 *PHOTO TAIPEI 2009*, The Westin Taipei, Taipei The 5th Small Productions
Event, SHOPPING Gallery, Shanghai, CN

The 5th Small Productions Event, SHOPPING Gallery, Shanghai, CN

2008 *The 2nd E-Arts Shanghai*, Shanghai, CN

2007 *The 1st E-Arts Shanghai*, Shanghai, CN

Awards

2012 Finalist, 2012 Focus on Talents Project, Today Art Museum, Beijing, Martell
Art Fund

Art Fairs

2012 Shanghai Biennale

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