



Burning Chair, Wu Junyong • 2008 • 213x104x37cm • installation

Recovered 恢复 • group show

Zhang Dali

Dai Guangyu

Fan Jiupeng

Wu Junyong

Li Riu

vernissage 17 october 2014 5-9pm

from 10 october to 16 november 2014

thursday to sunday, from 10am to 9pm

ifagallery • 藝法畫廊

rue des renards / vossenstraat 28 • 1000 bruxelles / brussel • belgium

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Recovered 恢复

Recovered 恢复 brings together the work of five Chinese artists, all exploring a common theme of the representation of the creative spirit. Whether featuring the artist himself, as in the photographic performance captured by Dai Guangyu, or through an explosion of creativity in installations and metallic sculptures in Wu Junyong 's work, the creative spirit reveals itself as ifa developing body of symbols and materials. In one case, even the head of the artist himself appears like a political manifesto, as in Zhang Dali's installation in which the artist leaves his imprint on walls destined for demolition in Beijing, the outline of his head accompanied by the mark "AK-47", a reference to the Soviet-developed assault rifle later used illicit conflicts around the world. The creative spirit sometimes refers to that of another artist, seen under a different perspective in the series of traced paintings by young artist Fan Jiupeng. His work is like a double-sided panel in which the viewer hovers between a representation of reality on one panel, and an imagined reflection of this same scene on the other. In the work of Li Rui, the artist's painted works, based on the technique used to paint on porcelain, depict faces overcome by emotion.



Demolition: Forbidden City, Beijing, 1998, from the series "Dialogue and Demolition"
Zhang Dali • 1998 • Beijing • 89 x 60 cm • C-Print

Zhang Dali

1963 – Born in Harbin, Heilongjiang province, China

1987 - Graduated from National Academy of Fine Arts and Design

Lives and works in Beijing



Zhang Dali is a pluridisciplinary artist from China. Zhang explores social issues and human conditions, experimenting different technics and exploring the different layers of reality.

After studying painting at the Beijing Central Academy of Art & Design (China), Zhang Dali went to Italy, where he discovered graffiti art. He was the only graffiti artist in Beijing throughout the early 1990s.

He has shown work internationally in many exhibitions including the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York, International Center for Photography in New York, Les Rencontres d'Arles festival in France...

Dai Guangyu

1955 – Born in Changdu, Sichuan province, China

Dai Guangyu lives and works in Beijing (China).



Revealed by the New Wave movement during the 80's in China, Dai Guangyu is now recognized as an important and original figure of the Chinese artistic scene. His interdisciplinary practice is written within a socially engaged trajectory. Through his performances, photographs, paintings or calligraphy, he enacts his body and the symbolism of Chinese society to the ends of their resistance or their disappearance.

Fan Jiupeng

1981 - Born in Tangshan, Hebei Province

2001 - Graduated from the Accessorial High School of China Art Academy, Hangzhou, China

2005 - Graduated from the Oil-Painting Department of Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing, China



Fan Jiupeng, former student of China's main expressionist artist Liu Xiaodong, has formed his own unique language. He effectively creates a system whereby the viewer travels from the reality of a scene to an imagination of the same scene by looking at one side and then the other. He plays with the ambivalence of the individual and the dual personalities that we live by.

Wu Junyong

1978 - Born in Fujian Province, China

Wu Junyong lives between Beijing and Hangzhou (China).



In 2000, Wu Junyong had first graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Printmaking at the prestigious China Academy of Art in Hangzhou. In 2005, he obtained a Master of Fine Arts in New Media Arts Department newly founded and directed by Zhang Peili, considered as the « Father of Chinese Video Art ». Since 2005, Wu Junyong is an instructor at the Mixed Media Department of China Academy of Art. Wu Junyong has held several solo exhibitions in Greater China including one at ifa gallery (Shanghai) in 2010, and the USA. He recently participated at an exhibition at the Groninger Museum in the Netherlands, the Asia Pacific Triennial Cinema Retrospective in Australia, the Shadows Chinese Independent Cinema festival in France, the 9th Shanghai Biennial and several other exhibitions.

Li Riu

Born in 1985, Hangzhou

2011 - Universität der Künste Berlin, Master of Fine Arts

2007 - China Academy of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Oil painting



Li Riu is a young and promising artist who graduated from the China Academy of Arts in Hangzhou and the Universität der Künste in Berlin. She paints characters inside glass using a mirror technique which references the Chinese naïveté realism of miniature within glass paintings. Liu Rui starts by applying the last layer of painting on the glass and finishes with the background, a backward technique that challenges the traditional portrait approach with freshness and sharpness. On both sides the painting seems to drip, to dilute within its round frame leaving human beings unveiled in their rebellion. Li Rui, with her young spirit, takes a social anthropological approach by pulling the "masks" off people, revealing what lurks behind their superficial needs and ideals.



Picturesque Landscape 2, Dai Guangyu • 2008 • Germany • 125x85cm • C-print

ifa gallery

ifa gallery is established by Alexis Kouzmine-Karavaïeff in 2006-2007 in a 700sqm converted textile factory space in Moganshan Road – M50 Creative Centre – Shanghai's contemporary art district. With a quality exhibition programme of principally Chinese contemporary art, and a supporting line-up of performances the gallery contributes to the dynamism of the area. Major exhibitions during that time include the solo shows of Park Sung-Tae (Korea) and sought-after young artist Liu Bolin (China).

From summer 2008 to summer 2013, ifa occupies a charming residence built in 1923 for an official of the British Customs House, located in Shanghai at 621 Changde Road (Jing'An district). The gallery offers an innovative and artistic angle to the central part of the city and acted as an artistic meeting point for contemporary art in Shanghai.

Fall 2013, ifa gallery moves its premises to the heart and capital of Europe, Brussels. Located in the old central district of Marolles, the gallery offers a dynamic programme with its main artists from China and new artists from the region. At the meantime, a new exhibition space opens in March 2014 in the district of Jing'An in Shanghai, where ifa gallery continues to showcase some local artists.

ifa gallery exhibits contemporary art from China and Beyond, regardless of artists origin. We represent both established artists such as Dai Guangyu, a leading figure of China's avant-garde, the Gao Brothers and Wu Junyong; as well as emerging artists, including recent graduates of the fine arts schools in Beijing and Hangzhou such as Fan Jiupeng and Li Rui, or foreigners based in China, such as Zane Mellepe from Latvia or Christophe Demaître from Belgium. ifa features work in a wide range of media formats, from painting to photography, video, installation and performance.

The gallery presents and supports artists that have an original language and means of expression, that shy away from clichés and conventions and that have strong concepts and artistic vision.

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open by appointment