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A SNAPSHOT OF CONTEMPORARY VIETNAMESE ART – BLUE PRINT ASIA





01

CHINA

A SNAPSHOT OF CONTEMPORARY VIETNAMESE ART

NOW TO 25 JULY

Featuring seven up and coming young artists from Hanoi and Saigon, *A Snapshot of Vietnamese Contemporary Art* places much needed emphasis on a genre which remains relatively unexplored within the art world. Although, often overshadowed by larger, more high-profile countries such as China which continues to garner unprecedented attention for its artistic output over the years, Vietnam has persevered as an uncredited incubator of creativity since Doi Moi, the political and economic renewal of 1986 made its mark on the cultural scene. Shunning academicism and socialist realist propaganda, artists are turning their attention towards new mediums that readily allow them to accurately and effectively cross-examine the country's economic and social climate. Fueled by an insightful analysis of issues that include environmental problems, corruption, family, communism and childhood, *A Snapshot of Vietnamese Contemporary Art* encompasses a multiplicity of different mediums that range from installation, painting, video, sculpture and photography. Curated by Marie Terrieux, artists featured in the exhibition include Nguyễn Quang Huy, Nguyễn Minh Phước, Hoàng Dương Cầm, Richard Streitmatter-Trần and Lê Huy Hoàng.

ifa gallery
621 Changde Road
(near Wuding Road)
Shanghai 200040
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USA

ARCHITECTURE OF AUTHORITY: PHOTOGRAPHS BY RICHARD ROSS

NOW TO 16 AUGUST

What do prisons, courtrooms, pre-school classrooms and telephone booths have in common? They all embody what photographer Richard Ross terms as 'asymmetrical architecture' – or spaces that exert power over individuals. Featuring 44 large-format color photographs by Ross, the exhibition, *Architecture of Authority: Photographs by Richard Ross* aims to showcase the beauty of imposing spaces by focusing on architectural and design traits which have been deposed to allude to a sense of power and authority in a range of buildings. No stranger to sites associated with surveillance, repression and control, Ross was the official photographer documenting the restoration of the J. Paul Getty Museum and has an extensive exhibition record in the United States and Europe. Those interested in the exhibition or about authoritarian architecture in general are also encouraged to submit their own images to the National Building Museum's *Architecture of Authority* Flickr *page*. The exhibition was organized by Aperture, New York.

National Building Museum
401 F Street NW Washington,
DC 20001 USA
www.nbm.org

02

SPAIN

CAI GUO-QIANG: I WANT TO BELIEVE

NOW TO 6 SEPTEMBER

Born in 1957, the enigmatic Cai Guo-Qiang is often regarded as the most prolific Chinese artist of his generation. *I Want to Believe*, his full-fledged, conceptually-driven retrospective for the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao successfully incorporates ideas of transformation, expenditure of materials and connectivity in order to reintroduce the art medium as a process which unfolds in time and space. Utilizing ancient Chinese culture, modern Maoist revolutionary tactics and the contemporary art scene as fodder for his practice, Cai's frequently revisited themes include creation and destruction. His notorious use of gunpowder to create large-scale 'gunpowder drawings' spur on consistent references to Taoist cosmology, extraterrestrial observations, pyrotechnic technology as well as the jolting contemporary issue of terrorist violence.

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