

# PARIS ASIAN ART FAIR — ASIA NOW 16

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PARIS

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GAO BROTHERS

JU YOUNG BAN

MAO TONGYAN

TAO HONGJING

XU ZHE

LI RUI

BRUSSELS  
BELGIUM | GALLERY

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# PROJECT EXHIBITION/ PROJET D'EXPOSITION

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For its participation at the Asia Now art fair in Paris, ifa gallery presents a Xu Zhe installation that questions the limits of science and new technology, of superficiality and illusion. Xu Zhe belongs to the generation using technology as mode of reflection on contemporary reality.

The exhibition is an interpretation of contemporary society in a technological mutation in which we experience an unlimited access to information, ideas and images.

The installation « Waterfowl » is composed of a sculpture, a video and a photograph, highlighting the interaction between artificial and natural objects. A three-dimensional remote-controlled mechanical black swan is introduced amongst real swans in a man-made pond. An encounter between the natural and artificial worlds arises, striking up an ambiguous relationship between the two.

Other young Chinese artists including Li Rui, Tao Hongjing and Mao Tongyan will accompany Xu Zhe to depict this reality that might even be perceived as sinister and menacing.

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A l'occasion de sa participation à Asia Now à Paris, ifa gallery présente une installation de Xu Zhe qui interroge les limites de la science et des nouvelles techniques, du superficiel et de l'illusion. Xu Zhe fait partie de la génération qui utilise la technologie pour réfléchir sur notre monde contemporain.

L'exposition est une interprétation de notre société contemporaine dans une mutation technologique où nous faisons l'expérience d'un accès illimité à l'information, des idées et des images.

L'installation « Waterfowl », qui comprend une sculpture, une vidéo et une photographie expose l'expérience entre les objets artificiels et la nature. Un cygne noir en 3 dimensions, mécanique et contrôlé à distance, est introduit au milieu de vrais cygnes dans un étang – fabriqué par l'homme. La rencontre du monde naturel et artificiel se confronte et une relation ambiguë se crée.

D'autres jeunes artistes Chinois tels que Li Rui, Tao Hongjing, ou Mao Tongyan accompagneront Xu Zhe pour dépeindre cette réalité qui peut être perçue comme sinistre et menaçante.

# 高氏兄弟 GAO BROTHERS

GAO QIANG

1962 JINAN, CHINA/ CHINE

GAO ZHEN

1956 JINAN, CHINA/ CHINE



PERSPECTIVES 2002  
c-print, ed.of 8, 140x200cm

## BIOGRAPHY/ BIOGRAPHIE

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The **Gao Brothers** are two Beijing-based artist brothers. Over the past 20 years and since their internationally prominent participation in the exhibition « China / Avant-Garde » in 1989 (National Gallery of Beijing), their art has reached into various mediums including photography, video, painting, sculpture, performance, with them working also as critical writers and even as exhibition curators. In their work can be seen a questioning of humanity and fraternity remaining in contemporary reality. Marked by the death of their father under the Maoist regime, engaged in demonstrations at Tiananmen Square (which cost them their passports for several years), the two brothers share a critical attitude towards Chinese society.

Their works form part of the collections of the most important contemporary art museums, including: the China National Museum, the MoMA New York, the Guggenheim Foundation, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, the Centre Pompidou, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art and the Princetown University Art Museum; as well as large private collections including Steven Cohen, Uli Sigg, Charles Saatchi...

Gao Qiang and Gao Zhen live and work in Beijing, China.

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**Les Gao Brothers** sont deux frères artistes basés à Pékin. Depuis 20 ans et leur participation internationalement remarquée à l'exposition « China/Avant-Garde » de 1989 (Galerie Nationale de Pékin), leur art se déploie en photographie, vidéo, théâtre, performance, peinture et sculpture, ainsi que des essais critiques et des commissariats d'exposition. Ils y questionnent l'humanité et la fraternité restante dans notre monde contemporain. Marqués par la disparition de leur père sous le régime maoïste, engagés lors des manifestations de la Place Tiananmen (ce qui leur a valu leurs passeports à plusieurs reprises), les deux frères partagent une même approche critique vis-à-vis de la société chinoise.

Leurs œuvres figurent dans les collections des plus importants musées d'art contemporain, tels que : Le Musée National de China, le MoMA de New York, la Fondation Guggenheim, le Musée d'Art Moderne de San Francisco, le Musée des Beaux-Arts de Montréal, le Centre Pompidou, le Victoria and Albert Museum à Londres et d'autres ; ainsi que de larges collections privées comme celles de Steven Cohen, Uli Sigg, Charles Saatchi...

Gao Qiang et Gao Zhen vivent et travaillent à Pékin, Chine.

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS/ EXPOSITIONS PERSONNELLES

2015 – “Between the Walls of Utopia”, ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium  
2014 – “The Utopia of Construction”, Museum of New Art, Detroit, USA  
2014 – “The Utopia of 20 minutes Embrace”, RH Contemporary Art, New York, USA  
2014 – “The Gao Brothers – Dissidents abroad”, MONA Museum, Detroit, USA  
2013 – “Between Spiritual and material Spaces: the photographic World of the Gao Brothers”, Hua Gallery, London, United Kingdom  
2013 – “The Gao Brothers: The Execution of Christ”, Albert Benamou Gallery, Paris, France  
2013 – “The Gao Brothers”, Galerie Post + García, Maastricht, The Netherlands  
2012 – “The Gao Brothers”, Vue Privée Gallery, Art Stage Singapore, Singapore.  
2012 – “The Utopia of 20 Minutes Embrace” Piazza del Popolo, Rome, Italy  
2011 – “The Gao Brothers”, Grandeur and Catharsis, Walsh Gallery, Chicago, USA.  
2010 – “The Gao Brothers”, gallery Adrian David, Knokke-zoute (Kustlaan 335), Belgium  
2010 – “The Gao Brothers”, Duncan Miller gallery, Los Angeles, USA  
2010 – “Gao Brothers’ Portraits”, China Art Archives and Warehouse, Beijing  
2010 – “The Gao Brothers: Grandeur and Catharsis”, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, USA  
2008 – “Sense of Space”, Galerie Art Mur, Montreal, Canada  
2008 – “Some Space for Humanity: Gao Brothers Photography Exhibition”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China  
2008 – “The Gao Brothers”, Vallois Gallery, Paris, France  
2008 – “The Utopia of Construction”, Gao Brothers Center For Contemporary Art, Beijing, China  
2007 – “The Gao Brothers”,allery, ox Art G, Verona, Italy  
2007 – “The High Place: Gao Brothers Photography and Sculpture Exhibition”, Beijing New Art Projects, Beijing, China  
2007 – “The Miserable Prostitutes: Gao Brothers’ Painting and Sculpture Exhibition”, Gao Brothers Center For Contemporary Art, Beijing, China  
2007 – “The Gao Brothers”, Albert Benamou gallery, Paris, France  
2007 – “The Gao Brothers”, Limn gallery, San Francisco, USA  
2007 – “The Utopia of 20 Minutes Embrace”, Brandenburg Gate, Berlin, Germany  
2007 – “From China with Love: Gao Brothers Photography and Sculpture Exhibition”, Walsh gallery, USA  
2007 – “Another World: Gao Brothers Photography Exhibition”, Arles Photo Festival, France  
2006 – “Miss Mao: Gao Brothers’ Sculpture and Photography Exhibition”, Krampf/Pei Gallery, New York, USA  
2006 – “One and Together: Gao Brothers Photography Exhibition”, Moscow House of Photography Gallery on Solyanka, Moscow  
2006 – “The passage of Time: Gao Brothers Photography Exhibition”, La Galerie Guislain Etats d’ Art, Paris, France  
2006 – “The Utopia of Hugging”, London, Nottingham, Marseille, France

2006 – “Trope of Body: Gao Brothers’ Photography Exhibition”, Beijing New Art Projects, Beijing, China  
2005 – “One Abandoned Building’s Visual Story”, Beijing New Art Projects, China  
2002 – “A Dinner With The Homeless People” - Performance, Jinan, China  
2001 – “Embrace: Gao Brothers’ New Works”, Courtyard Gallery, Beijing, China  
2000 – “Fuse: Gao Brothers’ Photography”, Eastlink Gallery, Shanghai, China  
1995 – “The End of Mankind: Gao Brothers”, Installations, Jinan Painting Institute, China

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS/ EXPOSITIONS COLLECTIVES

2016 – “1000 Apertures & 1 Visage”, ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium  
2015 – Asian Now Art Fair, ifa gallery, Paris, France  
2015 – Beirut Art Fair, ifa gallery, Beirut, Lebanon  
2015 – “Temporary Boundary: a Survey on China Censured Videos & Photographs”, Paris-Beijing Gallery, Brussels, Belgium  
2015 – “Secret Love”, Tropen Museum, Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
2015 – “Dead: a Celebration of Morality”, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK  
2014 – “Uncovered China”, ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium  
2014 – “Outside the Lines: New Art from China”, RH Contemporary, New York, USA  
2013 – “Sensor Ship 0.46%”, Art Basel Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China  
2013 - Like Thunder Out of China, Arsenal Montreal, Montreal, Canada  
2013 - “Investigation no.2: Mr & Mrs Zhang”, Art Paris Art Fair- ifa gallery, Paris, France  
2012 – “my country” ifa gallery, Shanghai, China  
2012 – “red land, yellow stars” Galerie Libre Cours & ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium  
2012 – “cells” SH CONTEMPORARY 12 – ifa gallery, Shanghai, China  
2012 – “Un-Forbidden: the Post-Revolution of New Chinese Art”, Macro Museum, Rome, Italy  
2012 – “Secret Love”, Ostasiatiska Museum, Stockholm, Sweden  
2012 – “Death Show studio”, London, UK  
2012 – “Bridge Over Trouble, 798 Yi Zhao Space, 798 Art District, Beijing, China  
2012 – “Bore-Fear”, 798 Yi Zhao Space, 798 Art District, Beijing, China  
2011 – “Drapeau rouge/Red Flag, Contemporary Chinese Art in Montreal Collections”, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Montreal, Canada  
2011 – “Pino Pascali return to Venice / Apulia Contemporary Art”, Palazzo Bianchi Michiel dal Brusà, Venice, Italy  
2011 – “Verboten” Thomas Ammann Fine Art AG, Zurich, Switzerland  
2011 – “Pino Pascali”. Return to Venice/Apulia Contemporary Art, Palazzo Michiel dal Brusà, Venice, Italy  
2011 – “Middle East”, Middle Kingdom, Etemad Gallery, Dubai, United Arab Emirates  
2011 – “In God We Trust Contemporary Chinese Art”, Bard College, New York, USA  
2010 – “Daegu Photo Biennale”, Daegu Culture and Art Center, Daegu, Korea  
2010 – “Intramoenia Extra Art Mirages”, Alfonso’s Castle of Brindisi, Italy

2010 – “Reshaping History: China Art from 2000 to 2009”, National Conference Center, Beijing, China

2010 – “State of the Dao: Chinese Contemporary Art”, Lehman College Art Gallery, New York, USA

2010 – “Hot Bed: Shandong Contemporary Art”, Sunshine International Museum, Beijing, China

2009 – “Vancouver Biennale”, Vancouver, Canada

2009 – “Action-Camera, Beijing Performance Photography”, Morris and Helen Belkin Gallery, Vancouver, Canada

2009 – “Made in China”, the Museum of New Art (MONA), Detroit, USA

2009 – “The Very Condition”, Wall Art Museum, Beijing, China

2009 – “Contact Photo Festival”, Drake Hotel, Toronto, Canada

2009 – “Between the Sexes”, Paris Beijing Photo Gallery, Beijing, China

2009 – “Xun Dao: Searching for Spirituality in Contemporary Chinese Art”, Frederieke Taylor Gallery, New York, USA

2008 – “Mahjong, Contemporary Chinese Art from the Sigg Collection”, The Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, USA

2008 – “Mahjong”, Contemporary Chinese Art from the Sigg Collection, The Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, USA

2008 – “The 2008 Foto Fest, 12th International Photography Biennial”, Houston, USA

2008 – “China...Forward: China Contemporary Art, TSUM”, Moscow, Russia

2008 – “Ah! We: Chinese Contemporary Art 1978-2008”, China National Theatre, Beijing, China

2007 – “The Exhibition Of Chinese Contemporary Social Art”, The State Tretyakov Museum, Moscow, Russia

2007 – “Chinese Aroma-Huantie Times Chinese Art Invitation Exhibition, Huan Tie Times Art, Beijing, China

2007 – “Made in Beijing: China Contemporary Art”, Modern Art Museum of Hongik University, Seoul, Korea

2007 – “China under Construction: Contemporary Art from the People’s Republic”, Beborah Colton Gallery, Houston, USA.

2007 – “Dragon’s Evolution”, China Square Art Center, New York, USA

2007 – “Breathe: Shandong Contemporary Art Exhibition”, Shandong Museum, Jinan, China

2006 – “Ten Chinese Avant-garde Photographers”, Asia Art Center, Beijing, China

2006 – “Photography of Gao Brothers, Matteo Basile and Raimondo Galeano”, Il Ponte Contemporanea, Rome, Italy

2006 – “Miss Mao”, Black List Projects, London, UK

2006 – “Between Art and Architecture”, 798 Avant Gallery, New York, USA

2006 – “Beijing-Soldiers at the Gates”, Factory 798, Dashanzi Art District, Beijing, China

2006 – “The First Annual Exhibition Of Chinese Contemporary Art”, China Century Altar, Beijing, China

2006 – “My Space, Your Space”, Walsh Gallery, Chicago, USA

2006 – “Brothers”, Xin Dong Chen Space for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China

2006 – “Ruins”, Inova Art Center, Peckschool of Art, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, USA

2006 – “Field OF Vision: Beijing”, Beijing New Art Projects, Beijing, China

2006 – “Post Electronic Image”, MUSTBE Contemporary Art Center, Beijing, China

2006 – “5x7 Frame Decide the Attitude” Exhibition in Pingyao International Photography Festival, Pingyao, China

2006 – “Photographing China”, The Circumvallation Site of Ming Dynasty, Beijing, China

2006 – “Between Past and Future: New Photography and Video from China”, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, USA

2005 – “The Second Reality: Photographs From China”, Piazza of Berlaymont building, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium

2005 – “Field of Vision: Extremes”, The Institute for New Media, Frankfurt, Germany

2005 – “The Gesture. Visual Library in progress”, Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art, Thessaloniki, Greece

2005 – “Tian An Men - Tian An Men - Gate to Heaven”, Foam Photography Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2005 – “A UTOPIA OF THE VISIBLE: 13 Outstanding Art Photographers In China”, Beijing New Art Projects, 798 Art District, Beijing, China

2005 – “Placed in China”, Walsh Gallery, Chicago, USA

2005 – “The Flower in the Ruin: Contemporary Image Exhibition”, Niu Fang Depot, Macau, China

2005 – “Unlimit: Gao Brothers, Huang Yan & Zhang Tiemei’s Computerized Photography”, Beijing New Art Projects, 798 Art District, Beijing, China

2005 – “The City in 360 Degrees: French and Chinese Photographers in China”, Beijing New Art, 798 Art District, Beijing, China

2005 – “China Avant-Garde: Contemporary Chinese Art”, ARENA, Santa Monica, USA

2005 – “Between Past and Future: New Photography and Video from China”, Victoria and Albert Museum London, UK

2005 – “China Avant-Garde: Contemporary Chinese Art”, ARENA, Santa Monica, USA

2005 – “Between Past and Future: New Photography and Video from China”, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, USA

2005 – “Between Past and Future: New Photography and Video from China”, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, The David and Alfred Smart Museum of Art, Chicago, USA

2005 – “Start to Fly: He Xiangning Art Museum OCAT Contemporary art Collection”, He Xiangning Art Museum, Shenzhen, China

2005 – “Vehicle and Mirror Image», Beijing New Art Projects”, Beijing, China

2005 – “Forge the Fable”, Must Be Contemporary Art Center, Beijing, China

2005 – “Scratch Or China-Singapore Digital Image Art Exhibition”, Beijing New Art Projects, 798 Art District, Beijing, China

2005 – “2005 Pingyao International Photography Exhibition” Pingyao, China

004 – “Between Past and Future: New Photography and Video from China”, International Center of Photography and Asia Society, New York

2004 – “Tiananmen”, Chinese Eyes Gallery, Paris

2004 – “Design the marble – 40 international artists in Carrara”, Carrara, Italy

2003 – “The 2nd International Photo Festival of Rome”. L’Officina, Rome, Italy

2003 – “Chinese Art Today”, China Century Altar, Beijing, China

2003 – “SOHO Contemporary” Art Exhibition, SOHO Street, Beijing, China

2003 – “Bare Androgyny” - A group show of Contemporary Art, 798 Art Community, Beijing, China  
 2002 – “The First Triennial Of Chinese Arts”, Guangzhou Art Museum, China  
 2002 – ““2002 Pingyao International Photography Exhibition”, Pingyao, China  
 2001 – “The 5th Los Angeles International Biennale”, Bergamot Station Arts Center, Los Angeles, USA  
 2001 – “The First Tirana Biennale”, National Gallery & Chinese Pavilion, Albania  
 2001 – “Nice International Photography Festival: Chinese Album”, Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Nice, France  
 2001 – “Mao Y’a Pas Photo», the Espace d’ Art Contemporain of La Rochelle, Paris, France  
 2001 – “Rotate 360” - Chinese Plan Art Exhibition, Paragold Int’l Art Centre, Shanghai, China  
 2000 – “China Avant-garde Artists’ Documents”, Fukuoka Art Museum, Japan  
 2000 – “Portraits, Figures, Couples and Groups from the MCAF collection”, Biz’Art, Shanghai, China  
 2000 – “China Avant-garde Artists Documents”, Fukuoka Art Museum, Japan  
 2000 – “Family?” Contemporary Art Project, Yuexing International Furniture Center, Shanghai, China  
 2000 – “Man and Animal”, performance show, Beijing, China.  
 1999 – “The 2nd Annual Exhibition of Contemporary Sculpture”, Shenzhen, China  
 1999 – “The Documentary Exhibition of World Chinese Installation Art”, Hong Kong Art Commune, China  
 1999 – “The Picture and Writing Exhibition of Chinese Contemporary Artists, Gallery of Nanjing Teachers University, China  
 1999 – “Out Of Control, Design Art Museum, Beijing, China  
 1999 – The Documentary Exhibition of Chinese Contemporary Art, Chengdu, China  
 1992 – “Guangzhou Biennale”, Guangzhou, China  
 1989 – “China Avant-Garde”, China National Art Museum, Beijing, China  
 1985 – “Shandong Modern Art Exhibition”, Jinan, China

## PUBLICATIONS

“The Gao Brothers – The Utopia of Construction”, Jef Bourgeois, Paul Smith, Jessica Hopkins, The Museum of New Art, Detroit, 2014  
 “The Gao Brothers – Grandeur & Catharsis”, Arthur Hwang, Barbara O’Brien, Kemper Museum of contemporary Art, Kansas City, 2010  
 “Portraits – Gao Brother’s Oil Painting Exhibition”, Achille Bonito Oliva, Ai Weiwei, China Art Archives and Warehouse, 2010  
 «Some Space for Humanity -Gao Brothers Solo Exhibition», Ifa Gallery, Shanghai, 2008  
 «Gao Brothers», Vallois Gallery, Paris, France 2008  
 «Gao Brothers», Albert Benamou Gallery, Paris, France 2007  
 «Gao Brothers - Another World», Arles Photo Festival, 2007  
 «Gao Brothers», Boxart Gallery, Verona, 2007  
 «Gao Brothers’ The High Place», Walsh Gallery, Chicago, 2007  
 «Gao Brothers - 1985-2005», Hunan Fine Arts Publishing House, 2006  
 «Gao Brothers -Miss Mao», Krampf/Pei Gallery, New York, 2006  
 «Gao Brothers’ One And Together», Moscow House of Photography, Moscow, 2006  
 «Gao Brothers - The Passage Of Time», Paris, 2006  
 «Gao Brothers», The Court Yard Gallery Of Beijing, 2001  
 «Critical: The Great Crucifix Series & Other Works - Dialogue, Critical Discourse and Study on Gao Brothers’ Art», Hunan Fine Arts Publishing House Of China, 1996

반주영 JU YOUNG BAN

1978 SOUTH KOREA/ COREE DU SUD



DREAMING 2015  
colored pencil, gouache on paper, 76x57.5cm

# BIOGRAPHY/ BIOGRAPHIE

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**Ju Young Ban** studied painting at Hong-ik University in Seoul and obtained her master degree in Painting at the Pratt Institute in New York in 2006. Using drawing, painting and mixed media as the most fragile and delicate gesture, she invents her own visual language. Ju Young Ban's universe is strongly inspired by nature. The images and shapes she creates represent the growth of living creatures as a natural phenomenon; and the process of developing ideas she goes through comes from her own experiences. Her work stands as a constant search for fundamental truth and beauty in life. Including 5 solo exhibitions between Korea and the United States, she has been nationally and internationally exhibited along with her artistic contemporaries. In 2008, she did a residency program at Vermont Studio Center.

Ju Young Ban lives et works in Il-San (South Korea).

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Après avoir étudié à l'Université de Hongik à Séoul, **Ju Young Ban** obtient en 2006 un master en peinture à la Pratt Institute à New-York. D'un geste souple et délicat, ses dessins, ses peintures et ses installations dévoilent un langage visuel qui lui est propre. L'univers de Ju Young Ban est étroitement lié à la nature. Les formes et les images représentent la naissance de nouvelles créatures qui rappellent des phénomènes naturels. Son travail essentiellement inspiré dans son expérience personnelle, se présente comme une quête perpétuelle de la vérité fondamentale et de la beauté de la vie. Exposée au niveau national et international, Ju Young Ban participe à plusieurs expositions en solo entre la Corée et les Etats-Unis. En 2008, elle était en résidence au Vermont Studio Center.

Ju Young Ban vit et travaille à Il-San (Corée du Sud).

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

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2015 – "Vanishing Point", Artspace O, Seoul, Korea  
2014 – "Seen, Unseen", Shinhan Gallery Gwangwhamun, Seoul, Korea  
2011 – "Ban, Ju Young – solo exhibition", Gallery Mano, Seoul, Korea  
2008 – "Somewhere Inside", Earlville Opera House Gallery, New York, USA  
2005 – "Growth in Life", Steuben West Gallery, New York, USA

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

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2016 – "Cre8tive Report", OCI Museum, Seoul, Korea  
2015 – "Soma Drawing", Soma Museum, Seoul, Korea  
2015 – "Drawing Wing Wing Wing II", Seoul, Korea  
2015 – "Unknown", Arko Art Center, Seoul, Korea  
2013 - "UNHINGED", Pierogi Gallery, New York, USA  
2013 – "Pre-Drawing Biennale", Adamas253 Gallery, Paju, Korea  
2012 – "SMART EYE", Superior Gallery, Seoul, Korea  
2012 – "Painting is that I", KIMi Art, Seoul, Korea  
2012 – "2012 KIAF", Korea International Art Fair, Seoul, Korea  
2012 – "Bloom", Shinhan Gallery, Yeoksam, Seoul, Korea  
2010 – "2010 Korea Tomorrow", SETEC, Seoul, Korea  
2009 – "Ban, Ju Young & Lee, Kang Wook, Two-Person Exhibition", Hphrp Gallery, New York, USA  
2009 – "Yes, we are Connected !", Space World Gallery, New York, USA

2009 – "NURTUREart's 2009 Annual Benefit", Claire Olivier Gallery, New York, USA  
2009 – "Forever Summer", Denise Bibro Fine Art, New York, USA  
2008 – "The Clay Projects", Private Exhibition, New York, USA  
2008 – "Serial Meditations", NURTUREart, New York, USA  
2007 – "Reprised Reality", Gallery Korea, New York, USA  
2007 – "Seoul-Paris emerging artists", Space World Gallery, New York, USA  
2007 – "The Secret Garden", Primo Piano LivinGallery, Lecce, Italy  
2007 – "Wonderful Ephemeral", Primo Piano LivinGallery, Lecce, Italy  
2006 – "Northbound", Gallery boreas, Pittsfield, USA  
2006 – "Small Work Show", Brooklyn Artist Gym, New York, USA  
2006 – "Art for Healing", Open Center, New York, USA  
2005 – "How Close Are We", Endless International Gallery, Shanghai, China  
2005 – "Strudy Axis", Hpgrp Gallery, New York, USA  
2005 – "19 Artists", McCaig Wells Gallery, New York, USA  
2005 – "Solstice at Boreas", Gallery Boreas, New York, USA  
2005 – "2nd Cutting Edge", Seoul Auction, Seoul, Korea  
2005 – "Contemporary in New Jersey", FGS Gallery, New Jersey, USA  
2005 – "Underneath", McCaig Wells Gallery, New York, USA  
2005 – "Neighborhood Gallery Project", New York, USA

# MAO TONGYAN

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1983 SHANGHAI, CHINA / CHINE



INVESTIGATION 1 LANE 179 WULUMUQI ROAD HOUSE 62 2010  
c-print on stone acrylic frame, 55x26x5cm

# BIOGRAPHY/ BIOGRAPHIE

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**Mao Tongyan** is a photographer born in Shanghai 1983, graduates of Shanghai Normal University Pedagogy department. The artist recalls spending most of his teenage time at home listening to his mother and father discussing. This also one of the reasons why his art is focused on real estate crimes in China and beyond.

For the «stones» project, he invites a prostitute to dress up in a police uniform and go to the crime scene pretending to look for clues. As none of the crimes have been solved so far, he takes a piece of the wall from the crime scene and prints an image on it.

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**Mao Tongyan** est un photographe né à Shanghai en 1983, diplômé en pédagogie de la Shanghai Normal University. A travers son travail artistique, l'artiste parle d'une adolescence passée à écouter les discussions adultes de ses parents. Son art se concentre sur les crimes immobiliers en Chine et au-delà, un des sujets souvent évoqués par ses geniteurs.

Pour le projet sur pierres, Mao Tongyan invite une prostituée vêtue d'un uniforme policier à se rendre sur une scène de crime faisant semblant de chercher des indices. Basés sur des crimes réels et non élucidés, l'artiste réalise une série de photographie imprimée à même sur des morceaux de paroi des scènes criminelles.

## GROUP EXHIBITION

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2016 - PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai, 1933 Contemporary Art Space, Shanghai, China

2015 - "Unique Editions", ifa gallery, Brussels, China

2014 - "Uncovered China", ifa gallery, Shanghai, China

2013 - "Restart", Riga Photography Biennial 2016, Latvia

2011 - "House", ifa<sup>2</sup>, Shanghai, China

2011 - "Selected works", YK art space, Shanghai, China

2010 - "Police and Her", ifa gallery, Brussels, China

# TAO HONGJING

1979 JIANGSU, CHINA

2015 CHINA †



SAFETY FIRST - CHESS PLAYERS 2014

red Chinese ink on rice paper mounted on wooden board, 167x114cm

# BIOGRAPHY/ BIOGRAPHIE

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A graduate of the Theatre Academy of Shanghai, Tao Hongjing also studied at the National Superior Art School of Grenoble.

Tao Hongjing grew up under the regime of the "four Modernisations", aimed at turning China into a great economic power at the outset of the 21st century. These reforms insisted on the economic dependence of China and covered four different areas: agriculture, industry, science/technology and national defence. Although following the trail of China's economic change of past decades, Tao Hongjing's artwork is not influenced by commercialized consumer products – unlike the work of many other artists of his generation. His carefully considered installations and paintings focus instead in a more general manner on government political and economic objectives.

Tao Hongjing has exhibited at the 1918 Artspace (Shanghai, China), Studio Rouge (Hong Kong, China), Shun Gallery (Shanghai, China), Red Gate Gallery (Beijing, China), Galerie d'art (Prague, Czech Republic) and at OUI (Grenoble, France). The artist passed away the 4th April 2015, at the age of 36, while working on his latest project. Diplômé de l'Académie de Théâtre de Shanghai, Tao Hongjing a également étudié à l'Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Art de Grenoble.

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Après un diplôme de l'Académie de Théâtre de Shanghai, Tao Hongjing a étudié à l'École des Beaux-Arts de Grenoble.

Tao Hongjing grandit sous le régime des « quatre Modernisations » destinées à faire de la Chine une grande puissance économique à l'aube du XXI<sup>e</sup> siècle. Ces réformes insistaient sur l'indépendance économique de la Chine et couvraient quatre domaines différents : l'agriculture, l'industrie, la science/technologie et la défense nationale.

Bien que son œuvre artistique retrace les changements économiques qui ont affecté la Chine ces dernières décennies, Tao Hongjing n'est pas marqué par les célèbres produits de consommations – comme le sont beaucoup d'artistes de sa génération. Au contraire, ses installations et ses peintures réfléchies évoquent d'une façon plus générale les objectifs gouvernementaux politiques et économiques. Tao Hongjing a exposé à 1918 Artspace (Shanghai Chine), Studio Rouge (Hong Kong, Chine), Shun Gallery (Shanghai, Chine), Red Gate Gallery (Pékin, Chine), Galerie d'art (Prague, République Tchèque) et au OUI, (Grenoble, France). L'artiste est mort le 4 avril 2015, à l'âge de 36 ans, alors qu'il travaillait sur son dernier projet.

## SOLO EXHIBITION

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2015 - "Death is Going Home", Red Gate Gallery, Beijing, China  
2015 - "Death is Going Home", Shun Art Gallery, Shanghai, China  
2014 - "Safety First", Meou Art Centre, Shanghai, China  
2013 - "Retrospective", Studio Rouge, Hong Kong, China  
2013 - "Stamping Out", Studio Rouge on The Bund, Shanghai, China  
2012 - "Nirvana", Studio Rouge M50, Shanghai, China  
2011 - "Amitabha", Studio Rouge on the Bund, Shanghai, China  
2010 - "To Get Rich is Glorious", Studio Rouge at the Bund, Shanghai, China  
2009 - "To Get Rich is Glorious", 1918 Artspace, Shanghai, China

## GROUP EXHIBITION

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2016 - "The Aesthetics of Chaos", ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium  
2014 - "Transmedia", Hongqiao Center, Shanghai, China  
2014 - "Another City", Hongmei Art Festival, Shanghai, China  
2014 - "Mono", Shun Art Gallery, Shanghai, China

2013 - "Secret 7", Chris Gile, Shanghai, China  
2013 - "45cbm", Staatlich Kunsthalle, Baden-Baden, Germany  
2012 - Guanju Art Fair, Guanju, Korea  
2012 - The Carousel Collection - Kallio Kunsthalle, Helsinki, Finland  
2012 - "Enter The Dragon", Studio Rouge on the Bund, Shanghai, China  
2011 - "Amitabha", Blue Lotus, Hong Kong, China  
2010 - "I am thinking of you", Dyaporama, Tokyo, Japan  
2010 - "Beyond The Path of Madness", Dyaporama, Tokyo, Japan  
2010 - "A Simple Story", Mladých Gallery, Brno, Czech Republic  
2010 - Yong Kang Lu Art Space, Shanghai, China  
2009 - "30 degrees 2", Red Gate Gallery, Beijing, China  
2009 - "Kaléidoscope", Institut Français, Köln, Germany  
2009 - "30 degrees", Island 6, Shanghai, China  
2008 - "Furniture", Passage, Lyon, France  
2011 - "15 days without You", ifa gallery, Shanghai, China

## PUBLICATIONS

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2014 - "Safety First", Chang Fangyuan, Shanghai Publishing College Edition  
2013 - "Tao Hongjing", George Mitchell, Studio Rouge Edition  
2008 - "Schumpeter", Stephane Sauzedde, AAA Edition

# The Telegraph

## Chinese artist Tao Hongjing reveals he's a Frenchman called Alexandre

As a struggling artist living in Shanghai, Alexandre Ouairy came up with the perfect business plan - a Chinese alter ego whose work sold for far greater sums



French artist Alexandre Ouairy poses in front of his paintings during preparations for an exhibition at the Red Gate Gallery in Beijing. Photo: AFP/Getty

A French artist has revealed to surprised international buyers that the work they have been purchasing for more than a decade by a Chinese artist named Tao Hongjin was in fact made by him.

Fifteen years ago Alexandre Ouairy was an unknown French conceptualist living in Shanghai, China's commercial hub.

The country's economic transformation was well under way and the Chinese appetite for luxury goods extended beyond cars, clothes and furniture to expensive modern art.

But as just another foreign artist in China, struggling to get his work included in exhibitions, this all passed Mr Ouairy by.

"At that time the exhibitions were in private galleries who had to pay high rent and the people who were promoting me were finding it financially difficult to do so," he said.

"But China was famous for doing fake Louis Vuitton bags and fake Gucci bags and so on, so I got the idea of making a fake Chinese artist."

Spurred on by the promise of getting his work shown at exhibitions, Mr Ouairy slipped into the background and re-branded himself as Tao Hongjing, taking the name from a fifth-century philosopher.

The re-invention paid instant dividends and it wasn't long before his alter ego had established a reputation on the local art scene. He was now being compared to other Chinese artists, but his work – neon Chinese characters, golden Buddha statues – had a distinctly foreign feel, which made it stand out.

As the contemporary generation of domestic artists was only slowly emerging from decades of strict, inward-looking Communist rule, this foreign-looking flair displayed by a local artist made waves on the art scene.

Mr Ouairy is the first to admit that his new-found Chinese identity had put him on the map.

"At the beginning when I started, yes definitely, because that generation of Chinese artists grew up in a different time," he said, comparing his artistic outlook to those who "worked during a very strong Communist era".

But with the latest generation of Chinese artists there is a "common cultural bond", he says.

As Chinese and Western artists have gradually converged in style, Mr Ouairy felt he no longer needed Tao Hongjing, and his Chinese self will be laid to rest with an exhibition opening in Beijing this weekend titled "Death is Going Home".

Mr Ouairy said that while many in the West knew his real identity, he had worked hard to keep it a secret in China, often avoiding press interviews and not appearing at his own exhibitions.

# Imposture: l'artiste chinois en vogue à Pékin était... français

Génie ou opportunisme? Un artiste chinois très en vogue à Pékin s'est révélé être... un Français. Après avoir vendu ses œuvres pendant dix ans sous un pseudonyme chinois, cet artiste a aujourd'hui levé le masque. Alors que s'ouvre à Pékin sa nouvelle exposition, sous nom d'emprunt, il assure que sa démarche était de «jouer avec le marché et les stéréotypes».

«Né dans le Sud de la Chine», selon sa notice biographique, Tao Hongjing, artiste «chinois» multi-exposé à Tokyo, Paris ou New York, a pourtant les yeux bleus, la peau blanche et les cheveux blonds plutôt associés aux «lao wai», surnom des Occidentaux en Chine. «Mon vrai nom est Alexandre Qualry», dit en souriant le Français de 36 ans, Nantais de naissance, formé aux Beaux-arts à Grenoble et débarqué en 2000 à Shanghai pour «l'aventure», dans une ville alors quasi-dépourvue de galeries d'art. Dans l'une d'elles, il

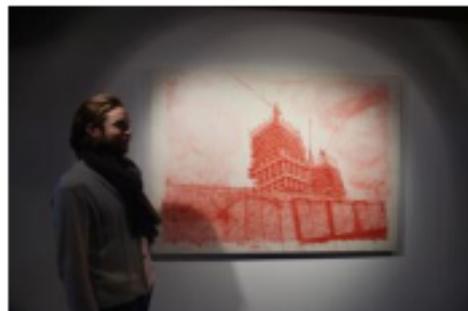
commence à exposer, sous son vrai nom, mais «l'intérêt du public était limité, voire nul», se remémore M. Qualry, qui ne voit qu'une seule explication: «C'était dû au fait que j'étais étranger».

Dans le Shanghai des années 2000, les artistes chinois, valeurs montantes, monopolisent les regards. «Les collectionneurs étaient surtout étrangers, et ils voulaient acheter chinois, car pour eux c'était un bon investissement.» Alexandre Qualry, «frustré», se désole de ne pouvoir «créer un dialogue» avec spectateurs et artistes chinois via ses créations, ignorées.

## Du jour au lendemain, le succès était au rendez-vous

En 2005, le marché de l'art contemporain chinois décolle et le Nantais a un déclic: «Je voyais à Shanghai toutes ces contrefaçons Louis Vuitton ou Prada. Et je me suis dit: s'ils fabriquent des faux sacs, pourquoi ne fabriquerais-je pas un faux artiste chinois?».

Alexandre et le galeriste chinois qui l'expose cisèlent alors à quatre mains la biographie imaginaire de l'artiste fictif (un mélange de leurs deux vies) et lui attribuent un nom: Tao Hongjing. «C'est inspiré d'un philosophe chinois des 4ème et 5ème siècles, qui était assez blagueur. C'est comme cette idée de pseudo: pour moi, c'était une blague». Et cela fonctionne: «Du jour au lendemain, le succès a été au rendez-vous», explique l'artiste, dont les créations suscitent alors la frénésie du marché et l'intérêt subit des amateurs. «On vendait une ou deux œuvres par mois, contre une ou deux par exposition avant».



LI RUI

1985 HANGZHOU, CHINA/ CHINE



PULL AND FACE TO FACE 2011  
oil painting on glass, 10x20x5cm

# BIOGRAPHY/ BIOGRAPHIE

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Li Rui 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 naive 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.

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Li Rui est une jeune artiste prometteuse diplômée de l'Académie des Beaux -Arts à Hangzhou et de l'Universität der Künste à Berlin. Sa technique personnelle s'inspire de la tradition chinoise des miniatures sur verre au réalisme naïf. Li Rui commence par appliquer sur des bols en verre les derniers détails de ses personnages pour finir par l'arrière-plan, une technique de peinture à l'envers qui questionne avec fraîcheur et acuité le sens des portraits traditionnels. À l'intérieur de son cadre circulaire, la peinture de Li Rui semble couler, se diluer, révélant ainsi la crudité des visages et des expressions sans leurs masques sociaux.

## SOLO EXHIBITION

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2014 - “around your face”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China

## GROUP EXHIBITION

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2016 - Asia Now, Paris, France

2016 - “Xunxun-From perception to involvement”, Parkview Green Art (798), Shanghai, China

2014 - “Elementary·The Plan”, 1929 Art Space”, Shanghai, China

2014 - “Recovered”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China

2013 - “drawing and what”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China

2013 - “my country”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China

2012 - “bring the dogs out”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China

2012 - “closet”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China

2012 - «investigation no.2 : facing distance», Art Paris, ifa gallery, France

2011 - «Right eye - Left leg», ifa gallery, Shanghai, China

2011 - Art Beijing, China

2011 - “Je suis Chinois. Et toi ?”, Galerie Nathalie Gas & Bernard Guillon, Paris, France

2011 - Hangzhou Young Artist Competition, Hangzhou, China

2011 - Young Artists exhibition, Chengdu Art Museum, China

XU ZHE

1976 SHANGHAI, CHINA



UNTITLED 2014  
c-print, ed.of 5, 86x51cm

# BIOGRAPHY/ BIOGRAPHIE

Xu Zhe graduated from the School of Fine Arts at Aix-en-Provence (France) in 2006. Teacher for the New Media's department at Shanghai Art School and member of the artists' group Zuzhi - that supports different art-related projects - he works with different mediums including sculpture, photography, video and installations.

Xu Zhe speaks of photography as a tool, a tool he uses only if he needs to capture his intention. Strongly inspired by George Orwell's *Animal Farm* and Hungarian director Béla Tarr's film esthetics, he draws a similarity between totalitarian governments described by his masters and China's current communist government. Using props and models as well as real things, such as clouds to add to the narrative of his works, he depicts a reality that can be perceived as quite sinister and threatening and that suggests a violent society that has lost control.

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Xu Zhe est diplômé de l'École des Beaux-Arts d'Aix-en-Provence (France) en 2006. Enseignant au département de la New Media à la Shanghai Art School et membre du groupe d'artistes Zuzhi, l'artiste entreprend différents projets liés à l'art et manipule divers médiums, y compris la sculpture, la photographie, la vidéo et les installations.

Fortement inspiré par «*Animal Farm*» (La ferme des animaux) de George Orwell et du style esthétique du réalisateur hongrois, Béla Tarr, l'artiste réalise ses projets en créant des liens étroits entre les gouvernements totalitaires et le gouvernement communiste de la Chine actuelle. En utilisant des éléments inspirés de la vie réelle qu'il ajoute au récit de ses œuvres, il dépeint une réalité qui peut être perçue comme assez sinistre et menaçante et qui suggère une société violente qui a perdu le contrôle.

## GROUP EXHIBITION

2016 - Asia Now, Paris, France

2015 - "Essential matters", Borusan Contemporary, Istanbul, Turkey

2014 - "Error/Logic", ifa gallery, Shanghai, China

2013 - "Why not sneeze", Minsheng Fine Art Museum, Shanghai, China

2013 - Video art Festival, K11, Shanghai, China

2013 - "The Sun", V Art Center, Shanghai, China

2013 - "Sound Bending", Imagokinetics, Hangzhou, China

2013 - "ON I OFF: China's Young Artists in Concept and Practice", UCCA, Beijing, China

2013 - "Encounter with The Others", Amnua, Nanjing, China

2013 - "Drawing, expression and limit", Amnua, Nanjing, China

2012 - "Bring the dogs out", ifa gallery, Shanghai, China

2012 - "Wood works", V Art Center, Shanghai, China

2012 - "Sensation", V Art Center, Shanghai, China

2012 - "See/Saw: Collective Practice in China Now", Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China

2012 - Minutes video art festival, Citic Square, Shanghai, China

2012 - "Magic China", Magda Danysz Gallery, Paris, France

2012 - Jetlag-Sino-German Multimedia Contemporary Art in China, Kunsthalle Faust, Hanover, Germany

2012 - Fun Art-Open Studio Project, The Times Museum, Guangzhou, China

2011 - First issue, SH contemporary Art Exhibition, China Exhibition Center

# IFA GALLERY

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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.

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ifa gallery a été créé par Alexis Kouzmine-Karavaïeff en 2006 à Shanghai, dans le quartier des galeries d'art contemporain. En visitant assidûment les ateliers d'artistes, la galerie a travaillé à sélectionner les artistes les plus promoteurs, ceux qui déployaient un langage et des moyens d'expression singuliers, loin des clichés et des conventions, ceux qui offrent des visions artistiques et des concepts forts. Au fil des années, ifa gallery a organisé de nombreuses expositions marquantes, toujours originales, montrant les œuvres d'un artiste sur une période donnée ou organisant autour d'un commissariat réfléchi des expositions collectives. Plusieurs expositions majeures ont ainsi été organisées notamment de l'artiste coréen Park Sung-Tae ou bien du jeune artiste chinois aujourd'hui très recherché Liu Bolin. La galerie a acquis une reconnaissance internationale en participant activement aux foires telles Art Basel Hong Kong, Art Paris, Art Stage Singapore ou encore Photo Shanghai.

En décembre 2013, ifa gallery a déménagé pour le cœur et la capitale de l'Europe, Bruxelles. Située dans le quartier historique des Marolles, la galerie offre une programmation dynamique avec les principaux artistes qu'elle a découverts en Chine ainsi que de nouveaux artistes de la région.

Nous représentons des artistes établis tels que Dai Guangyu, une figure de proue de l'avant-garde chinoise, les Gao Brothers ou Wu Junyong ; mais aussi des artistes émergents tels que Fan Jiupeng et Li Rui, ou encore des artistes étrangers basés en Chine tels que Christophe Demaître ou Zane Mellepe.

Dans sa volonté d'être un trait d'union entre l'Europe et la Chine, un nouvel espace d'exposition a ouvert en mars 2014 dans le quartier de Jing'An à Shanghai.

# CONTACTS

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open from thursday to sunday • from 10 am to 6 pm

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open by appointment

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