



Zane Mellupe, *The arrow of dust of snow* (2014),
c-print on stainless steel fibre-optic lights, 35x35x5cm

Beyond the lights Group exhibition

ZANE MELLUPE

CHRISTOPHE DEMAITRE

Vernissage Sunday 11 December 2016 3pm-6pm

From 11 December 2016 to 29 January 2017

Thursday to Sunday, 10am-6pm

ifagallery • 藝法畫廊

rue des renards/vossenstraat 28, 1000 brussels, belgium • +32 2 502 40 58 • contact@ifa-gallery.com

中国上海市万航渡路733号/733 wanhangdu road • shanghai 200040 • china

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BEYOND THE LIGHTS

GROUP EXHIBITION

For the exhibition "**Beyond the lights**", ifa gallery proposes a series of "luminous" works by varied artists such as Zane Mellepe or Christophe Demaître.

Since the 1950s, natural or artificial light has become a privileged material for many contemporary artistic practices, whether they come from painting, sculpture or photography. For a long time, the light was a mystical or religious symbol materialising the divine and integrated by artists such as physical and natural. It has gradually been introduced as immaterial, almost tangible, prevailing in art.

Zane Mellepe (1981), based in Shanghai since 2001, has been exploring the photographic medium since her early years. A Sinology graduate from the University of Latvia, the artist experiments with a variety of mediums. In her artworks, light is a medium questioning three of her preferred subjects : the image, the object and the body. Her installations « electronic knitting » from the « Family Relics » serie evoke the passing of values down from the generations to generation. Zane Mellepe uses light into her works using luminous wires interpreting the passing links such as umbilical cords.

Christophe Demaître (1968), graduated in visual arts in Kortrijk then Ghent, employs photography like an alchemist. The Belgian artist, expatriated in China for 10 years, develops his images on paper, canvas, metal or even on resin. Exhibited artworks show the portrait of Asian megalopolis, of the city of Shanghai in particular, one of these cities irreversibly modified by rampant modernisation in both lifestyle and architecture. The integration of neons and lightboxes reveals an unreal and timeless dimension.

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ZANE MELLUPE

Zane Mellupe is a Shanghai-based artist and Sinologist from Latvia. She works on photography since the age of fourteen. In the meantime, she studied Sinology at the University of Latvia and moved to China in 2000.

After doing her Theatre Direction studies in Shanghai Theatre Academy and completing her Bachelor Degree in Shanghai Teachers University (Bachelor of Arts in Chinese Language & Literature, 2004), Mellupe pursued her education in the United Kingdom (Master of Arts in Photojournalism & Documentary Photography, University of the Arts, London 2007).

From 2007 to 2010, she has been working as the creative director of Island6 Arts Centre in Shanghai. In 2010, Zane Mellupe developed a community art street, Yongkang Lu Art with several experimental spaces. Zane Mellupe's art has been exhibited in China and Europe in galleries and museums.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2015 - "Another Trilogy", ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium

2014 - "Shanghai Lights". Professional Photography school, Riga, Latvia

2013 - "Shanghai Lights". Kultūras pils (The Castle of Culture), Viesīte, Latvia

2012 - "Šanhajas gaismas". M.Buclera Photograph Chamber, Lone City, Latvia

2010 - "Shanghai Lights". Centre of culture Majori, Latvia

2009 - "Šanhajas gaismas". Bibliotēka., Saldus, Latvia

2009 - "Shanghai Lights". Museum of Olaine, Latvia

2008 - "Shanghai Lights". Latvijas Fotogrāfijas muzejs. Rīga / Latvija

2011 - "In memory of the perfect wife", ifa gallery, Shanghai, China

2008 - "Shanghai lights", Photography Museum of Latvia, Riga, Latvia

2005 - "Also in China", House of United Nations, Riga, Latvia

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2016 - "1000 Apertures & 1 Visage", ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium

2015 - "I", ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium

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- 2015 – “Unique Editions”, ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium
2015 – “The Stroke of a Pen”, ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium
2015 – “Territory - Art Paris Art Fair”, ifa gallery booth, Paris, France
2014 – “Uncovered China”, ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium
2014 - Photo Shanghai, ifa gallery booth, Shanghai, China
2014 - Art Paris Art Fair, ifa gallery booth, Paris, France
2014 - “uncovered China”, ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium
2013 - “Investigation no.3: Mr & Mrs Zhang”, Art Paris, ifa gallery booth, Paris, France
2013 - “Drawing and what”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China
2012 - “secret 7”, Chris Gill studio, Shanghai, China
2012 - “my country”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China
2012- “St-Art Fair”, Galerie Libre Cours booth, Strasbourg, France
2012 - “secret 7”, YY bar, Shanghai, China
2012- “Red land, yellow stars”, Galerie Libre Cours & ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium
2012 - “Cells”, SH Contemporary 12, Shanghai, China
2012- “The left leg of a cat”, Art: Gwangju:12, Gwangju, Korea
2012 - “closet”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China
2012 - “Something in Common”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China
2012 - “investigation no.2: facing distance”, Art Paris, ifa gallery booth, Paris, France
2012 - “Trace, line, shadow”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China
2011 - “Ruby, Roxy and the flaming Lamborghini”, Studio Rouge, Shanghai, China
2011 - “The hell. the heaven. on the way. in between”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China
2011 - “15 days without You”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China
2011 - “Enquête n°1”, Art Paris+guests, ifa gallery booth, Paris, France
2011 - “The Birth of a myth - part II - Art in a state of Alertness”, YK Art Space, Shanghai, China
2010 - “The birth of a myth - part I”, YK Art Space, Shanghai, China
2010 - “Come, take a walk with me”, Yongkang Lu Art, Shanghai, China
2010 - “Police and Her”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China
2010 - “Absolute 0:00”, Island 6 arts center, Shanghai, China
2010 - “Fakirs”, Island 6 arts center, Shanghai, China
2009 - “Placebo”, Island 6 arts center, Shanghai, China

- 2009 - "30 Degrees", Island 6 arts center & Studio Rouge, Shanghai, China
- 2009 - "Synesthesia", Island 6 arts center, Shanghai, China
- 2009 - "Individual: New Art from Beyond Beijing", Red Gate Gallery, Beijing, China
- 2009 - "LEDs animés", Gallery Twenty-One, Paris, France
- 2009 - "Art Paris 09"(Art Fair), Gallery Loft & Gallery Twenty-One Paris, France
- 2009 - "The Artist Died Yesterday", Island 6 arts center, Shanghai, China
- 2008 - "Shanghai Lights" Solo Exhibition, Photography Museum of Latvia, Riga, Latvia
- 2008 - "Automata", Island 6 & ifa gallery, Shanghai, China
- 2008 - "Urban Lust", Island 6 & ifa gallery, Shanghai, China
- 2008 - "Fernelmont Contemporary Art, second edition" Festival Fernelmont, Castle of Fernelmont, Belgium
- 2008 - "Quadrare il Cerchio" (Squaring the Circle), Allegra Ravizza Art Project, Milano, Italy
- 2008 - "Clouds of Crowds", Island 6 arts center, Shanghai, China
- 2008 - "Roma Contemporary Art Fair", Manaart Roma, Italy
- 2008 - "Zero Gravity", Sun Gallery, Shanghai, China
- 2007 - "PlugIT", Blue Lotus Gallery, Hong-Kong
- 2007 - "Made in Shanghai", Island 6 arts center, Shanghai, China
- 2007 - "Festival Art Continu", Morocco
- 2007 - "Made in China", Island 6 arts center, Shanghai, China
- 2007 - "PlugIT", Island 6 arts center, Shanghai, China
- 2006 - "Life Circle", LCC, London, UK
- 2006 - "Cable Street & the art pavilion (70th Anniversary of the Battle of Cable St)", London, UK
- 2005 - "Also in China", Solo Exhibition, House of United Nations, Riga, Latvia

CHRISTOPHE DEMAÎTRE

Christophe Demaître is born in 1968 in Courtrai in Belgium. He studied plastic art first in Courtrai, then in Gent, particularly in Rik Vermeersch and Michaël Borremans' studios. In the early 90's, his work is oriented through photography research, and it is a time when he used to travel a lot through Europe and Asia. In 1997, he settled in Italy during six years, when he will come back to paintings, working on several academic technics. Then, he starts to be renown and he exhibits in prestigious institutions. He will also stay few times in Spain, in Barcelona, where he will get a lot of inspiration from the movement "Arte Povera". All his travels inspired him to come back to experiment photography again. In 2003, he settled in Brussels where he continued the work he left years before. In 2006, Christophe Demaître is invited by Island 6 Arts Center in Shanghai, a contemporary art center, where he developed his work using multimedia technologies. Fascinated by this super-dynamic city continuously expanding, not only demographic way but also in an artistic way, the artist decides to settle a second studio in Shanghai, and to live there some time during the year. Nowadays his work is renown and belongs to public and private collections.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2015 – "l'échafaudage des temps", ifa²gallery, Brussels, Belgium

2014 – "brilliant city", ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium

2013 – "dialogue between space and time", Morbee Galerie, Brussels, Belgium

2011 – "Urban Stage", Boycott Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

2010 – "3D Vision Sculpture", M50, Shanghai, China

2009 – "Christophe Demaitre solo show", Boycott Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

2009 – "City Reflection", Mana Art, Brussels, Belgium

2009 – Boycott Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

2008 – Mana Art, Brussels, Belgium

2007 – "Stop / over cities" Island6 Art Center, Shanghai, China

2007 – Boycott Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

2007 – Mana Art, Brussels, Belgium

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2006 – Mana Art, Brussels, Belgium
2005 – Mana Art, Brussels, Belgium
2004 – Mana Art, Brussels, Belgium
2003 – Duomo Art Gallery, Verona, Italy
2002 – Istituto Enologico Italiano, Verona, Italy
2001 – San-Gio Video Festival, Verona, Italy
2001 – Via Sotto Riva, Verona, Italy
2000 – Art Gallery, Via del Corso, Roma, Italy
2000 – Ciak Cinema d'Essay, Verona, Italy
1999 – Province Arthall of Verona, Verona, Italy
1998 – Arcipelago cultural Centre, Trento, Italy
1996 – Magazijn Theatre-Gallery, Gent, Belgium

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2015 – “the stroke of a pen”, ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium
2014 – Photo Shanghai, ifa gallery booth, Shanghai, China
2013 – “Investigation no.2: Mr&Mrs Zhang”, Art Paris Art Fair, ifa gallery booth, Paris, France
2013 – “toy clinic”, Power Station of Art, Shanghai, China
2013 – “drawing and what”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China
2013 – “under the carpet”, Art Stage Singapore, ifa gallery booth, Singapore
2012 – “my country”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China
2012 – “the left leg of a cat”, Art:Gwangju:12, ifa gallery booth, Gwangju, Korea
2012 – “closet”, ifa gallery, Shanghai, China
2011 – Le Castelo Di Carlo V, Lecce, Italy
2011 – “Forgotten Places”, OV Gallery, Shanghai, China
2010 – Blue Lotus Gallery, Hong-Kong, China
2009 – Duolun Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai, China
2009 – Premio Internazionale Limen Arte, Italy
2009 – In Situ, Riverside Art Center, Shanghai, China
2008 – Galeria Arte Contemporanea Moderna Roma, Italy

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2008 – Island6 Art Center, Shanghai, China
2008 – Allegra Ravizz Art Project, Milano, Italy
2008 – Lineart, Gent, Belgium
2007 – Chateau de Fernelmont, Contemporary Art2, Belgium
2007 – Island6 Art Center, Shanghai, China
2006 – Galeria ARTantide, Verona, Italy
2006 – Chateau de Fernelmont, Contemporary Art1, Belgium
2006 – Deutsche Bank Collection, London, England
2006 – Eurasia one German Center + Island6, Shanghai, China
2006 – First Minister Cabinet, Kafka Award, Brussels, Belgium
2005 – ARTE espace Jacquotte, Brussels, Belgium
2003 – Artfarm Situarsi 03, Bonavigo, Italy
2002 – Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain
2002 – CCB, Esp4, Barcelona, Spain
2002 – Mac Mestissatge, Barcelona, Spain
2001 – Rippeta Prize XII Ed., Rome, Italy
2001 – Palazzo Correr, Venice, Italy
2001 – Art Gallery Studio Palazzi, Venice, Italy
2000 – Palazzo Correr, Venice, Italy
2001 – Art Gallery, Viadel Corso, Rome, Italy
1998 – Westrand Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
1997 – Teg Sequiz Museum, Transylvania, Romania

ifa gallery

ifa gallery was established by Alexis Kouzmine-Karavaïeff in 2006 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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