



Film Art and Art Video

Specializing in independent Chinese video and cinema, Fragments, an association from Nantes that promotes and screens diversified artistic works, presents a screening of video and film art. This event sees the participation of Directors Lounge, a regular cooperater that organizes art events and an international video art and media festival in Berlin in February.

The evening is divided into two parts: a selection of international works compiled by Directors Lounge and a selection of Chinese videos proposed by Fragments.

This double program offers a different vision and illustrates a questioning on the theme of memory, the changing of the organization of society (social architecture, construction of the natural or transformed environment, the place of the individual), of the interdependence between individual and collective histories. The particular interest in all these art works also lies in the preoccupation of the notion of public space and its applications for creative and reflective purposes.

If the selection from Directors Lounge is based on visual, sound and aesthetic research (the work on the sound, on the editing, the framing, the blur, the textures, the colours, and so on), the Chinese videos, although they are taken from various genres (documentary, experimental, fiction, video art...), are rooted in the reality of the everyday life and refer to the idea, the engagement as well as to the desire to show. This latter selection reveals firstly some aspects of the collective memory and the place of the individual in society, then ends with a more intimate and personal memory.

This event was made possible thanks to the help and the support of Patricia Buck, André Werner, Liu Xiangzhou, Zhang Yaoyi, Bi Shan, Zhu Rikun, Bleuenn Carre who we thank warmly.

Program

Part 1 : **Directors Lounge contemporary art and media** (Berlin) – (around 45 minutes) Memory and history (ies) : Construction/Destruction/Reconstruction

Untitled

(*Masha Godovannaya, Russia, 2005*) 3'52 min

"While walking along Nevskiy Prospect in St. Petersburg, Russia, I saw a young girl dancing this harsh, passionate and seductive dance." *Masha Godovannaya*.



Da qui sopra il mare

(*Mauro Santini, Italy, 2003*) 10'37 min.

An impression of memories that seem so distant and yet so familiar. Blurred images of figures with undecided lines, uncertain and hesitant sounds, mixed with samples of voices, noises of the sea ...



Crazy love

(*Yoel Díaz Vázquez, Cuba, 2007*) 3'19 min.

Soto and Zenaida reveal the consecutive failures in their artistic careers. They symbolize a whole generation which actively participated in the collective socialistic project instead of realizing their own and personal projects. Crazy Love represents the feeling of America in the 1950's and its style of luxurious life, is performed here by a man who was affected by the song precisely in the 70s when the revolution prohibited the music of the main Cuban enemy.



Construct (2 moments in Beauty)

(*Maja Borg, UK/Sweden, 2006*) 6 min

Construct is a collaboration between filmmaker Maja Borg, historian Maria Björkman, sound designer Martin Johnson and music composer Mario Adamson, all exploring the human tendency of wanting to systemize in order to understand and/or control the world. The film is the result of conversations about destructive effects we have encountered in history, when trying to apply an idea about the world upon the reality of it.



Solo fur Ramallah

(*Andreas Rost, Germany, 2005*) 4'50 min

In a street of Ramallah, a policeman regulates the traffic with a body movement that reminds of a choreography.



Under Twilight

(*Jean Gabriel Périot, France, 2006*) 5'10 min.

Beauty and/or Destruction.



Shanghai Shanghai

(*Zhenchen Liu, France/China, 2006*) 11'37 min.

« "Shanghai Shanghai" presents Shanghai as it is conceived, thought out, imagined in models, virtually rendered videos, and the reality of the city. The film confronts three types of images: utopian images of the city; metaphorical images; and documentary images, "real" images from today. » *Zhenchen Liu*



Part 2 : 中国录影带 : Chinese videos, presented by **Fragments** (around 65 minutes)

记忆和社会/个人记忆和社会中的个体

Memory and society/personal memories and the individual in society



Rice and Coins

(*MaiZi, 2007, 1 min*)

From the '1 minute' series, a happening: a man (Maizi) holding on his back a heavy bag, walks determinately through the market without a care to the world around him. As he walks past, some rice and coins are falling ...

Maizi is a rock musician and singer, a poet, artist and actor in the films, *Weed* by Wang Liren and *Passages* by Yang Chao.

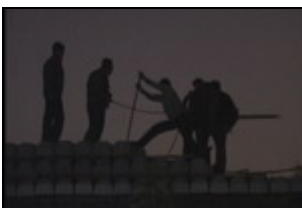


Floating Memory

(*Liu Wei, 2001, 10 min.*)

« In 1989, the year of the Snake, my birth year, I joined the student movement, my spirits high with passion and idealism. 2001, the year of Snake, again. I carry all my memories now into yet another round of life, without knowing where my destiny lies. At this moment, what I can recall most clearly is the sentence we wrote back then and hung up on a large piece of white cloth: "Today, we cannot die!" » *Liu Wei, 2001.*

Liu Wei is a photographer, a director of documentaries and of experimental videos that have been screened in various international festivals.

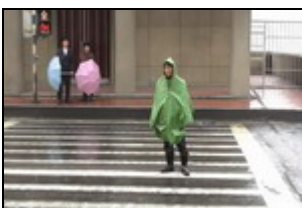


New Road

(*Xiaopeng, 2007, 9 min*)

While the 17th National Congress of the Communist Party of China is setting its policies to determine the new way the CPC will take for the future of its people, a group of workers are building a new railway.

Xiaopeng is an artist and a director of documentaries. He has participated in several expositions and international festivals (Cinéma du Réel, Viennale, Festival dei Popoli...).



The Bridge

(*Xu Xin, 2007, 16 min.*)

The Nanjing Yangtze River Bridge was built in 1968 and was at the time one of the biggest Communist realizations. According to a survey, between 2003 and 2004, 234 people have committed suicide by jumping from this heavily congested bridge.

Xu Xin is an independent documentarist who focuses on the grass-roots existences in China, especially the minorities and social vulnerable groups. To him, the act of documenting itself is a way of engaging in the construction of history.



Terrace

(Song Di, 2006, 12 min.)

A man of a certain age is about to jump off the roof of a dilapidated building, then a young girl appears...

First film by Song Di, postgraduated at the Beijing Film Academy (Directing Department).



Perform

(MaiZi, 2007, 1 min)

Another video from the '1 minute' series : some young children perform in the streets and then they are off...

Maizi is a rock musician and singer, a poet, artist and actor in the films, Weed by Wang Liren and Passages by Yang Chao.



Dian Dian

(Liang Yue, 2002, 9 min)

"DianDian is an impression. A girl continuously scratches as if she wanted to get rid of a feeling in order to find a clearer mind. This debris which she does not need, is time falling like snowflakes." *Liang Yue.*

Photographer and video artist from Shanghai, Liang Yue has participated in several exhibitions, her works put in relation the concepts of interior and exterior, memory and reality, public space and private space.



Memories

(Zhang Xuezhou, 2007, 5 min)

An evocation of childhood memories, gathered here to give a melodious atmosphere of nostalgia.

Independent video producer Zhang Xuezhou is working on various productions (drama, dance and video), he works especially with a contemporary dance group, Zuhe Niao.