

Tang contemporary Art is pleased to announce a solo exhibition by Wang Du, entitled *Le Musée d'Art Contemporain de la Chine*, from 24th March through 30th April. (Please check)

Wang Du's inspiration has always derived from social images, and through varied perception, he attempts to appropriate the language of media in its extremity and exaggeration. The artist then avails oneself of images from the mass media of our reality, in order to make us reconsider the intended realism of media, based on the accumulation and excess of the message.

He declared, "I was the media, I am realistic, I was the image". He believes that "comprehensive media of the 'third reality' is constituted of a need to constantly redefine the contemporary social and cultural ecology." Thus, his work can be seen as cut from a different point of the series to redefine the concept of reality, or also as he said, "I am a spokesman for the public and the reality" and "voice."

For his latest project, Wang Du has constructed the fictitious "Contemporary Art Museum of China". In its overall capacity, this installation appears as a huge architectural model, while its main body looks as if the 'aircraft carrier' has been divided into four pieces. There is even a sophisticated 'underground facilities' below the main body, all of which amounts to this machine-like of a comprehensive functional museum. This crazy yet paranoid *utopian* museum project that appears rusty in its naked front, carries in steadfast a violent quality of 'vintage futurism' ; however, it declares the absence of a present era. In our global obsession of power-building within countries, where can we find a museum today that invokes a cultural mission, with full comprehensive functions and professionally-operated, and carrying the bearings of Chinese contemporary culture?

An aircraft carrier has always been the symbol that represents a powerful military nation, while evoking the hopeful desire of the developed nation that strives to be stronger in its future. When Wang Du encounters the chaotic cultural values in Chinese societies today, he has cherished the illusive nature of creating a 'Contemporary Art Musuem of China'. Undoubtedly, he sincerely wishes there is a cultural 'flagship' that can represents the powerful China.

Tang Contemporary Art has also organised Wang Du solo exhibition, *International Kebab*, in August 2008.

Artist introduction

Born in 1956, Wuhan, Hubei Province, Wang Du has lived and worked in Paris, France since 1990. He has also taught art in various art institutes as in Paris 8 - University of Saint- Denis and Brest Art College in France. A co-founder of the collective group of " Southern Artist Salon" in Guangzhou during the period of *85 New Wave* in 1985, he has curated their first "Experimental Exhibition". Wang Du employs various media to create his works, including installations, sculpture, photography, and new media.

Wang Du creates artworks through the perspective akin to a shrewd observer of daily news. He has also claimed the concept of "I am the media" through his independent and critical standpoint. Since early 1990s, Wang Du started to focus on the images of masses media and popular culture, and he used plenty of symbolic informational tools in his artworks, such as videos, TV and computer. He cleverly transferred the meaning of information into the form of sculptures. His works represent the contemporary sense based on a strong offbeat vision and psychology. He has interfered the reality of the society through his direct yet humorous and ironic way of representation.

Selected exhibitions

"The Power of Art", Grand Palais, Paris, France (2009)

"Wang Du", Baltic, The Centre for Contemporary, Newcastle, United Kingdom (2006)

"Lyon Biennale", Lyon, France (2005)

“Wang Du”, Yerba Buena center for the arts, San Francisco, United States (2005)
“The Time Tunnel”, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France (2004)
“Disposable consume reality”, Rodin museum, Seoul, Korea (2001)
“Parade”, DEITCH PROJECTS, New York, United States (2000)
“Flea market”, ART & PUBLIC gallery, Switzerland (1999)
48th Venice Biennale, Italy (1999)
“Specimen”, ANNE DE VILLEPOIX gallery, Paris, France (1994)

Selected magazines

Wangdu Magasine (2000)
WANG DU (2004)
Transréalité (2007)