

Shanghype!

September 20 – December 13, 2009

Exhibition Reception:

Sunday, September 27, 3–5 pm

Artist's Talk: Sunday, September 27, 2 pm
Peggy Wang and Qiu Anxiong will discuss the current state of video art in China.

Sponsored by the Center for the Arts of East Asia at the University of Chicago.

Black Box Gallery (2nd Floor)

Gallery Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 10 am – 8 pm

Friday – Saturday: 10 am – 5 pm

Sunday: 12 pm – 5 pm



Bu Hua, *Savage Grow*, 2008, animation video, 3 mins. 52 sec.

Chicago, IL (July 2009) — From September 20 to December 13, 2009 the Hyde Park Art Center presents *Shanghype!*, an exhibition featuring the video work of eighteen international artists who explore aspects of Shanghai's rapidly evolving urban culture. Held in the Art Center's Black Box Gallery, *Shanghype!* dismantles perceptions of the city's identity, stimulating complicated visions of the Far Orient and asking the public to reevaluate notions of neoliberalism and globalization.

Focusing on a city that is constantly in flux—having been built from scratch, rebuilt, and overbuilt—the exhibition reveals a generation's dramatic achievements while questioning the sustainability of existing urbanism. Using the notion of China at its height as a beginning metaphor, the exhibition works to explore Shanghai's aspirations and desire to regain its once legendary reputation, the reflected need of China to be recognized as international and modern, and the power struggle between Shanghai's local and global identity. Organizers of *Shanghype!* worked closely with selected artists on specific projects "pushing the place of Shanghai in the imaginary".

All artists involved with the exhibition have spent significant time in China conducting conceptual and visual research on cultural authenticity. Artists include: Sun Xun, Qiu Anxiong, Tang Maohong, Bu Hua, Song Tao, Cao Fei, Zhang Ding, Yang Fudong, David Cotterrell, Xu Zhen, Yang Zhenzhong, Pierre Giner, Olivo Barbieri, D-fuse, Jin Shan, Speedism, Mathieu Borysevicz, and Zhou Xiaohu. The works were selected by Davide Quadrio, a Shanghai-based curator and founder of BizArt, one of China's oldest and most renowned independent spaces for contemporary art. Co-curating the exhibition is Dan S. Wang, a widely published Chicago-based writer and artist.

Shanghype! will be held in conjunction with the exhibition *Reversed Images: Representations of Shanghai and Its Contemporary Material Culture* at the Museum of Contemporary Photography at Columbia College Chicago. Both exhibitions explore the cityscape of Shanghai as conceptual terrain. This program is part of a college-wide initiative at Columbia called *Eyes on China*. This exhibition and related programming has been supported in part by The Center for The Arts of East Asia at the University of Chicago, Dr. Samuel Wang, and anonymous donors.

Shanghype! will be on view from September 20 to December 13, 2009 at the Hyde Park Art Center, 5020 South Cornell Avenue, Chicago, IL, 60615; 773.324.5520 and www.hydeparkart.org. Hyde Park Art Center exhibitions are always free and open to the public.

The Hyde Park Art Center is a not-for-profit organization that presents innovative exhibitions, primarily work by Chicago-area artists, and educational programs in the visual arts for children and adults of diverse backgrounds. The Center is funded in part by the Alhwood Foundation; The Chicago Community Trust; a City Arts III grant from the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and the Illinois Arts Council; The Lloyd A. Fry Foundation; The Leo S. Guthman Fund; The Irving Harris Foundation; The Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; The Joyce Foundation; JPMorgan Chase Foundation; The Mayer & Morris Kaplan Family Foundation; The MacArthur Foundation; The MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince; The Orbit Fund; Polk Bros. Foundation; The Clinton Family Fund; The Sara Lee Foundation; South East Chicago Commission; The Wallace Foundation; and the generosity of its members and friends.