
Yuz Project Room at Yuz Museum
As Simple As Clay

Exhibition: ***As Simple As Clay***

Duration: November 14th, 2015– January 31st, 2016

Opening: November 13th, 2015

Yuz Museum

35 Fenggu Road

West Bund / Xuhui District, Shanghai

<http://www.yuzmshanghai.org>

Yuz Project Room is an independent exhibition program, which invites artists to make site-specific artworks and project, boldly engaged with the museum, its surroundings and the audiences, aiming to explore the possibilities in contemporary art, and focus on the ideology and semantics in the present culture and society. Continuous with its opening in September 2015, Yuz Project Room will present Liu Shiyuan's project *As Simple As Clay* from November 14th, 2015 to January 31st, 2016.

As a female artist born after 1980s, Liu Shiyuan's works share a tight connection with her life and visual experience. Nurtured by Chinese traditional education, she chose to go to New York for further artistic study after graduation, and now lives and works in Beijing and Copenhagen. It is her multicultural life experience that drives her to inspect the boundaries among different cultural patterns as well as make a change or doubt about the artistic concept and creative language. Via the various media of photography, collage, installation and video, she investigates the frontier in her artistic practice and challenges the limitation of perception and experience to seek for the essence and the interaction among life, existence and perception in the new cultural context.

In this project, Liu Shiyuan will present her work, entitled *As Simple as Clay*, which was created just after her moved to Copenhagen. It was the first time for her to realize that she could not live the way she likes, which perhaps because she needed to learn a new language. In this case, she tried to abandon the existing logic she had mastered, taking the art as the experiment and start over. Begun with the clay, the most original material, she proceeded to experiment what kind of works she would create. By googling its image, she discovered some similarities between the clay and other objects. Then she explored the visual counterparts of the clay to create a series of related objects such as cheese, butter, flour paste and soap etc. By taking its advantage of plasticity, and then photographed a series of photos as well. The clay here is just a representational material, which could easily transfer between the medium and the object. The backgrounds on the images were specially designed in blue, to reach the visual assimilation and

representational unity through digestion as well as blur the existence of the real space. In another words, it does not mean that to see is to believe.

In the process of creating and constantly introspection, Liu Shiyuan integrates her cultural origins with her later diverse cultural encounters via presenting her concepts and ideas in visual forms. What she thinks is the different worldviews from different people in different systems, and thus to deliver a subjective reality worth discussing.

About the Artist

Liu Shiyuan was born in Beijing in 1985, graduated with a BFA in New Media Art at Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing in 2009, and an MFA in Photography, Video and Related Media from the School of Visual Art, New York in 2012. She currently lives and works in Beijing and Copenhagen. Her major exhibitions include: *From "Happiness" To "Whatever"* (Leo Xu Projects, Shanghai, 2015); *Lost In Export* (White Space, Beijing, 2015); *Moving in time B3 + Beijing Moving image exhibition and CAFAM Future* (CAFA Art Museum, Beijing, 2015); *Present Future section at Artissima* (Oval, Lingotto in Turin, 2014); *Beyond The Pale* (Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, 2014); *Now You See* (Whitebox Art Center, New York, 2014); *Local Futures* (He Xiangning Art Museum, Shenzhen, 2013); *The 7th Shenzhen Sculpture Biennale* (OCT-Contemporary Art Terminal, Shenzhen, 2012); *Stillspotting*, (Guggenheim New York, 2011) and etc.

About Yuz Project Room

Yuz Project Room is a new independent exhibition program at the Yuz Museum which opens to the public in September 2015. Yuz Project Room invites artists to make site-specific works or projects, engaging boldly with the museum, its surroundings and its audience. Combining "project + exhibition," the artist interacts actively with the space and aims to present the moment when contemporary art occurs.

Yuz Project Room is the place where innovation, invention, and new movements happen in the trajectory of an artist. It aims to provide another platform for Chinese and international artists to exhibit their artworks as well as more opportunities to communicate with each other. Yuz Project Room invites the artist to get inspired with new ideas by engaging with the museum space and attempting to create breakthrough artworks that diverge from the artist's accustomed path.

Current Exhibitions

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| 2015.09.01 —2015.11.23 | <i>Twin Tracks: Yang Fudong Solo Exhibition</i> |
| 2015.09.01 —2015.12.31 | <i>Rain Room by Random International</i> |
| 2015.11.14 —2016.01.31 | <i>As Simple As Clay</i> , Liu Shiyuan Project Room Exhibition |