PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai 2019 successfully concluded its sixth edition with high praise

PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai 2019, with Presenting Partner Porsche, has once again cemented its position as Asia Pacific’s leading destination for discovering and collecting photography. The Fair impressed collectors with diverse gallery presentations and special exhibitions that illustrated the breadth and versatility of photography, enabling strong sales to local and international buyers and institutions.

The sixth edition of PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai welcomed more than 30,000 visitors including important collectors, curators and arts professionals from around the world: Deborah Klochko (Director, Museum of Photography, San Diego), Weixing Zhong (Founder, ChengDu Contemporary Image Museum, Chengdu), Honor Harger (Director, ArtScience Museum, Singapore), Heiner Wemhöner (collector & Founder, Sammlung Wemhöner, Berlin), Karen Smith (Artistic Director, Shanghai Center of Photography / Director, OCAT Xi’an), Peter Coeln (Founder & Director, WestLicht. Museum for Photography, Vienna), Francise Chang (Tate Russia and Eastern Europe Acquisitions Committee), Heung Shing Liu (Founder, Shanghai Center of Photography), Jun Wang (collector and Founder, Light Society), Claire Shea (Deputy Director, Para Site, Hong Kong), Ni Lu (Director, X-MUSEUM), Lu Xun (Collector / Founder & Director, Sifang Art Museum, Nanjing), Andrew Ruff (collector & founder, 166 Space, Shanghai), and acclaimed collectors such as Diasuke Miyatsuj, Qiao Zhibin, Arthur Wang, Li Lin, Liu Gang, Charles Jin, Mao Simian and Tang Zijia.

The 2019 edition brought together 50 significant and forward-thinking contemporary galleries engaging with photography, moving image, installation, video, digital art, sculptures, performance and mixed media works. Recognizing photography as a changing and developing artform, the Fair emphasized the experimental features of photography, encouraging new approaches and ideas through history and today.

Honor Harger (Director, ArtScience Museum, Singapore),"Some truly excellent work by familiar faces and thought-provoking work by new names for example, Wu Chi-Tsung, Michael Najjar, Shen Wei, Chen Ronghui, and Leandro Erlich."

Karen Smith, Artistic Director, Shanghai Center of Photography and Director of OCAT Xi’an commented, “A lot of important artists who usually have their names in the contemporary art world can be seen at
PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai. The Fair’s sectors can present experimental artworks using different media, but ultimately, all the works presented return to the nature of photography.”

On his experience of the fair, Nick Buckley Wood, the Asia Director of Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac commented: “The fair continues to be the strongest art fair in Asia focusing on photography. The Chinese audience seems to be growing, and the quality of collectors is also improving. The Fair is run very professionally.”

“This is our first time participating in PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai. We’ve been seeing a great response and interest from both the collectors and public as to the work that we have brought to the Fair, beneficial to both the gallery and local audience” Associate Director, Thomas Kelly from Sean Kelly Gallery.

“What I am most excited about is the very refreshing, young collectors I’ve met, and how uncomplicated, down to earth and open minded they are about starting a collection” speaks Christophe Guye, Owner, Christophe Guye Gallery.

Working closely with the leading museum and art institutes in Asia Pacific area, PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai has also nurtured the annual Season of Photography in September. Significant photography based exhibitions are open around the city in major museums, institutes and galleries, making Shanghai a vital meeting point for photography and art from all over the world.

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Notes to editors

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About PHOTOFAIRS

PHOTOFAIRS is a joint venture between Angus Montgomery Arts and the World Photography Organisation and is part of a wider network of leading contemporary art fairs including Taipei Dangdai, Sydney Contemporary, India Art Fair, Art Central Hong Kong and Art Düsseldorf.

PHOTOFAIRS is supported by Friends of the Fair including: Yang Bin, collector (Beijing); Xue Bing, collector & co-founder New Century Art Foundation (Singapore); Alan Chan, collector & designer (Hong Kong); Isaac Chueng Chairman, Videotage (Hong Kong); Jean-François Dubos President, Maison Européenne de la Photographie à Paris, (Paris); Natasha Egan, Executive Director, Museum of
Contemporary Photography, Columbia College (Chicago); **Wang Jun** Collector and Founder, Light Society (Beijing); **Louise Lau**, Collector & Founder, Guangzhou 33 Contemporary Art Centre (Guangzhou); **Jiyoon Lee**, Curator & Managing Director, Suum Projects (Seoul, Korea); **Jiang Ning**, collector (Shanghai), **Christopher Phillips** Independent critic and curator (New York); **Andrew and Lingling Ruff**, collectors & founders, 166 Space (Shanghai), and **Lu Xun** Collector / Founder & Director, Sifang Art Museum (Nanjing).

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