

PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai 2017 closes to resounding praise and strong sales

- Solid sales across both photography and moving image
- Audiences of more than 30,000 attend the fourth edition
- Collectors and curators from around the world in attendance
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London, September 11, 2017: The fourth edition of PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai closed yesterday, Sunday 10 September, to its strongest ever sales and high praise from the 50 participating galleries spanning 16 countries and 28 cities. Porsche was the fair's Presenting Partner.

The fair is Asia Pacific's leading platform for collectable fine art photography and moving image. An audience of more than 30,000 influential collectors, curators and visitors from around the world were given unparalleled access to cutting-edge artworks and experts from across the medium.

International collectors and curators praise the 2017 edition

"The fourth edition of PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai demonstrated a new stage of maturity", commented curator **Christopher Phillips** "The mix of Asian galleries and those from other parts of the world struck a perfect balance. The special curated exhibitions showed that Asian artists and collectors have reached a remarkably high level of sophistication. And certainly, everyone at the fair noticed the presence of leading American and European collectors and museums curators, who all seemed to be planning major acquisitions of Chinese photography."

"PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai will certainly very quickly become an unavoidable stopover on the international art fairs circuit," noted **Jean-François Dubos (Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris)**. "Thanks to the specially selected galleries and focused talks program there is less 'déjà vu' and the fair offers a great opportunity to make new discoveries from the contemporary Chinese art scene."

Simon Baker (Tate Modern, London) adds, "It has been an eye-opening experience and a surprising fair. I have been introduced to impressive new work by Chinese galleries and made exciting discoveries among both established and emerging artists."

Galleries enjoy strong sales and high levels of interest

Robert Mann Gallery (New York): "I am very happy with my first year of participation at PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai and the Chinese community has been extremely receptive to the works I brought. I have made many new connections and am optimistic that I will be building on those connections and returning to do even more in the future. There has been a lot of interest in both the high-end iconic classical works as well as the contemporary works I brought".

Matthew Liu Fine Arts (Shanghai): "Exhibition at the fair for my third year, I feel that the quality of the collectors is excellent. I am very pleased with the level of interest and my sales have included two video works by Yang Yongliang which is very promising."

Three Shadows + 3 Gallery (Beijing, Xiamen): “We sold variety of artists including Daido Moriyama, Wang Wusheng, Liang Xiu, Wang Man and Zhang Kechun at more than 800,000 RMB”

Magnum Photos (London) “This is our fourth time exhibiting at PHOTOFAIRS Shanghai. The fair gives us a valuable platform to build and develop connections with collectors and expand our longstanding work with the Chinese market. It’s amazing how engaged people are and it feels like photography is exploding as a sector in China.”

Vanguard Gallery (Shanghai): “After four years’ effort, the whole industry has been pushed and improved in China. More and more people pay attention to photography and moving images now. A lot of major institutes are making photography shows to coincide with the PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai dates. The *Insights* exhibition and the addition of *Spotlight* really adds to the public program.”

ShanghART Gallery (Shanghai, Beijing, Singapore): “With many public programmes and opportunities offered by the fair, the public’s understanding towards contemporary photography has broadened, as has the collector base.”

Blindspot Gallery (Hong Kong): “Through PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai we are meeting more collectors, and I also see many more museums and curators on site than in previous editions.”

Leo Xu Projects (Shanghai): “Having seen the fair develop over the last three years, I am pleased to be here as it offers a very focused environment and fulfils my needs to meet a new client base.”

Kahmann Gallery (Amsterdam): “This was our first time at PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai and it exceeded our expectations.”

AIKE DELLARCO (Shanghai): “PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai has been well received every year and it is good to be involved. It is a very focused fair and is interesting because its programs and artistic offerings are very diverse.”

Prominent collectors and curators at the fair included: **Simon Baker** (Tate Modern, London); Yang Bing (collector); **Erin Barnett** (International Center of Photography, New York); **Pierre Brahm** (collector/patron, Tate Modern, London); **Jan Broman** (Fotografiska, Stockholm); **Naomi Cass** (Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne); **David Chau** (Cc Foundation, Shanghai); **Adrian Cheng** (K11 Art Foundation, Shanghai); **Clément Chéroux** (San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco); **Jean-François Dubos** (Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris), **Jefferson Hack** (NOWNESS); **Zheng Hao** (HOW Art Museum, Shanghai); **Michael Xufu Huang** (M-Woods Museum, Beijing); **Wang Jun** (collector); **Pi Li** (M+, Hong Kong); **HS Liu** (Shanghai Centre of Photography, Shanghai); **Cherie McNair** (Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney); **Christopher Phillips** (curator/PHOTOFAIRS advisory board); **Thomas Shao** (collector / Modern Media Group); **Warren Silverberg** (patron, Aperture Foundation); **Karen Smith** (OCAT Xi’an); **Artur Walther** (The Walther Collection / Neu-Ulm); **Jenny Jinyuan Wang** (Fosun Foundation); **May Xue** (collector); **Andrew Zheng** (collector); **Qiao Zhibing** (Qiao Space, Shanghai) and **Chong Zhou** (collector).

Ren Hang and Collectors' Exhibition's highlights of public program

The world-class public programming of the fair was also particularly noted by those in attendance. Highlights included *Spotlight* - the first international platform of work by late Chinese artist Ren Hang, *Insights* - a museum-quality exhibition of unique pieces tracing the history of colour in photography, and a special presentation of work by four of China’s foremost art collectors in the *Collectors’ Exhibition*, powered by De Beers.

Erin Barnett (International Center of Photography, New York) commented: "PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai gave the public a unique opportunity to see some of the best new contemporary Chinese photographic works as well as gems from abroad all in one place. The Staged platform presented a wonderful mix of prints, new media, video, and installation work. Additionally, it was a pleasure to curate highlights from the private collections of some of China's most respected photography collectors for the *Telling Tales* exhibition."

PHOTOFAIRS' next editions

PHOTOFAIRS will next open in San Francisco, where its second edition will run from February 23-25, 2018. The fair returns to Shanghai in 2018 from September 21-23.

2017 edition supported by leading Chinese and international partners

PHOTOFAIRS would like to thank its partners who are each committed to supporting the artistic medium of photography and investment in the art.

The fair was supported by: Presenting Partner **Porsche**; Leading Partner **Lancôme**; Photo Partner **Leica**; Corporate Partner **MEISTERKREIS**; VIP Partner **American Express**; Strategic Partner **Branding Shanghai**; Principle Media Partner **Modern Media Group**; Wine Partner **Hennessy**, Water Partner **San Pellegrino**; Furniture Partner **Duxiana**; Vision Partner **LensCrafters**; Paper Partner **Hahnemühle**; Logistics Partner **Dragon Fine Art**; Exhibition Partner **XITEK**, Special Exhibition Partner **NOWNESS**; Restaurant Partner **Little Catch**; Café Partner **Light Salt**; Bookshop Partner **BPG Art Media**, and **Gewara** is the Official Ticketing Platform for the fair.

Cultural Partners of PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai include: **Australian Centre for Photography** (Sydney); **Centre for Contemporary Photography** (Melbourne); **Chronus Art Center** (Shanghai); **Luxelakes A4 Art Museum** (Chengdu); **Maison Européenne de la Photographie** (Paris); **OCAT Xi'an, Shanghai Himalayas Museum** (Shanghai); **Times Museum** (Guangzhou); **Hong Kong Contemporary Art Foundation** (Hong Kong) and **Japan Foundation** (Beijing).

Artune and **Dataa Editions** were the fair's Special Project Partners and **KWM artcenter** (Beijing) is the Spotlight Exhibition Partner. International Digital Partner **Artnet** and Digital Partner **Ocula** provided the online catalogue for PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai.

PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai
September 21-23, 2018
Shanghai Exhibition Centre
www.photofairs.org

PHOTOFAIRS | San Francisco
February 23-25-28, 2018
Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Center
www.photofairs.org

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