

# PHOTOFAIRS SHANGHAI

## PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai 2018 announces a challenging Public Program featuring innovative new commissions, curators and exhibitions

**Shanghai, July 31, 2018:** PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai (September 21 - 23, 2018) today announces that it will mark its fifth anniversary with a five-part Public Program. This will include curated exhibition platforms of groundbreaking contemporary Asian art - *Staged, Connected, Spotlight, Insights* - and the fair's *Conversations* series. Together these five highlights will create the Fair's most thought-provoking and contemporary Public Program yet.

Highlights in the 2018 Public Program include; a critically acclaimed exhibition by Hiroshi Sugimoto; talks by leading artists including **Chen Chieh-Jen** (Long March Space, Beijing) and **Hong Hao** (Pace Gallery, New York, Palo Alto, London, Paris, Seoul & Beijing) and a collaboration with international curator, **Victor Wang** (王宗孚).

Georgia Griffiths, Group Fair Director said: "*PHOTOFAIRS' ongoing mission is to present cutting-edge artwork and this is mirrored by our public program in site-specific installations, new technology, moving image and artists' talks. I'm particularly excited about the range of practices that are on display - from established artists reflecting on their work through to the new section, Connected. Visitors will have a myriad of opportunities to experience a variety of contemporary photography practices.*"

Widely regarded as Asia Pacific's leading destination to discover and collect photography, PHOTOFAIRS' 50 galleries and public program will provide a stimulating and seamless insight into photography pushing its limits. PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai will return to the Shanghai Exhibition Center from September 21-23, 2018, with Presenting Partner Porsche.

### **New works commissioned for *Staged***

PHOTOFAIRS' *Staged* exhibition platform explores the relationship between photography and other art forms such as installation art, sculpture, video and painting. Placed throughout the Fair space, this year's *Staged* will feature four politically and emotionally-charged works that reflect on contemporary Asian society. They are:

- A new, large-scale work by Chinese artist **Cai Dongdong** (One Way Art Gallery, Beijing). *The Thousand Face Door and The Theft* (2018) will take the form of a traditional, freestanding Chinese doorway. On a hanging curtain, beads are replaced by Chinese identity cards, fusing together traditional Chinese imagery with contemporary social concerns.
- A new site specific installation by Korean artist **SeungWoo Back** (Gana Art, Seoul & SUUM Projects, Seoul), which will stand at the entrance of the fair. Reworked from his original, celebrated series *Utopia* (2008) the work visually echoes Communist era architecture and meditates on the complexities of the current political situation between North Korea, South Korea and China.

- *Realm of Reverberations: Tree Planter* (2014) by Taiwanese artist **Chen Chieh-Jen** (Long March Space Beijing) will be screened twice daily. The film takes viewers to the remains of Taipei's Lo-Sheng Sanatorium, an abandoned leprosy hospital, and explores the histories and stories around its spaces.
- *The Water-Grass Network of IT Specialists* (2017) by Korean artist **Won Seoung Won** (Arario Gallery, Seoul & Shanghai) will be exhibited in the Fair's VIP lounge. This series consists of eight panels of digitally-manipulated, imaginary landscapes that show the artist's imaginative interpretation of individuals as 'psychological portraits'.

### **Video art given dedicated platform in *Connected* exhibition**

PHOTOFAIRS' *Connected* film program, showcases the breadth of subject matter and technique being explored in the medium by artists from around the world. Pioneered at PHOTOFAIRS | San Francisco in 2017, this year's launch in Shanghai will feature video works presented by cultural partners:

- **Videotage** (Hong Kong) with a Hong Kong-focused presentation featuring artists **Joseph Chen** and **Simon Liu**.
- **Video Bureau** (Beijing & Guangzhou) with a dual presentation of works by **Chen Qiulin** and **Miao Xiaochun**.
- **HOW Art Museum** (Shanghai) with a presentation by **Leandro Erlich**.
- **NOWNESS** (Shanghai) with a presentation of artists in focus featuring **Wolfgang Tillmans**, **Wim Wenders** and **Petra Collins**, amongst others.

### **Spotlight - China debut for *Gates of Paradise* series by Hiroshi Sugimoto**

The *Spotlight* exhibition platform focuses on a single artist of international renown and importance in the contemporary photography sphere. This year the Fair will present *Hiroshi Sugimoto | Gates of Paradise*, an exhibition of large-scale, silver gelatin prints that will be shown in China for the first time.

Celebrated Japanese artist **Hiroshi Sugimoto** (b.1948) has worked in photography since the 1970s. His work often investigates the themes of temporal existence, history, empiricism, and metaphysics. *Gates of Paradise* charts the journey of the "Tenshō embassy"; four young Japanese Catholics, who were sent to the courts and palaces of Europe in the late 16th century during the first major cultural, religious and political exchanges between East and West. Sugimoto's series retraces the embassy's steps, visiting sites such as the Duomo in Florence, the Pantheon in Rome and the Leaning Tower of Pisa, drawing our attention to the centuries-old process of cultural exchange.

Sugimoto's exhibition is part of a strong selection of Japanese art that will be exhibited at this year's Fair. This includes leading Japanese galleries **art space AM** (Tokyo), **rin art association** (Takasaki) and **Taka Ishii Gallery** (Tokyo & New York) and international and Chinese galleries presenting Japanese artists including **Ryusuke Kido** (Christine Park Gallery, London & New York), **Aki Lumi** and **Yuki Onodera** (Vanguard Gallery, Shanghai) and **Daido Moriyama** (see + gallery, Beijing).

All *Spotlight* artworks are courtesy of **Galleria Continua** (San Gimignano, Beijing, Les Moulins, Habana).

### **International curators and artists lined up for *Conversations***

The Fair will offer an extensive program of public talks featuring in-depth discussions with artists, curators, collectors and industry leaders including:

- Panel discussions with curators **Zoe Zhang Liqi** (Deputy Director, HOW Art Museum), **Claire Shea** (Deputy Director, Para-site), **Thomas Dukes** (Curator, Open Eye Liverpool) and artists

**Hong Hao** (Pace Gallery, New York, Palo Alto, London, Paris, Seoul & Beijing), **Birdhead** (ShanghART Gallery, Shanghai, Beijing & Singapore), **Kelvin Kyung Kun Park** (Vanguard Gallery, Shanghai) and **Isaac Leung** (Videotage).

- Artist Talks by **Cai Dongdong** (One Way Art Gallery, Beijing), **Hai Bo** (Pace Gallery, New York, Palo Alto, London, Paris, Seoul & Beijing), **SeungWoo Back** (Gana Art, Seoul & SUUM Projects, Seoul) and **Chen Chieh-Jen** (Long March Space, Beijing), who will offer insight into their practises.

The full *Conversations* program will be published on [www.photofairs.org](http://www.photofairs.org).

## Insights - Full artists' list announced

The fair's *Insights* exhibition platform, powered by Patek Philippe, completes the 2018 public program. **Victor Wang** (王宗孚) realizes a reimagining of the seminal 1999 exhibition "The Same But Also Changed (物是人非)", featuring works by the original participants **Chen Xiaoyun, Geng Jianyi, Hu Jieming, Liang Yue, Xiang Liqing, Yang Zhenzhong, Yang Fudong, Liu Wei** and **Xu Zhen**. These will be presented alongside a new generation of artists: **Chen Zhe, Yang Yuanyuan, Fan Xi, Ma Qiusha, Miao Ying** and **Shi Zheng**.

## A selection of the world's best galleries announced for 2018

PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai offers collectors access to the world's leading galleries including returning supporters **ShanghART Gallery** (Shanghai, Beijing & Singapore), **Taka Ishii Gallery** (Tokyo & New York), **Pékin Fine Arts** (Beijing & Hong Kong), **Blindspot** (Hong Kong) and **Pace Gallery** (New York, Palo Alto, London, Paris, Seoul & Beijing), amongst others; and major newcomers including **Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac** (Salzburg, Paris & London), **König Galerie** (Berlin & London), **Galleria Continua** (San Gimignano, Beijing, Les Moulins, Habana) and **10 Chancery Lane** (Hong Kong), amongst others. For the full list of participating galleries please visit [www.photofairs.org/shanghai/exhibitors/2018](http://www.photofairs.org/shanghai/exhibitors/2018).

## 2018 Sponsors and Partners

PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai continues to work with leading Chinese and international partners who share its vision to create an engaging platform upon which to promote contemporary photography to both seasoned and new collectors.

### *Sponsors*

For a second year, **Porsche** is the Presenting Partner of the 2018 edition, and is joined by: Feature Exhibition Partner **Patek Philippe**; Photo Partner **Leica**; Art Book and Prints Partner **Artron**; Creative Partner **YEO Communications**; VIP Partner **China Merchants Bank**; Strategic Partner **Branding Shanghai**; Furniture Partner **DUXIANA**; Paper Partner **Hahnemühle**; Event Partner **XITEK**; Production Partner **LOTO ART**; Art Cafe Partner **Brownie Art Cafe**.

### *Cultural Partners:*

The fair is delighted to work with the following global institutions:

**Para Site** (Hong Kong); **HOW Art Museum** (Shanghai); **Videotage** (Hong Kong); **Video Bureau** (Beijing & Guangzhou); **Museum of Contemporary Photography** (Chicago); **University of Salford Art Collection** (Salford); **Open Eye Gallery** (Liverpool).

### *Media Partners*

Lead Fashion Partner **ELLE CHINA**; VIP Media Partner **TATLER**; Lead Digital Partners **FT Chinese, YITIAO, YT CREATIVE MEDIA**; Featured Media Partners **Life** and **Número**; Airline Partner **ELITE**. International Online Partner **Artsy** will host the fair's online catalogue, launching this September. Live Broadcast Partner **Zai Art** will live stream all public programs on site.

Visitors to PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai will find a wide variety of hand-selected Chinese and international magazines in the PHOTOFAIRS newsstand courtesy of: **1843 Intelligent Life, Art Bahrain; Art Calendar; Art Trade Journal; Art World; ARTCO CHINA; ELLE DECORATION CHINA; GUP; Hi Art; IDEAT; FishEye; Madame Figaro Chine; Noblesse; Photography is Art; Photographers' Companion; Shanghai Daily; that's Shanghai; The Art Newspaper China; Time Out Shanghai; VISION.**

PHOTOFAIRS is also grateful for the support of Media Partners: **1000 Words; Aesthetica; ArtFacts; Artprice.com; Artron; Artsky; European Photography; Harper's BAZAAR Art China; Independent Collector; Musée; Nechoa; Phoenix Art; Photography of China; Shanghai BANG!; SmartShanghai; Tezign.cn; The Artling; VART and Widewalls.**

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

PHOTOFAIRS | Shanghai takes place at Shanghai Exhibition Center, **September 21 - 23, 2018.**

Preview: **Thursday, September 20.**

- Tickets are available via <http://tickets.photofairs.cn>
- For press images please contact [media@photofairs.org](mailto:media@photofairs.org)

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