

BIOGRAPHY

JIAN JUN XI & CAI YUAN

Born 1956 and 1962 respectively, in China. Both live and work in the UK.

Born in China in 1956 and 1962 respectively, Cai Yuan and Jian Jun Xi have been living and working in the United Kingdom since the 1980s. Cai Yuan trained in oil painting at Nanjing College of Art, Chelsea College of Art and the Royal College of Art. Jianjun Xi trained at the Central Academy of Applied Arts in Beijing and later at Goldsmiths College. They started working as a performance duo in the late nineties with their action *Two Artists Jump on Tracey Emin's Bed* (1999) at Tate Britain's Turner Prize Exhibition. Exhibitions include *Silent Energy*, Museum of Modern Art Oxford, 1998, *Cities on the Move*, Hayward Gallery 1999, Shanghai Biennial 2000, Venice Biennale 2001 and *Touring London* (IniVA). Their film *Two Artists Piss on Duchamp's Urinal* was shown at the 9th Biennial of Moving Images in Geneva, and *Dazed Eye*, a film commissioned by Dazed & Confused and *Film4*, was shown in La Foret Arts Space, Tokyo. Cai & Xi's *Soya Sauce and Ketchup Fight* performance was shown at the Liverpool Biennale 2002, a video screening in Live Culture at Tate Modern, Wandering Library for the 50th Venice Biennale and *Sauce* performance shown at the Prague Biennale 2003. A short film *Monkey King cause havoc in the Heavenly Palace* was commissioned by British Museum 2004. Their recent exhibitions include: *Transposition*, Office for Contemporary Art Norway; *Apple of My Eye*, V&A Museum, London; *Dou-pi-gai: struggle criticise reform*, performance, Haus Der Kulturen Der Welt, Berlin 2005; Vital int'l Performance Festival, Orbiz Square, Manchester; *Point to the East, Strike in the West*, photograph and performance, 798 Dashanzi, Beijing 2006; *Transfiguration*, performance, LTB Foundation, London; *Legacy*, Rossi & Rossi Ltd, London; *Mad For Real Film*, BBC big screen, Clayton Square, Liverpool; *Soya Sauce and Ketchup-Universal Project*, Louisiana Museum for Modern Art, Denmark 2007.

Their recent exhibitions include; Aircraft Carrier Project, Tokyo Gallery+BTAP, Beijing and English Lounge, Tang Contemporary, Beijing

Mad For Real (Cai Yuan and Jian Jun Xi)'s oeuvre has continually questioned the relationship of power to the individual. Using a position of resistance Cai and Xi have consistently produced work which is necessarily oppositional yet the warmth and humour of their work also acts to draw viewers in. their performance have taken place as radical gesture calling to mind notorious artists of earlier radical art movements but the historical, linguistic and political context of their practice is often related specifically to their origins: China.

EDUCATION

Cai Yuan

1986 - 1989 BA, Chelsea College of Art and Design, London

1989 - 1991 MA, Royal College of Art, London

Jian Jun Xi

1982 - 1986 BA, Central Academy of Arts and Design, Beijing

1993 - 1994 MA, Goldsmiths' College, University of London

EXHIBITIONS AND PROJECTS

- 2013** The Blood in my Hands, Kunstverein Ludwigsburg, Germany
London Chinese artists biennale, Asia House, London
Scream, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford
Duchamp and/or/in UCCA, China
The Making of the World, Shanghai Tang, Hong Kong
- 2012** Scream, Tate Morden, London
Occupy, Fridericiaum Museum Kassel Germany
Performance for 3rd Guangzhou Int'l Live Art project, Guangzhou China
2nd Xi'an Live Art project and Suzhou Live Garden project, China
- 2010** Bed-in, Bluecoat Gallery, Liverpool
Crazy Wisdom, Pan Asia Performance, South Korea
GeZiBiaoShu, Arthur Sackler Museum, Beijing University
Now Asian Artist, Busan Biennale, South Korea
The Flower of May, The Gwangju Museum of Art, South Korea
Spoken Word, Invia, London
- 2009** Aircraft Carrier Project, Tokyo Gallery+BTAP, Beijing, China (solo)
Happy and Glorious' Tang Contemporary Art Gallery, Hong Kong (solo)
Soya Sauce and Ketchup-Universal Project , Colchester Arts Centre, UK (solo)
Soya Sauce and Ketchup-Universal Project, University of Essex, Colchester **(solo)**
Lilith Performance Studio Project, Malmo, Sweden (solo)
Chinese contemporary art retrospective, Duolun Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai
Being British, Stephen Lawrence Gallery, University of Greenwich, UK
English Lounge, Tang Contemporary, Beijing
2nd Thessaloniki Biennale of Contemporary Art, Greece
- 2008** National Review of Live Art, film screening, Glasgow
China Night, Film, British Museum
Far West, Performance, Arnofini Gallery, Bristol, UK
Mad for Real, Square Gallery, Nanjing, China
One World One Dream, ZangDa Fine Art Museum, Shanghai
- 2007** Soya Sauce and Ketchup-Universal Project, Louisiana Museum of Modern Art
Chinese Performance Photograph Documentation since 1979, Inter Art Centre, Beijing
Transfiguration, Performance, Louis T Blouin Foundation, London
Legacy, Rossi & Rossi Ltd, London
Mad For Real Film, BBC big screen, Clayton Square, Liverpool
- 2006** On the Big Screen, Corner House, Manchester
Vital int'l Festival Performance, Orbiz Square, Manchester
Monkey King Sculpture and Live Art Project, Colchester Arts Centre, UK
Point to the East, Strike in the West, Photo and Performance, 798 Dashanzi, Beijing
Dou-pi-gai: struggle criticise reform, Performance, Haus Der Kulturen Der Welt, Berlin
- 2005** Monkey King Photograph Project, Artists Link Shanghai, British Council
Transposition, Office for Contemporary Arts Norway, Oslo
Apple of My Eye, V&A Museum, London
ANTI Contemporary Art Festival, Kuopio, Finland
From the margins to the Mainstream, Video Art, Tate Britain

- 2004 Salon Series, Home, London
 Liverpool Live, Bluecoat Arts Centre, Liverpool
 Nasubi Gallery, Mori Museum, Tokyo
 Face to Face, AURA Gallery, Shanghai
 Happy & Glorious, Chinese Arts Centre, Manchester
 THINK UK, DaDao International Live Art Festival, Beijing
 Monkey King Causes Havoc in the Heavenly Palace, British Museum
 Alive, Alive-O! Morecambe Bay, Installation, Lancashire, UK
- 2003 Paradox Post and Billboard Project, London Underground
 Cultural Breakthrough, The Guardian Newsroom, London
 Peripheries Become the Centre, Prague Biennale1, Prague
 Wandering Library, Project of the International Artists' Museum, Venice
 Dazed Eye, La Foret Arts Space, Tokyo
 Burning Fields, Speaker' s Corner, Hyde Park, London
 Live Culture at Tate Modern, London
- 2002 You are Here, Bluecoat Arts Centre, Liverpool Biennale
 Penis Spirit and Beijing Swings, Documentary Channel 4, UK
 Big Screen in Little China, Home GMI, Leicester Square, London
- 2001 StopForAMinute, Dazed & Confused and Film 4 project,
 9th Biennial of Moving Images, Geneva; Leeds International Film Festival;
 13th International Film Festival, Cardiff
 Markers, Banner Project, The International Artists' Museum, 49th Venice Biennale
 Touring London, online project, inIVA
 Uncovered, University Gallery, University of Essex, Colchester
- 2000 Two Artists Arrest Hou Hanru, Shanghai Art Museum, 2nd Shanghai Biennial
 Open Fire! Royal, Academy of Arts, London
 Two Artists Swim Across the Thames, Millennium Bridge, London
 Run Naked Across Westminster Bridge with Tony Bear, London
 Soya Sauce Ketchup Fight, May Day, Trafalgar Square, London
 Two Artists Crawl Through, Central London
 Two Artist Piss on Duchamp's Urinal, Tate Modern, London
- 1999 Mad for Real, Fordham Gallery and Whitechapel Art Gallery, London
 Two Artists Jump on Tracey Emin's Bed, Tate Gallery, London
 Cities on the Move, Hayward Gallery, London