

# WANG BING

## FATHER & SONS

Solo Show of Photography and Video

From September 20th to November 1st 2014

Opening on Saturday September 20th from 6pm

GALERIE PARIS-BEIJING

Hôtel Winssinger, Rue de l'Hôtel des Monnaies 66, 1060 Brussels, Belgique

## FATHER AND SONS

(China, 2014, video, 87', unreleased film, coproduced by Galerie Paris-Beijing)

### Wang Bing

Lauded by international critics for his films and docu-fictions, Wang Bing will exclusively present his latest documentary, Father and Sons, as well as a series of photographs that has never been exhibited before.

For several days, Wang Bing filmed and photographed the wretched daily life of Cai, who left the countryside to work as a stonemason in a factory in the city of Fuming, in the province of Yunnan. His two children have joined him and the three of them live in a four square-meter room, containing only one bed and an oven. At night, the father goes to work and leaves the bed to his sons. Wang Bing met the two boys while he was filming Three Sisters.

With his camera over his shoulder, Wang Bing captures the lives of men and women on the margins of contemporary Chinese society. He films their life experiences using long shots and without artifice. The empathy and discretion of his camera are so apparent that the protagonists of the film manage to completely forget that it's there. Thus, Bing shows their humanity, their strengths and their vulnerability without concession.

An observer of profound cultural, human, political and economic changes in his country, Wang Bing bears witness with an astonishing realism to the social outcasts of China's triumphal march. Through the portrait of these destinies, he shows the social realities facing the Chinese population. His activist films provide a somber perspective on the increasing seriousness of hardship and inequality in China. The Western values of democracy and the welfare state have not penetrated the borders of the country, which has allowed individual material and economic interests to run wild.

Though he is a major Chinese filmmaker, Wang Bing nevertheless films in secret, and his films are forbidden in China. After the Pompidou Center in Paris, the Cinematek in Brussels will be dedicating a full retrospective to his cinematographic work this autumn.

As a photographer, Wang Bing began to develop an original artistic direction as of the 1980s. Differing from the photographic direction taken in his films, for his photographs he has decided to return to the sites where he has filmed, after the fact. Thus, his photographic series also echo his work as a filmmaker.

Born in 1967 in Shaanxi, a province in central China, Wang Bing first studied photography at the Shenyang Academy of Fine Art before taking classes in cinema at the Film School as of 1985. Released in 2003, his first opus, West of the Tracks (Tie Xi Qu), is a monumental feature length film of 551 minutes, filmed in the northern Chinese district of Tiexi. He retraces the lives of workers and their families in an enormous, declining industrial complex at the turn of the 21st century.

## **Solo Shows of Photography and Video**

### **2014**

Centre Pompidou, Paris  
Galerie Paris-Beijing, Paris  
Cinematek, Bruxelles  
Galerie Paris-Beijing, Bruxelles

## **Filmography**

### **2013 'Til Madness Do Us Part (Feng Ai)**

Venice International Film Festival 2013- out of competition  
3 Continents Festival 2013 – Silver Montgolfière

### **2012 Three sisters (San Zimei)**

Venice International Film Festival 2012 – Orizzonti Prize  
3 Continents Festival 2012 – Golden Montgolfière  
Doc Lisboa Festival – Best Film Award  
Fribourg International Film Festival – Best Film Award/ Don Quijote Award/ Grand Prix of the Jury

### **2012 Alone – In the Yunnan mountains (Gudu)**

Rotterdam International Film Festival 2012  
Festival Black Movie – Jury Prize

### **2010 The Ditch (Jia Bian Gou)**

Venice International Film Festival 2010 – official selection  
Toronto International Film Festival 2010 - official selection

### **2009 Man with No name**

Doc Lisboa 2010  
Lussas Documentary film festival 2010

### **2008 Coal Money (Tong Dao)**

Cinéma du Réel 2009

### **2008 Crude Oil (Yuan You)**

Rotterdam International Film Festival 2008  
FID Marseille 2008

### **2007 Fengming, a Chinese Memoir (He Fengming)**

Festival de Cannes 2007  
FID Marseille 2007 – International competition - Georges de Beauregard Prize  
Toronto International Film Festival 2007 - official selection

### **2007 Brutality factory (Baoli Gongchang) : short in the anthology The State of the World**

Festival de Cannes 2007/ Quinzaine des réalisateurs

### **2003 West of the Tracks (Tie Xi Qu)**

Montréal Film Festival 2004 - Grand Prix of the Jury – Documentary section  
FID Marseille 2003 – Grand Prix  
3 Continents Festival 2003 – Golden Montgolfière – Documentary section  
Doc Lisboa 2002 - Grand Prix



Father and Sons n.1, 2014



Father and Sons n.4, 2014



Father and Sons n.5, 2014



Father and Sons n.12, 2014



Father and Sons n.8, 2014



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