

HIGH PLACE

Li Wei

| GALERIE PARIS-BEIJING

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HIGH PLACE

Li Wei

Exhibition from November 12th 2014 to January 10th 2015

Opening on Saturday November 8th from 6 pm

Gallery Paris Beijing is pleased to present *High Place*, one of the first photographic series (2003/2004) by the Chinese performance artist Li Wei.

Born in 1970 in Hubei (a province in central China), Li Wei began his artistic studies by devoting himself to traditional painting. His encounter with the avant-garde artistic community in Beijing's East Village from 1996 led him to begin creating performances in public spaces.

In the series *High Place*, Li Wei defies space and the laws of gravity by humorously confronting the danger and the fear associated with the void.

A provocative art, his performances are also feats of technical prowess. Attached by a cable, Li Wei lifts obstacles as well as bodily and spiritual constraints with acrobatic figures.

We see him fall, float and soar, always through an ultra contemporary landscape, in an allegory of Beijing's urban revolution. A refusal of the imprisonment of the body and the mind, his photographs bear witness to a real skepticism with regard to the evolution and modernization of China.

In the face of his intuitive fear of falling and of the failure associated with current socio-economic concerns in China, Li Wei lets himself go, allowing himself total freedom of thought by constructing visual metaphors like so many odes to weightlessness.

Now internationally recognized, he has exhibited his work at the Rencontres de la Photographie in Arles (2007) and Paris' la Villette Park (2012), and his most recent performance piece (2014) took place within the context of the Art Paris fair at the Grand Palais, with the support of Gallery Paris Beijing.

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Li Wei, *Hold me up, trwad on me*, Beijing, 2002

LI WEI

Born in Hubei province, 1970. Currently lives and works in Beijing.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2012 *Li Wei*, La Villette, Paris, France
The High Life of Li Wei, Kunst Licht Photo Art Gallery, Shanghai
- 2011 *Li Wei*, *Lucca Photo Fest*, Lucca, Italy
- 2010 *Beyond Gravity*, 10 Chancery Lane Gallery, Hong Kong
Li Wei Performance - Take Away, Shanghai Tang, Hong Kong
- 2009 *Li Wei* Galeria TRIBECA, Madrid, Spain
The Amazing Mirror Maze of the Self, Michael Schultz Gallery, Beijing
Besides Gravity, Mogadishni CPH gallery, Denmark
- 2008 *Li Wei* Exhibition, Yeh Rong Jia Culture & Art Foundation, Taiwan
- 2007 *Li Wei Falls To...*, Espace Cultural Ample Gallery, Spain.
- 2006 *Li Wei* Exhibition, PYO Gallery, Seoul.
Transcendence: A Mirror of China, New York.
Li Wei Exhibition, 10 Chancery Lane Gallery, Hong Kong.
Li Wei Exhibition, Grleria Espacio Minimo, Madrid, Spain.
- 2005 *Illusor Reality*, Marella Gallery, Beijing
- 2004 *Li Wei* Exhibition, Marella Gallery, Italy.

Selected Group Exhibitions

2012

- A History of Chinese Contemporary Photography, Galerie Paris-Beijing, Brussels, Belgium
 "Incarnations", Galerie Paris-Beijing, Paris, France
 "Contemporary Chinese Photography", Katonah Museum of Art, USA
 "Now! China! Korea! 2012! - Contemporary Korean and Chinese Art Exhibition", Gallery TN, Beijing

2011

- "Lucca Photo Fest", Lucca, Italy
 "I believe that... Chinese Contemporary Art exhibition", Songzhuang Museum, Beijing
 "Divided by The Curtains", Beijing Times Art Museum, Beijing
 "Chinese Visual Festival 2011-Lost In Transformation", London
 "Li Wei & alejandro miranda", Galerie Daniel Tanner Gmbh, Zurich, Switaerland
 "St.Moritz masters", St.Moritz, Switaerland
 "box(e)", Jerome Zodo Contemporary, Milan, Italy
 "Remaking Vision", Travelling Exhibition of Chinese Contemporary Photography

2010

- «Daegu Photo Biennale 2010», Daegu, Korea
 «Passing China», Gallery Sanstorium, Istanbul, Turkey
 «FUCK UPS, FABLES AND FIASCOS», Galerie Caprice Horn, Berlin
 «Foundation Vevey, ville d'images», Festival Images, Switzerland
 «CHINA PHOTOGRAPHS MADRID», Madrid Pavilion of the EXPO 2010, Shanghai
 «Mostra SESC de Artes 2010», St.Paul, Brazil
 «China Welcomes You Begegnungen 2010», Stadtmuseum Oldenburg
 «Photo Phnom Penh», Cambodia

2009

- «Beijing Time», Madrid, Spain
 «China: the Contemporary rebirth», Palazzo Reale Museum, Italy
 «Mouvement d'Art Public/Make Art Public (MAP)», Canada
 «China Now: The Edge of Desire», Maxlang and Lillian Heidenberg Fine Art Presents, USA
 «Action-Camera: Beijing Performance Photography», Morris and helen Belkin Art Gallery, Vancouver
 «Incarnations», Galerie Paris-Beijing, Beijing

2008

- «Drawn in the Clouds: Contemporary Asian Art», Museum of Contemporary Art KIASMA, Helsinki.
 «Fabricating Images from History», Chinablue Gallery, Beijing.
 «Consumption of history», East Asia Contemporary, Shanghai.
 «Out of place», Robischon Gallery, Denver.
 «Beijing 2008», Olympic Museum, Lausanne.
 «BODY ART: New photography from China», Asian Art Coordinating Council, Denver.

2007

- «RED HOT - Asian Art Today from the Chaney Family Collection», Museum of Fine Arts,Houston.
 «Liwei Weihong Huangyan», BarbaraDavis gallery, Houston.
 «Floating»-New Generation of Art in China, National Museum of Contemporary Art, Korea.
 «Made in China-China art Now», Louisiana Museum, Danmark.
 «Chinese Photography», Criterion Gallery, Australia.
 «Dragon's Evolution», New York China-Square Art Center,
 «SURGE», Beijing 798.
 «The 7th Gana Photo Festival -CHINA contemporary Photo & Vide, Gana art Center, Seoul.
 «Szene-sommer'07», Salzburg Art Center, Austria. «Zhuyi», Artium Museum, Spain.
 «China Now: Lost in Transition», Eli Klein Gallery, New York.
 «SURREALITES», CentrePasquArt Art Center, Switzerland.

2006

«China-Between Past and Future», Performances Art-Haus der kulturen der Welt/House of World Cultures, Berlin.

«RUINS», USA.

«COLD ENERGY», PYO, Beijing.

«Park in progress», France.

«For All Audiences», SALA Rekalde Art museum, BILBAO, SPAIN.

«Retours de Chine», Toulouse Art museum, France.

2005

THE SECOND REALITY Photographs from China, «Piazza» of the Berlaymont building, European Commission.
“THE GESTURE”-AVISUAL LIBRARY IN PROGRESS, Macedonian Museum Of Contemporary Art, Thessaloniki, Greece.

«New Photographers 2006», Gettyimages, Cannes.

“BFF-KONGRESS HAMBURG 2005”, HAMBURG.

“Ruins’ Flowers”, OX WAREHOUSE, Macau.

“Out Of the Red-2”, Marella Gallery, Italy.

“70 empress arts”, Shanghai.

2004

“Between Past and Future- New Photography and Video from China”, ICP, AsiaSociety, New York. Smart Museum of Art, Chicago.

“Officina Asia”, Bologna, Galleriad’arte moderna Cesena, Italy.

“TIANANMEN” Exhibition.Paris. France.

“MMAC” Exhibition. Japan.

“Artificial merriment”.Melbourne, Australia.

“FOLLIA” Exhibition. Italy.

2003

“China Art Now -- Out Of the Red”, FlashArt Museum, Italy.

“I am China-- Chinese Conceptual Photography”, SOHO, Beijing.

“Manufactured Happiness”Shangri-La Art Space, Beijing.

“The peripheries become the center” . Prague Biennial.

“DNA” Visual.Beijing.

“Bare Androgyny”.Beijing.

“Seoul-Asia Art Now” Exhibition.Seoul.

2002

“Flying - Performance, Photography, Video”, Beijing Red Square, Beijing.

“The 2nd ‘PingYao’ International Photography”, PingYao, Shan Xi, China.

“Red Square - Contemporary Art” Exhibition, Beijing Red Square, Beijing.

“Mask Vs Face”, Red Gate Gallery, Beijing.

“Bogus - Chinese Conceptual Photography” Exhibition, Hall of Capital Normal University, Beijing.

“MOIS DE LA PHOTO --HISTOIRES de CHINE”, Auxerre, France.

2001

“O.C” Art Exhibition, Beijing Bridge Art , Beijing.

“Constructed Reality--Beijing/Hong Kong Conceptual Photography”, Hong Kong Arts Center, Hong Kong.

“Pawn. COM --Site Performance”, Happy Garden Bar, Beijing.

“Scar--Chinese Conceptual Photography”, Exhibition Hall of Capital Normal University, Beijing.

“Site of City -- Four Person Conceptual Photography”, Fun Gallery, Beijing.



Li Wei, *Hold me up, trwad on me*, Beijing, 2002



Li Wei, *Bright Apex 04*, 2007



Li Wei, *Bullet 04*, Beijing, 2010



Li Wei, *Love at the high place 01*, 2004



Li Wei, *Boxing*, 2009



Li Wei, *25 Levels of Freedom*, Beijing, 2004

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