

印象中国

**Impressions of China
Directors Lounge 2008**

7 - 17th february 2008 La Scala, Berlin Mitte, Friedrich Str. 112A
daily from 6 pm - open end

Program 1 : 记忆和城市发展变化

Memory and Urban Development

Rice and Coins

(*MaiZi, 2007, 1 min*)



From the '1 minute' series, a happening: a man (Maizi) holding on his back a heavy bag, walks determinately through the market without a care to the world around him. As he walks past, some rice and coins are falling ...

Maizi is a rock musician and singer, a poet, artist and actor in the films, *Weed* by Wang Liren and *Passages* by Yang Chao.

Floating Memory

(*Liu Wei, 2001, 10 min.*)



« In 1989, the year of the Snake, my birth year, I joined the student movement, my spirits high with passion and idealism. 2001, the year of Snake, again. I carry all my memories now into yet another round of life, without knowing where my destiny lies. At this moment, what I can recall most clearly is the sentence we wrote back then and hung up on a large piece of white cloth: "Today, we cannot die!" » *Liu Wei, 2001.*

Liu Wei is a photographer, a director of documentaries and of experimental videos that have been screened in various international festivals.

New Road

(*Xiaopeng, 2007, 9 min*)



While the 17th National Congress of the Communist Party of China is setting its policies to determine the new way the CPC will take for the future of its people, a group of workers are building a new railway.

Xiaopeng is an artist and a director of documentaries. He has participated in several expositions and international festivals (Cinéma du Réel, Viennale, Festival dei Popoli...).

The Bridge

(*Xu Xin, 2007, 16 min.*)



The Nanjing Yangtze River Bridge was built in 1968 and was at the time one of the biggest Communist realizations. According to a survey, between 2003 and 2004, 234 people have committed suicide by jumping from this heavily congested bridge.

Independent documentarist, Xu Xin focuses on the grass-roots existences in China, especially the minorities and social vulnerable groups. To him, the act of documenting itself is a way of engaging in the construction of history.

Terrace

(Song Di, 2006, 12 min.)

A man of a certain age is about to jump off the roof of a dilapidated building, then a young girl appears...

First film by Song Di, postgraduated at the Beijing Film Academy (Directing Department). Director's assistant of the independent film "Seafood" and of "South of the Clouds", both directed by Zhu Wen.



Perform

(Mai Zi, 2007, 1 min)

Another video from the '1 minute' series : some young children perform in the streets and then they are off...

Maizi is a rock musician and singer, a poet, artist and actor in the films, Weed by Wang Liren and Passages by Yang Chao.



Empty Room

(Zhang Xuezhou, 2006, 5 min)

A nostalgic portrait of the old Shanghai and of some Shanghainese people. Music by Chinese post-rock band, The spring of Prague.

Independent video producer Zhang Xuezhou is working on various productions (drama, dance and video), he works especially with a contemporary dance group, Zuhe Niao.



Under Construction

(Liu Zhenchen, 2007, 9 min)

City planners decide to pull down parts of Shanghai's old town in order to regenerate the city. Every year over hundred thousand families are forced to leave their homes and move into buildings on the edge of city. This video is a 2 and 3 dimensional flight across the now destroyed living areas of Shanghai which shows how random and brutal decisions can affect peoples' lives.

Liu Zhenchen is a video artist from Le Fresnoy art school who lives and works in China and France.



Program 2 : 短篇故事: 态度和表达

Short Stories : Attitudes and Expressions



Night Bus

(Song Di, 2007, 16 min)

A brief encounter of a young man and a young woman during a ride on a night bus.

Song Di a director postgraduated at the Beijing Film Academy (Directing Department). Director's assistant of the independent film "Seafood" and of "South of the Clouds", both directed by Zhu Wen.

Wanna Sleep

(Zhou Yali, Zhang Yaoyi , 2006, 9 min)



Wanna Sleep is about the mentality of young people living in Shanghai. In China, now, every thing is growing very fast, people are eager to be successful. They become very nervous, empty and they are struggling with themselves. They need to be peaceful and have a good sleep...

This is the first work by Zhou Yali. She is trying to record the mentality of 21st century people living in Shanghai.

Zhang Yaoyi is an independent film producer (Red Media Ltd), scenarist, director and curator, he directed his latest film is "Moonlight Melody".



Murmur

(Zhang Xuezhou, 2005, 4 min)

This is the narrative version of the video art taken from an abstract dance performance, also called Murmur.

Independent video producer Zhang Xuezhou is working on various productions (drama, dance and video), he works especially with a contemporary dance group, Zuhe Niao.

Equality

(Xu Li, 2005, 24 min)



How young men act between themselves. A group of youngsters wants to play a game : exchanging their girlfriends, but Lu Xiaoyi isn't willing to join in.

Xu Li is a young director and photographer from Shanghai. He was graduated from Beijing Film Academy (cinematography section) and has already directed several experimental shorts.

Program 3 : Video Installations and Performances

Dian Dian

(Liang Yue, 2002, 9 min)

"DianDian is an impression. A girl continuously scratches as if she wanted to get rid of a feeling in order to find a clearer mind. This debris which she does not need, is time falling like snowflakes." *Liang Yue.*

Photographer and video artist from Shanghai, Liang Yue has participated in several exhibitions, her works put in relation the concepts of interior and exterior, memory and reality, public space and private space.



After the World aka Crying for the World, Laughing at the World

(MaiZi, 2002, 34 min)

This video records the action performed by MaiZi in 2002. The idea came up after the events of September, 11th, and after reflecting on the state of the world and the concept of life and death.

MaiZi is a rock musician and singer, a poet, artist and actor in the films, *Weed* by Wang Liren and *Passages* by Yang Chao.



- The fourth Directors Lounge Berlin will take place at La Scala from 7. - 17. February, at the time of the 58th Berlin International Festival. Expect video art and experimental film from all flavors and parts of the world. Several curated programs, specials, accompanied by DJs and VJs ensure ten cosmopolitan days and nights..

Once again we will offer a hideaway, a relaxed space for filmmakers, videoartists and everybody interested in experimental forms of cinema and videoart.

- The screenings are followed by nights of music and specials. The Lounge as a club, the spot to dance the night away.

- As the name suggests – Directors Lounge will always be a meetingpoint, a place to have a drink and to lounge around with other friendly lizards.

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Program 1 : Thursday, 14th February 2008 at 8 pm

Program 2 : Friday, 15th February 2008 at 8 pm

Program 3 : Thursday, 14th and Friday, 15th 2008 at The Foyer

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