

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

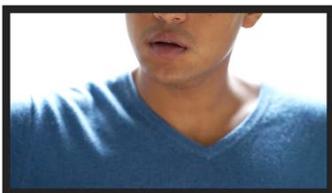
Blindspot Gallery will participate in GALLERIES at Art Basel| HONG KONG 2016 featuring works by Leung Chi Wo, Trevor Yeung and Zhang Xiao.

Date: 24 – 26 March 2016

Venue: GALLERIES booth 3C36, Hall 3, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

Blindspot Gallery is delighted to announce our participation in Art|Basel Hong Kong this year at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre on 24-26 March 2016 with an exhibition featuring the image-based works from Hong Kong artists Leung Chi Wo and Trevor Yeung, and Mainland Chinese artist Zhang Xiao.

Leung Chi Wo will participate in Art|Basel Hong Kong 2016 with his latest series *Music in 1967*, which illustrates the artist's cross-discipline practice that is often based on extensive research concerning cultural identities, social and political phenomenon, belief system and the ambivalence of history. A collection of light boxes and photo installations consisting of images, texts and sound, the series is inspired by the 1967 anti-colonial riots backed by the communists in Hong Kong. The Beatles' songs make a faint backdrop to the works, which recalls Western pop music being played in public spaces by the government during the riots to counter Chinese communist propaganda broadcasted on the streets. The work relies on research from newspaper coverage, vernacular photographs, and interviews and correspondences with retired policemen involved in combating the movement. Playing with the disparities between the media, private and official documentations, *Music in 1967* contemplates the contradictions between history and collective memory.



Trevor Yeung will participate in Art|Basel Hong Kong 2016 with his newest work *The Artichoke Eater* and selected works from his ongoing series *Enigma*. Yeung's art practice incorporates botanic and aquatic ecology, horticulture, photography and installation. *The Artichoke Eater* is a collection of photographs and videos documenting the eating of an artichoke from peeling its prickly exteriors to savoring its soft interiors, and it is inspired by Yeung's personal experience of witnessing someone eat the plant in this way which he describes as intimidating yet extremely enchanting.



The work reveals the artist's internalising the experience through filming others and himself engaged in the same act, where the interaction between human and plant is one of

nurturing as well as consumption with erotic undertones. As a major subject of his art practice and personal interest, the elevation of one's appreciation of plant also underlies the two *Island* installations from the *Enigma* series. Also on display are two *Fish Mouth* installations from the same series, where the images of fish in a frozen pond convey a sense of covert intimidation that resonates in other works by Yeung.



Zhang Xiao will present his latest work *Since there is a dream* in Art|Basel Hong Kong 2016. In a similar vein as some of Zhang's previous works, *Since there is a dream* presents fragments of a physical, social and cultural landscape that shifts and blurs in the mind of the mass as well as the artist. A photograph of a Tiananmen Square replica, taken by Zhang in his hometown, was installed onto souvenir wall clocks made for two long-time popular CCTV shows. The installation evokes many Chinese people's dreams of grandeur that are symbolised by appearing on TV or having a photograph of themselves taken at Tiananmen Square. While these dreams have lost some of their glory through the eras, Zhang's work highlights the remnants of such dreams that many Chinese still hold on to and their essential fakeness.



About the artists:

Leung Chi Wo (b.1968, Hong Kong) is the co-founder of Para Site. Leung studied culture of photography at Centro di Ricerca e Archiviazione della Fotografia in Italy in 1991 and obtained his Master of Fine Arts from the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1997. He has had residency at Monash University and Australian National University in Australia, and MuseumsQuartier in Austria. He recently had a solo exhibition at OCT Contemporary Art Terminal, Shenzhen in China (2015). His works have also been exhibited at Queens Museum in the USA (2000), The International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP) in the USA (2013), Run Run Shaw Creative Media Centre in Hong Kong (2014), Shanghai Biennale in China (2000), Venice Biennale in Italy (2001) and other biennials and triennials in Marrakech in Morocco, Guangzhou in China and Manchester in the UK. He is currently Assistant Professor at the School of Creative Media of the City University of Hong Kong.

Trevor Yeung (b.1988, Dongguan, Guangdong Province, China) graduated from the Academy of Visual Arts at Hong Kong Baptist University in 2010. Since 2010, Yeung has focused on his personal projects. Yeung's practice uses botanic ecology, horticulture, photography and installations as metaphors that reference the emancipation of everyday aspirations towards human relationships. Yeung participated in exhibitions including "CHINA 8" at MKM Museum Küppersmühle für Moderne Kunst in Germany (2015) and Shanghai Biennale 2014 in China. Yeung was one of the 3 shortlisted artists in BMW Art Journey award with his solo exhibition "Garden Cruising: It's not easy being green" from DISCOVERIES section at Art|Basel Hong Kong 2015. He currently lives and works in Hong Kong.

Zhang Xiao (b.1981, Yantai, Shandong Province, China) graduated from the Department of Architecture and Design at Yantai University in 2005. Before becoming a photography artist in 2009, he was a photojournalist for Chongqing Morning Post. Zhang received the second Hou Dengke Documentary Photography Award in 2009, The Photography Talent Award (France) in 2010 and the Prix HSBC pour la Photographie in 2011 with his Coastline series. He also won the Three Shadows Photography Award in 2010 with They series. Zhang's has been recently participated in exhibitions including Ullens Center for Contemporary Art in China (2015) and extensively in photography festivals including Photoquai at Musee du Quai Branly in Paris, France (2015) and Festival Pluie d'Images in France (2013). He currently lives and works in Chengdu City, Sichuan Province, China.

About Blindspot Gallery

Blindspot Gallery was set up in 2010 to bring contemporary photography, an art form that was in the blind spot of the Hong Kong art scene, to a higher degree of visibility. We feature contemporary photography and image based works of established and emerging artists, mainly from the region but also beyond.

For enquiries and media interviews, please contact Ms. Lesley Kwok at 2517 6238 or by email info@blindspotgallery.com

Image captions:

Leung Chi Wo, *A Hard Day's Night*, 2016, inkjet print, speaker, Plexiglas and steel frame, 40 x 50 cm

Trevor Yeung, *The Artichoke Eater (first date)*, 2016, video, archival inkjet print, 17 mins 5 secs, 55.6 x 33.4 cm (monitor), 35 x 56 x 4.5 cm (Inclusive of framing), Edition of 3

Trevor Yeung, *Fish Mouth (pissing off)*, 2016, archival inkjet print, C-print, glass, 66.5 x 66.5 x 66.5 cm

Zhang Xiao, *Since there is a dream*, 2015, archival inkjet print, clock, 110 x 350 x 4.8 cm

(Image courtesy of artists and Blindspot Gallery)