Blindspot Gallery

POWERLESS 徒勞

EASON TSANG KA WAI 曾家偉

9.7 - 27.8.2016

Curator 策展人: Leo Li Chen 陳立

Blindspot Gallery

About Eason Tsang Ka Wai (b. 1986)

Born in Hong Kong, Tsang graduated from the School of Creative Media of City University of Hong Kong in 2013 with a major in Photography. In 2015, he participated in several seminal exhibitions including "Familiar Otherness: Art Across Northeast Asia" (Hong Kong Arts Centre, Hong Kong), "Imagine there's no country, Above us only our cities" (Para Site, Hong Kong) and "CHINA 8- Works in Progress" (Museum Folkwang, Germany). In 2013, Tsang was shortlisted for the Hong Kong Contemporary Art Awards 2012 with *Rooftop* series. He currently lives and works in Hong Kong.

關於曾家偉 (生於1986)

生於香港，曾氏於香港城市大學創意媒體學院主修攝影並於2013年畢業。曾氏於2015年曾參與多個重要群展包括香港藝術中心的“文化碰撞:穿越東北亞”、香港Para Site藝術空間的“如果只有城籍沒有國籍”及德國Museum Folkwang的CHINA 8項目“Works in Progress”。曾氏於2013年憑《天台》系列入圍香港當代藝術獎2012。他現於香港居住及工作。

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Curatorial Statement

"The light gleams an instant, then it's night once more"

— Samuel Beckett, *Waiting for Godot*

“Powerless” is the first solo exhibition of Hong Kong artist Eason Tsang Ka Wai, which showcases his experiments with media and subjects in new phases of his work. Continuing on the theme of existence in the city in *New Landmark*, Tsang shifts his focus from public space to the relatively closed spaces of interior and underground tunnel. Through the combination of light boxes, televisions, sand paper and videos, the spectacle mode of viewing in his previous works is elevated to a more distinct perception.

The works featured in this exhibition stem from Tsang’s astute capture of the absurdity and powerlessness of city life. Through a series of photography and video installations, the artist creates an effectual link between physical contradictions and material efficiency, which reveals the paralysis and aphasia of the individual against the tremendous social mechanisms at work.

The subtitle of the exhibition is a line taken from Samuel Beckett’s absurdist play *Waiting for Godot*: “the light gleams an instant, then it’s night once more.” In this exhibition, night and day are explicitly linked by a set of neatly arranged yet seemingly redundant installations of “cables”. This interweaving of transience and permanence runs through the exploration of temporality in the works featured in this exhibition.

Leo Li Chen
June 2016

Blindspot Gallery

策展陳述

“光明只閃現了一剎那，跟著又是黑夜”

——薩繆爾．貝克特，《等待果陀》

“徒勞”是香港藝術家曾家偉的首次個展，呈現了他近期創作媒介和題材上的全新嘗試。展覽延續了《新地標》都市生存的主題，曾氏將聚焦點從公共空間轉移到相對封閉的家居和地下通道空間，通過燈箱、電視、砂紙與錄像的組合，使過往作品中景觀式的視覺觀看方式拓展到更為個體化的知覺層面。

展覽作品來源於曾氏對城市生活中荒誕與無力感的敏銳捕捉，同時他通過一系列攝影及錄像裝置作品，創造性地將物理矛盾性與物質有效性連接起來，呈現出個體面對龐大社會運行機制時的麻痺與失語。

展覽副標題來源於薩繆爾．貝克特荒誕派戲劇《等待果陀》中的對白：“光明只閃現了一剎那，跟著又是黑夜”。展覽有意地將黑夜與白晝兩時空通過一組規整卻冗餘的“電纜”裝置作品串聯在一起。這種瞬間和永恆的交錯，指涉了展覽中多組作品中關於時間性的討論面向。

陳立

2016年6月

Housework No.3 / 《家務3》
2016

Video, CRT TV, media player / 錄像、映像管電視、多媒體播放器
Video / 錄像: 11’ 34”
CRT TV / 映像管電視: 62.5 x 45 x 52.5 cm

(Display side view)

This video shows the artist wiping and cleaning the inside of a tube TV by reaching his arm through a small opening on the back of the TV set. The artist's incapability to view his own act of wiping denotes the futility of one's intervention in a system. As the video is played on the same tube TV, the work creates an immediate illusion for the viewers.

藝術家拍攝了他從舊式電視機背後、僅能夠伸進手臂的開口處去清潔電視機內部的畫面。無法直視內部的清潔行為，呈現了系統本身的複雜性和外部力量介入的局促和無力。當這段錄像在舊電視屏幕上重新播放時，藝術家有意地讓觀者從外部觀看，並創造了一種即時性的假象。

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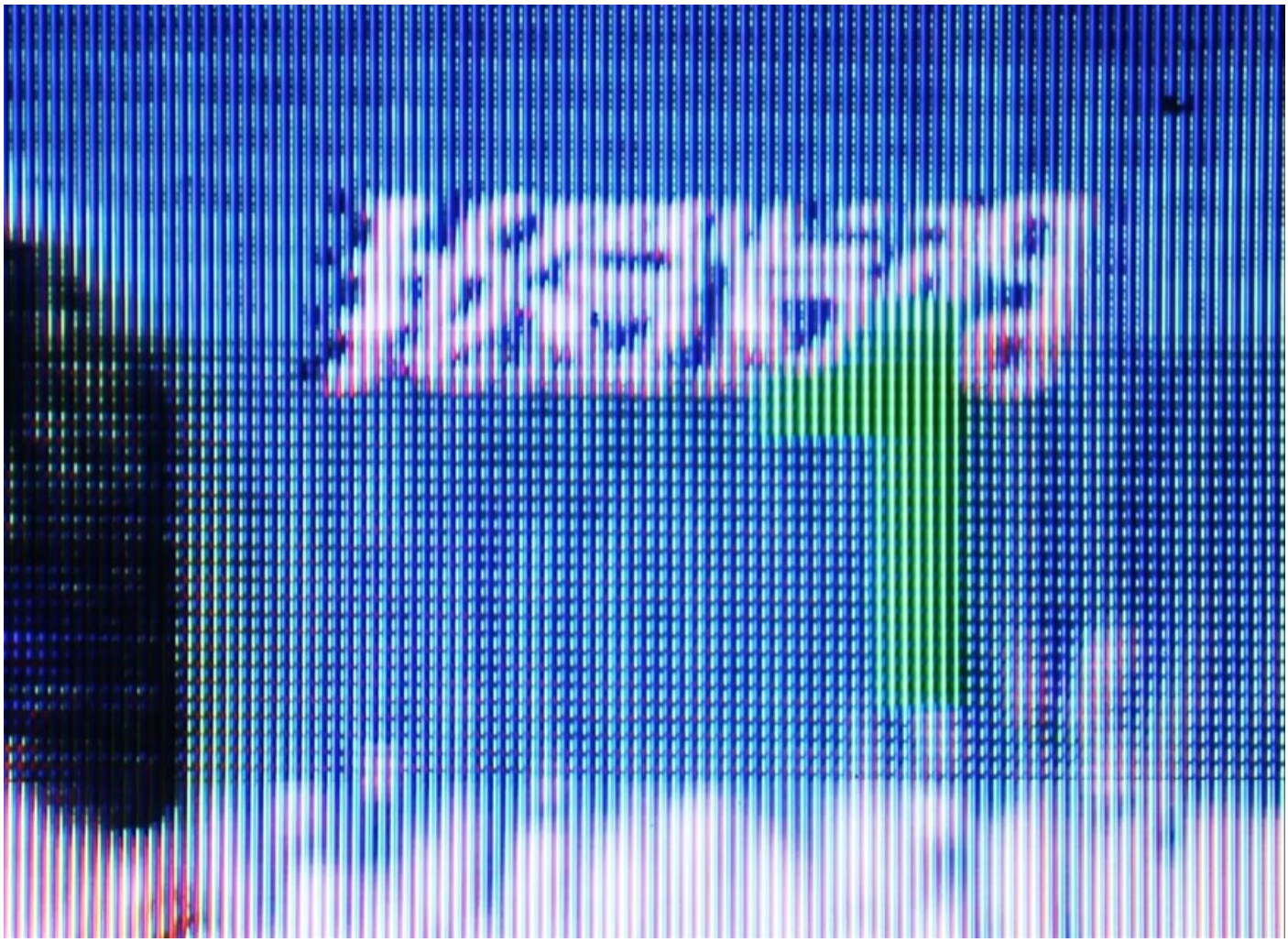
Boring 30 seconds / 《無聊的三十秒》
2016

Video / 錄像
30”
Edition of 3 + AP / 版本:3 + AP

Blindspot Gallery

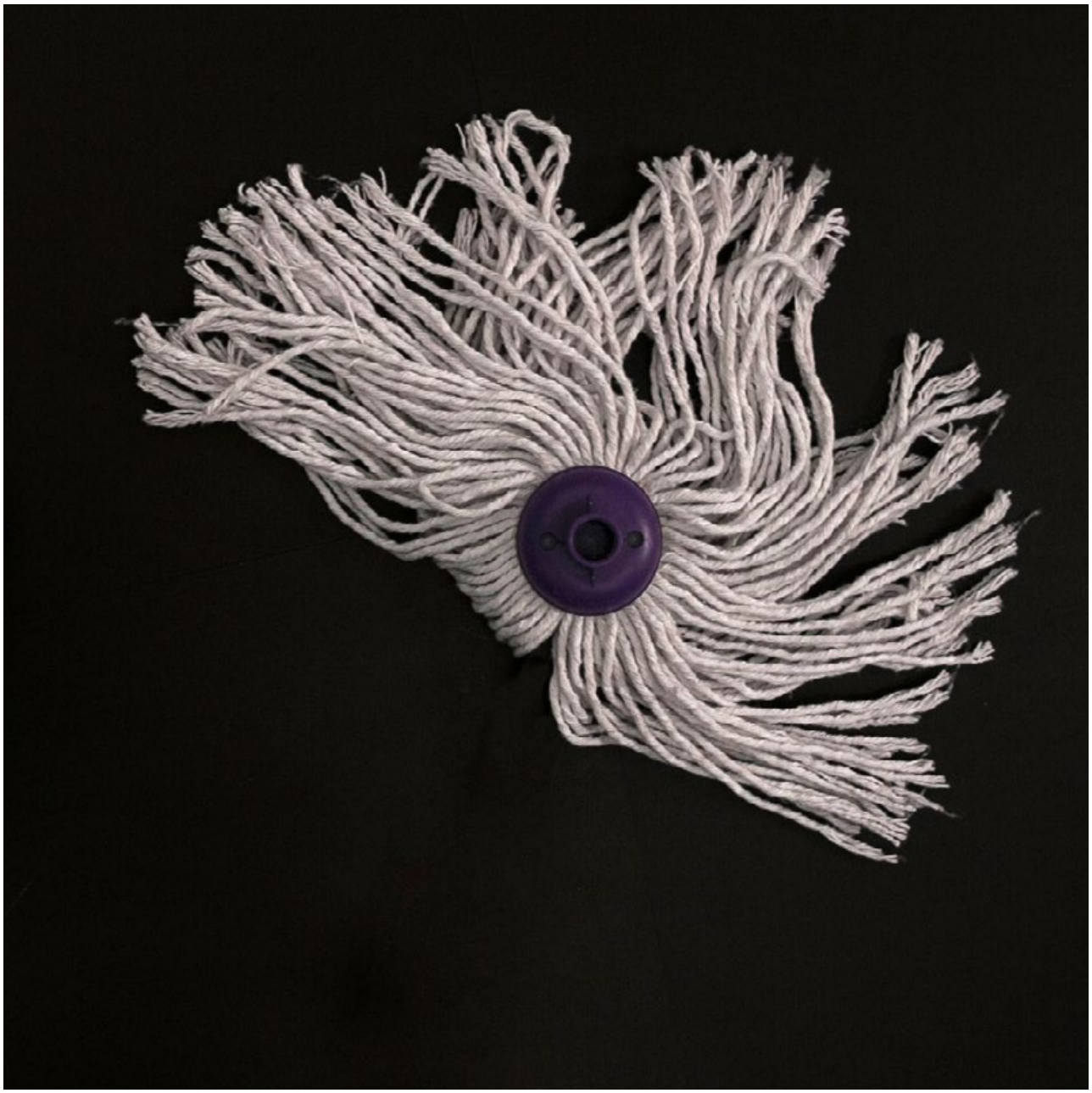


(Screen capture of video)

The video features a series of zoomed TV channel numbers at the top right corner of the screen. The channels have been set by the artist to switch once every second for a continuation of 30 seconds. In encapsulating the oppressive passage of time through the night, this work highlights the fragmented state of existence of the individual against the tremendous social mechanisms at work.

作品中的影像來自電視右上角標識電視台頻道數字的區域。藝術家人為地一秒鐘切換一個頻道，連續30秒。夜晚的時間被極具壓迫感的無意義行為重新紀錄。同時被規範的數字，與或靜止、或一閃而過的模糊畫面共同構成了象徵著現代社會中碎片化的生存狀態。

Blindspot Gallery



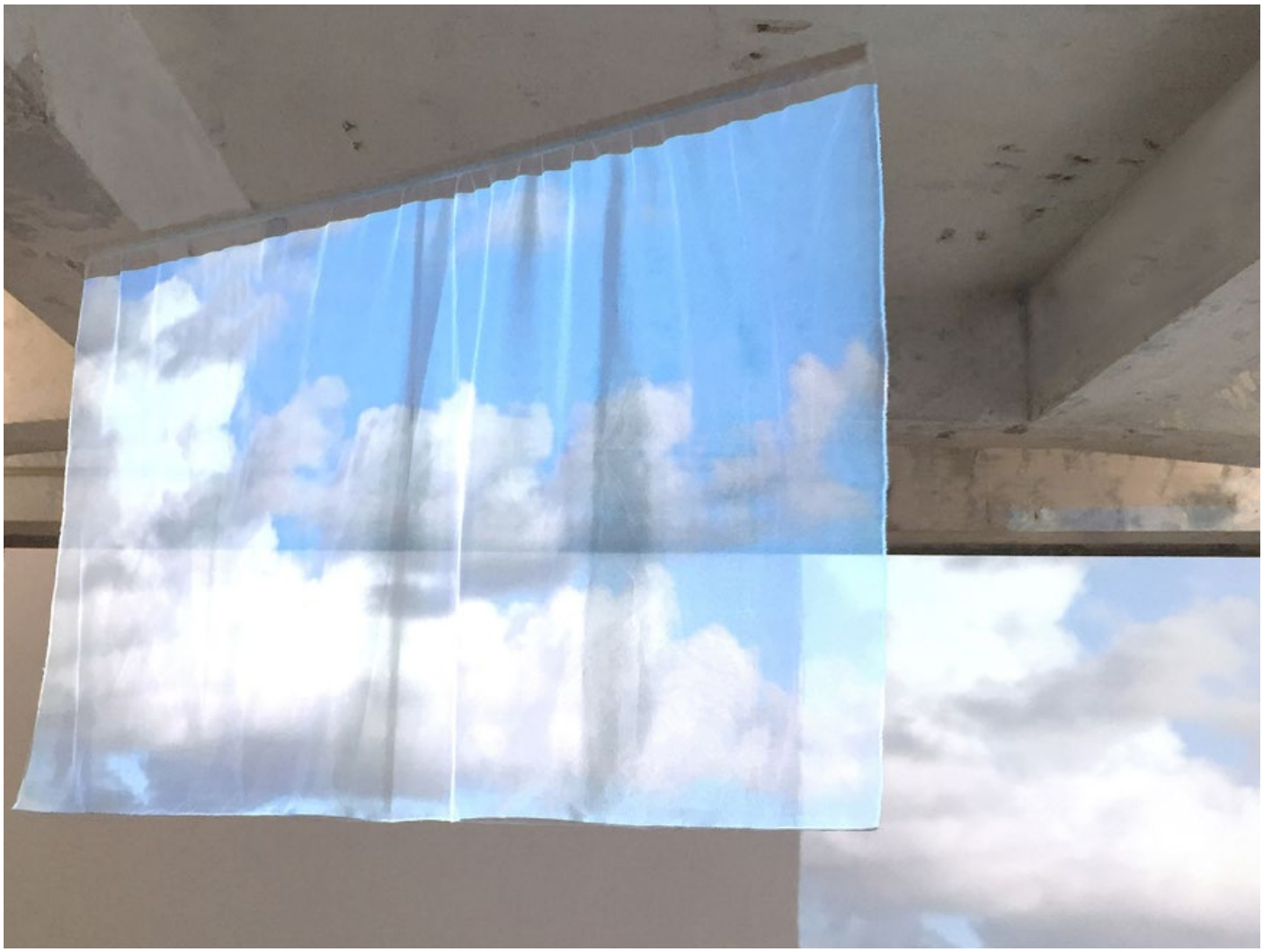
Housework No.1 / **《家務1》**
2016

Video / 錄像
21’ 16”
Edition of 3 + AP / 版本:3 + AP

Continuing on his questioning about the viewing of public space in Tsang’s previous works, *Housework No.1* creates a visual barrier between a moving mop and the ground, while the rough sand paper negates the material efficiency of mopping. The work delineates a repetitive action and recreates the sphere of visual experience. This video documentation by the artist and the restored ground surface illustrate repeated motions and a reproduced visual field.

作品延續了曾家偉長期創作中對公共空間的觀看方式的質疑。作品呈現了地拖移動時與地面接觸的視覺障礙區域，同時影像被重新投射在鋪上砂紙的地面。砂紙的粗糙顆粒，消解了『拖地』行為本身的物理有效性。而藝術家的行為紀錄和被還原的地面區域，呈現了一種重複性勞動和視覺再生產場域。

Blindspot Gallery



52.404705 , -1.497604
2016

Video / 錄像
6’ 55”
Edition of 3 + AP / 版本:3 + AP

Blindspot Gallery

(Display close up view)

A 6 minute 55 second long shot video projection on a semi-transparent curtain, this work captures the movement of fleeting clouds that subtly negates the coordinates for the viewers, and traces the ambiguity that underlies one's relationship with spatiality and temporality.

一段固定拍攝天空的鏡頭，記錄了6分55秒雲的緩慢漂動。座標的地理定位依賴於參照物，而凝視的畫面，雲朵微弱但卻顯著的移動、和半透明的窗簾，共同讓空間的準確性不再唯一，或者不再是必須。

A failed light box No.1 **/ 《錯誤的燈箱1》**
2016

Wooden light box, slide, fluorescent light /
木燈箱、燈片、光管
104 x 58.5 x 18 cm

Unordinary images captured from the artist's daily life are printed on individual slides and made into light boxes. With the abnormal flashing and halos of lights, the works pinpoint a breakdown of order that is illuminated.

燈箱中的幻燈片（攝影）影像來自藝術家對日常生活不尋常的場景、畫面的捕捉。通過『錯誤』地、不停閃爍的燈管，不規律的節奏和光暈刺激著靜止的畫面，打破本應絕對『正確』的秩序與規範。

Blindspot Gallery

(Please click on image for display video)

If the video cannot be displayed, please click here for the video link

A failed light box No.2 **/ 《錯誤的燈箱2》**
2016

Wooden light box, slide, fluorescent light /
木燈箱、燈片、光管
104 x 58.5 x 18 cm

A failed light box No.3 / 《錯誤的燈箱3》
2016

Wooden light box, slide, fluorescent light /
木燈箱、燈片、光管
83 x 56 x 18 cm

A failed light box No.4 **/ 《錯誤的燈箱4》**
2016

Wooden light box, slide, fluorescent light /
木燈箱、燈片、光管
83 x 56 x 18 cm

Internal structure No.1 **/ 《內部結構1》**
2016

Wooden light box, slide, fluorescent light / 木燈箱、燈片、光管
109 x 84.4 x 18 cm

***Internal structure No.2* / 《內部結構2》**
2016

Wooden light box, slide, fluorescent light / 木燈箱、燈片、光管
109 x 84.4 x 18 cm

Blindspot Gallery

(Display side view)

Internal structure No.3 **/ 《內部結構3》**
2016

Wooden light box, slide, fluorescent light / 木燈箱、燈片、光管
109 x 84.4 x 18 cm

Blindspot Gallery

(Display side view)

Internal structure No.4 **/ 《內部結構4》**
2016

Wooden light box, slide, fluorescent light / 木燈箱、燈片、光管
109 x 84.4 x 18 cm

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New Landmark No. 1 / 《新地標1》
2014

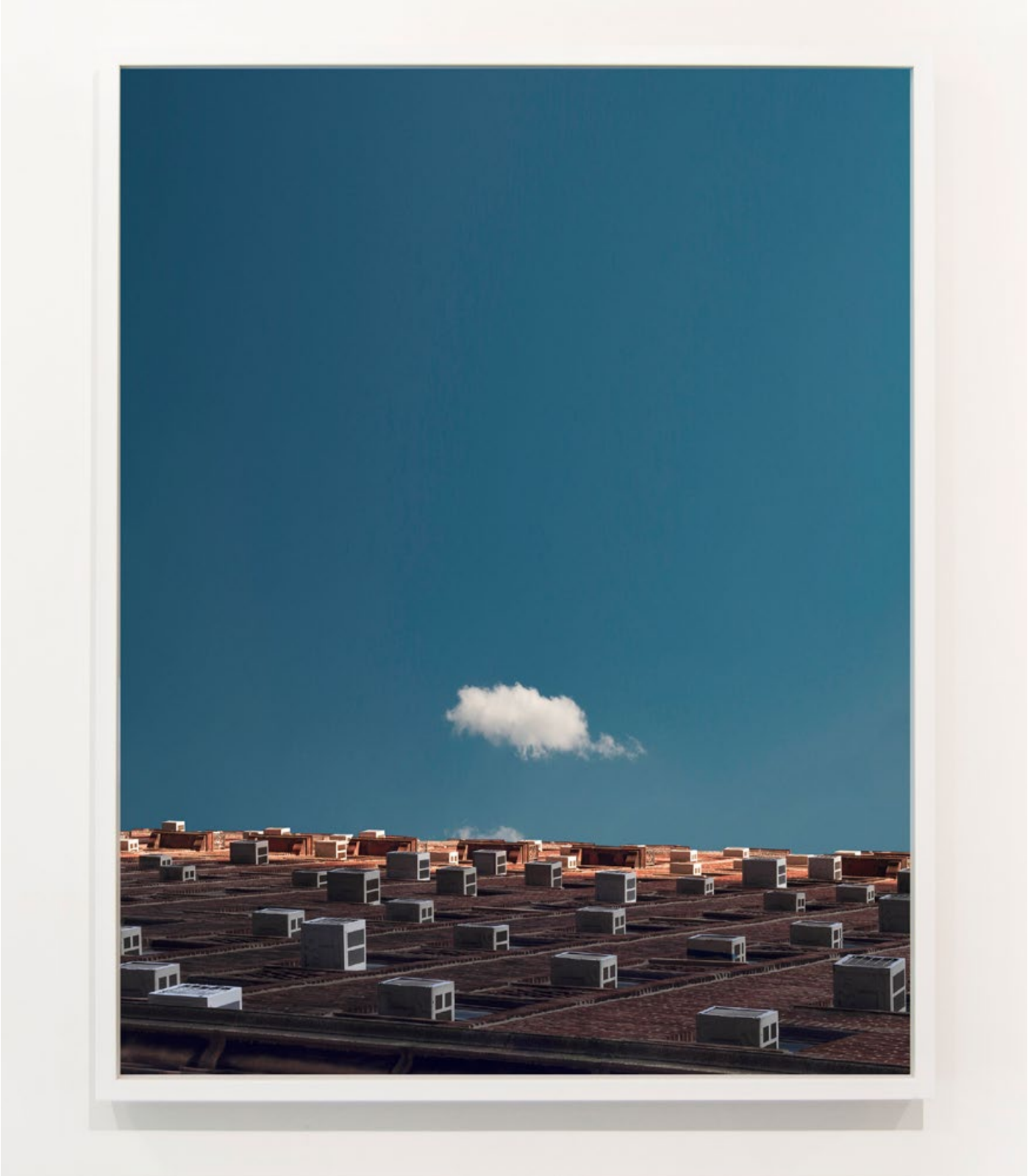
Digital inkjet print / 數碼噴墨打印
73.5 x 81.3 cm
Edition of 5 + AP / 版本: 5 + AP

Blindspot Gallery

New Landmark No. 5 / 《新地標5》
2014

Digital inkjet print / 數碼噴墨打印
100 x 81.3 cm
Edition of 5 + AP / 版本: 5 + AP

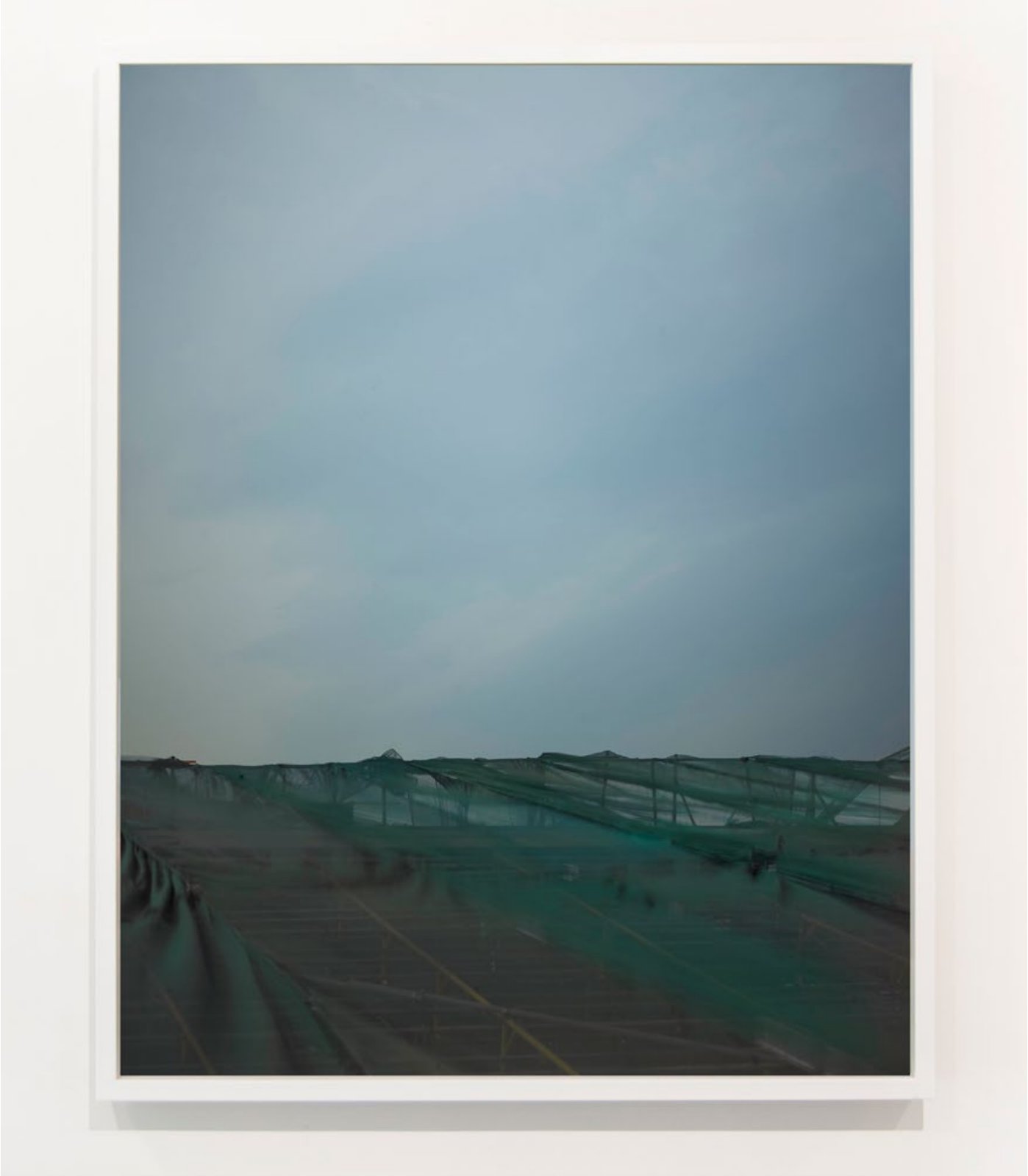
Blindspot Gallery



New Landmark No. 7 / 《新地標7》
2014

Digital inkjet print / 數碼噴墨打印
100 x 81.3 cm
Edition of 5 + AP / 版本: 5 + AP

Blindspot Gallery



New Landmark No. 9 / 《新地標9》
2014

Digital inkjet print / 數碼噴墨打印
100 x 81.3 cm
Edition of 5 + AP / 版本: 5 + AP

Blindspot Gallery

Artist CV

Solo Exhibition

2016 "Powerless", Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong

Group Exhibitions

2015 "Familiar Otherness: Art Across Northeast Asia", Hong Kong Arts Centre, Hong Kong
"CHINA 8: Works in Progress", Casal Solleric, Palma de Mallorca, Spain
"Imagine there's no country, Above us only our cities", Para Site, Hong Kong
"Works in Progress", CHINA 8, Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany
"architekturbild 2015", Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM), Germany; Wissenschaftspark Gelsenkirchen, Germany ; KAZimKUBA, Germany; vhs-photogalerie, Germany

2014 "780s", Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong
"Shampoo Whatever", A.lift Gallery, Hong Kong
"Chai Wan Mei: Art & Design Festival", Chai Wan Industrial City Phase 1, Hong Kong
"Gallery Artists Group Exhibition", Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong

2013 "The Hong Kong Contemporary Art Awards 2012", Hong Kong Museum of Art, Hong Kong
"Dozens of Photography Works @ Lumenvisum", Lumenvisum, Hong Kong
"architekturbild 2013 | Focus of Attention", Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM), Germany; KAZimKUBA, Germany; 13th Galerie des OÖ Kunstvereins, Austria; vhs-photogalerie, Germany
"HKFOREWORD13", 10 Chancery Lane Gallery, Hong Kong

2012 "Holga 30th Anniversary Exhibitions - Timeless and Transcend", Center for Alternative Photography, New York, NY, USA
"Three Dimensions - Architectural Photography", Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong
"HKDA Global Design Awards 2011 Exhibition", Pier 7 & 8, Star Ferry at Central; d-mart, Hong Kong Design Institute; Gallery by the Harbour, Hong Kong

2011 "XII: SCM Graduates' Showcase 2011", Room 502, Hong Kong
"DISPLAY MODE: The Photographic Showcase of School of Creative Media", City University Gallery, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Awards

2015 architekturbild e.v., the European Architectural Photography Prize 2015 - commendation

2014 Hong Kong Designer Association Awards - Photography Excellent

2013 architekturbild e.v., the European Architectural Photography Prize 2013 - commendation

2012 Hong Kong Contemporary Art Awards 2012 - shortlisted
HKDA Global Design Awards 2011 - Photography (Non-Commercial), Silver & Hong Kong Best
D&AD Student Award 2012 - Photography - Yellow Pencil Award

Collection

Hong Kong Heritage Museum

Blindspot Gallery

藝術家履歷

個展

2016 “徒勞”，刺點畫廊，香港

聯展

2015 “文化碰撞：穿越東北亞”，香港藝術中心，香港
“CHINA 8: Works in Progress”，Casal Solleric，馬略卡，西班牙
“如果只有城籍沒有國籍”，Para Site藝術空間，香港
“Works in Progress”，CHINA 8，弗柯望博物館，埃森，德國
“architekturbild 2015”， Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM)，德國；Wissenschaftspark Gelsenkirchen，德國；KAZimKUBA，德國 ； vhs-photogalerie，德國

2014 “780s”，刺點畫廊，香港
“Shampoo Whatever”， 提畫廊，香港
“柴灣尾”，柴灣工業城一期，香港
“畫廊藝術家聯展”，刺點畫廊，香港

2013 “香港當代藝術獎2012”，香港藝術館，香港
“攝影作品數十展@光影作坊”，光影作坊，香港
“architekturbild 2013 | Focus of Attention”， Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM)，德國； KAZimKUBA，德國；13th Galerie des OÖ Kunstvereins，奧地利；vhs-photogalerie，德國
“HKFOREWORD13”，10號贊善里畫廊，香港

2012 “Holga 30th Anniversary Exhibitions - Timeless and Transcend”，Center for Alternative Photography，紐約，美國
“三面 – 建築攝影”，刺點畫廊，香港
“香港設計師協會環球設計大獎2011得獎作品展覽”，中環7至8號碼頭；香港知專設計學院d-mart；海港城美術館⍰香港

2011 “XII：創意媒體學院畢業生作品展2011”， Room 502畫廊，香港
“DISPLAY MODE: The Photographic Showcase of School of Creative Media”，城大藝廊，香港城市大學，香港

獎項

2015 architekturbild e.V. 歐洲建築攝影獎2015 - 嘉許獎

2014 香港設計師協會大獎 – 攝影

2013 architekturbild e.V. 歐洲建築攝影獎2013 - 嘉許獎

2012 香港當代藝術獎2012 – 入圍
香港設計師協會環球設計大獎2011 – 攝影 – 非商業銀獎及Hong Kong Best
D&AD 學生大獎 – 攝影 – 黃鉛筆獎

收藏

香港文化博物館

Blindspot Gallery

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"Powerless" by Eason Tsang Ka Wai
Curator: Leo Li Chen

9 July - 27 August 2016

Opening Reception: Saturday, 9 July 2016, 4 - 6:30pm
Artist will be present.

Venue: Blindspot Gallery (15/F, Po Chai Industrial Building, 28 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Wong Chuk Hang, Hong Kong)
Opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10am to 6pm (Sunday and Monday by appointment only); closed on public holidays

Blindspot Gallery is pleased to present "Powerless", the first solo exhibition of Hong Kong artist Eason Tsang Ka Wai, which features his newest works employing different media. Curated by Leo Li Chen, "Powerless" spotlights the evolution of Tsang's artistic practice from an exclusive focus on photography to his experiments with other media and subjects, and a distinct perception that subverts common perspectives on everyday existence.

Continuing on the theme of living in the city in his iconic photography series *New Landmark*, Tsang shifts his focus from public space in his previous works to interior or otherwise closed spaces in his latest creations. Between images from daily life and the exposed interiors, the set of light boxes in *A failed light box* pinpoint a breakdown of order that is illuminated. Reversed perspectives also run through the video installations from the *Housework* series. Where the repetitive visuals in *Housework No.1,* which features the projection of the autonomous movement on a mop on sand paper, delineates the physical contradictions that fill our surroundings; *Housework No.3* denotes the futility of one's mundane actions in an established system. *Boring 30 seconds*, a video work encapsulating the oppressive passage of time through the night, highlights the paralysis and aphasia of the individual against the tremendous social mechanisms at work.

Ambiguity underlies one's relationship with spatiality and temporality, as captured in the video installation *52.404705, -1.497604*, whose visuals of floating clouds hint at time passing that subtly negates the coordinates for the viewers. *Redundant cables*, a set of installations of cables that run through part of the exhibition space, creates an implicit route for the visitors as well as an explicit link between night and day in the exhibition.

Selected works from Tsang's iconic photography series *New Landmark*, will also be on display. *New Landmark* has been most recently featured in the annual flagship exhibition at Hong Kong Arts Centre titled "Familiar Otherness: Art Across Northeast Asia", and in "CHINA 8", a comprehensive survey exhibition of contemporary Chinese art held in eight cities in Germany.

The artist will be present at the opening reception. Interviews are welcome and can be arranged.

About Eason Tsang Ka Wai

Born in 1986 in Hong Kong, Tsang graduated from the School of Creative Media of City University of Hong Kong in 2013 with a major in Photography. In 2015, he participated in several seminal exhibitions including "Familiar Otherness: Art Across Northeast Asia" (Hong Kong Arts Centre, Hong Kong), "Imagine there's no country, Above us only our cities" (Para Site, Hong Kong) and "CHINA 8- Works in Progress" (Museum Folkwang, Germany). In 2013, Tsang was shortlisted for the Hong Kong Contemporary Art Awards 2012 with *Rooftop* series. He currently lives and works in Hong Kong.

About the curator Leo Li Chen

Leo Li Chen is a curator and researcher based in Hong Kong. Chen is a research fellow at the Department of Public Policy in City University of Hong Kong. His main research interest focuses on spatial and aesthetic politics, and artistic intervention in Chinese cities. Chen is also a long-term contributing writer for *LEAP*, *Art World*, *Art China Magazine* and *TANC*. He was the curator of "Adrift" (OCAT Shenzhen, China, 2016), "Unlimited Space: The Re-imagination of Everyday Life" (starprojects, Hong Kong, 2016) and "That has been, and maybe again" (Para Site, Hong Kong, 2016).

About Blindspot Gallery

Set up in 2010, Blindspot Gallery is a Hong Kong-based contemporary art gallery, that has a primary focus on contemporary photography and image-based works amongst other media in contemporary art. The gallery represents both emerging and established artists, mainly from Hong Kong and 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:
Eason Tsang Ka Wai, *Housework No.3*, 2016, Video, CRT TV, 11 mins 34 secs (video) / 62.5 x 45 x 42.5 cm (CRT TV)
Eason Tsang Ka Wai, *A failed light box No.1*, 2016, Wooden light box, 100 x 58.5 x 18 cm
Eason Tsang Ka Wai, *New Landmark No.7*, 2014, 100 x 81.3 cm, Edition of 5 + AP
(Image courtesy of artist and Blindspot Gallery)

即時發佈

“徒勞”— 曾家偉個展
策展人：陳立

二零一六年七月九日至八月二十七日

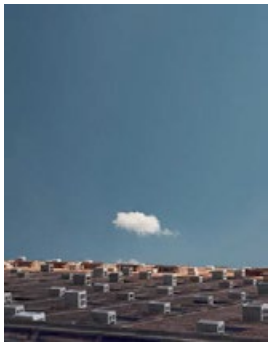
開幕酒會：二零一六年七月九日，星期六下午4時至6時30分
藝術家將出席開幕酒會。

地點：刺點畫廊（香港黃竹坑道28號保濟工業大廈15樓）
開放時間：星期二至星期六，上午10時至下午6時（星期日及星期一只供預約）；公眾假期休息

刺點畫廊最新展覽展出香港藝術家曾家偉的首次個展“徒勞”。由陳立策展，展覽中以不同媒介創作的最新作品，呈現了曾氏在藝術創作上從過往集中於攝影創作，伸延至其他媒介和題材的實驗之演變。反映了一種顛覆日常生活經驗的獨特感知。

延續攝影系列《新地標》中都市生存的主題，新作品的焦點從過往作品中的公共空間轉移到居室，以至其他封閉空間。透過日常生活的影像與外露的燈箱內部結構，《錯誤的燈箱》展現出一種失序和故障的狀態。逆向的視覺亦貫連了《家務》系列中的錄像裝置。《家務No.1》於砂紙上投影一把自行拖移的地拖，呈現充斥週遭環境的物理矛盾性。《家務No.3》中反覆清潔的行為顯現了日常中千篇一律行徑在既定系統中的局促及徒然。《無聊的三十秒》 錄像營造了深夜時間流逝的壓迫感， 呈現出個體面對龐大社會運行機制時的麻痺與失語。

空間感與時間性之間潛藏著曖昧不明的關係，如錄像裝置《52.404705, -1.497604》中，意味著時間流易的浮雲，隱然否定了觀看者座標的確定性。《冗餘電纜》——一套跨連展場的電纜裝置，給予觀眾一條隱藏的路徑，並成為展覽中白天與黑夜的連結。



展覽亦包括曾氏具代表性《新地標》系列的部份作品。《新地標》近期曾於香港藝術中心的旗艦展“文化碰撞：穿越東北亞”及“CHINA 8”——一個於德國八個城市舉行，追溯中國當代藝術的展覽展出。

藝術家將出席開幕酒會，歡迎媒體預約採訪。

關於曾家偉
於1986年生於香港，曾家偉於香港城市大學創意媒體學院主修攝影並於2013年畢業。曾氏於2015年曾參與多個重要群展包括香港藝術中心的“文化碰撞:穿越東北亞”、香港Para Site藝術空間的“如 果只有城籍沒有國籍”及德國Museum Folkwang的CHINA 8項目“Works in Progress”。曾氏於2013年憑《天台》系列入圍香港當代藝術獎2012。他現於香港居住及工作。

關於策展人
陳立是居住在香港的策展人與研究者 ，現為香港城市大學公共政策系研究員，研究集中於空間與美學政治、中國城市的藝術干預。長期為《LEAP》、《藝術界》、《藝術當代》和《藝術新聞》撰稿。擔任展覽“他／她從海上来”（OCAT深圳，中國， 2016）、“無限空間：日常生活的再想像”（starprojects，香港，2016）和“世變”（Para Site藝術空間，香港，2016）的策展人。

關於刺點畫廊
創辦於2010年，刺點畫廊是一間建基於香港的當代藝術畫廊，畫廊以當代攝影及影像主導的創作為重點，同時亦展出其他當代藝術媒介。畫廊展出新晉和著名藝術家，他們主要是來自香港及亞洲地區的藝術家，但亦有海外的藝術家。

如有任何查詢，請致電25176238或電郵至info@blindspotgallery.com 與郭麗兒小姐聯絡。

圖片說明：
曾家偉，《家務3》，2016，錄像、映像管電視，11分34秒（錄像）/ 62.5 x 45 x 42.5 厘米 （ 映像管電視）
曾家偉，《錯誤的燈箱1》，2016，木燈箱，100 x 58.5 x 18厘米
曾家偉，《新地標7》，2014，數碼噴墨打印，100 x 81.3厘米，版本：5 + AP
（圖片由藝術家及刺點畫廊提供）

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