

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"Museum of the Lost"

Leung Chi Wo + Sara Wong

7 March - 2 May 2015

Opening Reception and Book Signing: Saturday, 7 March 2015, 3 - 6pm
(Guided tour by artists starts at 4pm)

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 delighted to present "Museum of the Lost", a solo exhibition of the collaborative works of Hong Kong artists Leung Chi Wo and Sara Wong. The exhibition spotlights the photography series *He was lost yesterday and we found him today* (2010-14), showcased in its entirety for the first time, alongside selected materials from *Museum of the Lost*, an on-going collection of archival materials with captions penned by the artists.

An imaginative investigation through staged photography, *He was lost yesterday and we found him today* is a series of 28 self portraits in which Leung and Wong re-enact anonymous figures picked out from images in the old magazines, newspapers, pamphlets, souvenir books and other documents that they have been collecting over the years for *Museum of the Lost*. In the process of interpreting images and researching their contexts, the artists invent the attitude and identity of each character they embody, resurrecting these lost figures from the grand narrative of history. Standing against a pure coloured void in the backdrop, the subjects remain unidentifiable in the near life-sized portraits, which heightens the sense of loss from which they are ostensibly restored. In reinventing the past through imagery and highlighting its inherent impossibility, the series addresses the fundamental questions about photography as a means of reproducing, reiterating and appropriating reality.

For their parallel project-in-progress that inspired the photographic re-enactment, *Museum of the Lost*, Leung and Wong write anecdotes that speculate on the real-life identities and stories of the anonymous figures that feature in their collection of archival materials. As the fictive descriptions are based on research into historical events, the found objects and their anecdotes constitute another dimension of the reinvented past in the staged photography series.

A two-volume art book will be published by Blindspot Gallery, which features the portraits from *He was lost yesterday and we found him today* in Book A, and the collection of 60 images with captions written by the artists from *Museum of the Lost* in Book B. The books will be launched at the opening reception.

Leung Chi Wo + Sara Wong's collaboration began in 1992. Their previous work *City Cookie* has been exhibited in Shanghai Biennale, Venice Biennale, as well as Queens Museum in the USA and Museum of Image and Sound in Brazil. Their works have been collected by the Hong Kong Heritage Museum and Kadist Art Foundation in France.

Artists will be present at the opening reception and book signing. Media interviews are welcome and can be arranged.

About the artists:

Born in Hong Kong, **Leung Chi Wo** (b. 1968) 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. His recent exhibitions include solo shows at Rokeby in the United Kingdom (2012), The International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP) in the USA (2013) and Run Run Shaw Creative Media Centre in Hong Kong (2014); biennales and triennials in Marrakech in Morocco (2012) in Guangzhou in China (2012) and Manchester in the United Kingdom (2014). He is currently Assistant Professor at the School of Creative Media of the City University of Hong Kong.

Born in Hong Kong, **Sara Wong** (b.1968) is the co-founder and currently a board member of Para Site. Wong obtained her BA in Fine Arts from the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1992 and Master of Landscape Architecture from the University of Hong Kong in 1997. She participated in artist-in-residence programmes at MoMA PS1 Contemporary Art Center, Bronx Museum of the Arts in the USA and the Ecole Cantonale d'Art du Valais in Switzerland. Her recent exhibitions include a group show at Pearl Lam Gallery (2013) and a site-specific installation at the Oil Street Art Space (2013) in Hong Kong. Wong is also a practicing landscape designer and currently Senior Lecturer at the Hong Kong Design Institute.

About Blindspot Gallery

Blindspot Gallery is set up to bring contemporary photography, an art form that has entered the blind spot of the Hong Kong art scene to a higher degree of visibility. We feature both established and emerging photographers and 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 + Sara Wong, *Nun With Hands Behind Her Back*, 2014, Archival inkjet print, 150 x 100 cm, Edition of 5 + 2APs

Leung Chi Wo + Sara Wong, *French Voter With One Foot Lifted Off The Ground*, 2013, Archival inkjet print, 150 x 100 cm, Edition of 5 + 2APs

(Images courtesy of artists and Blindspot Gallery)

