

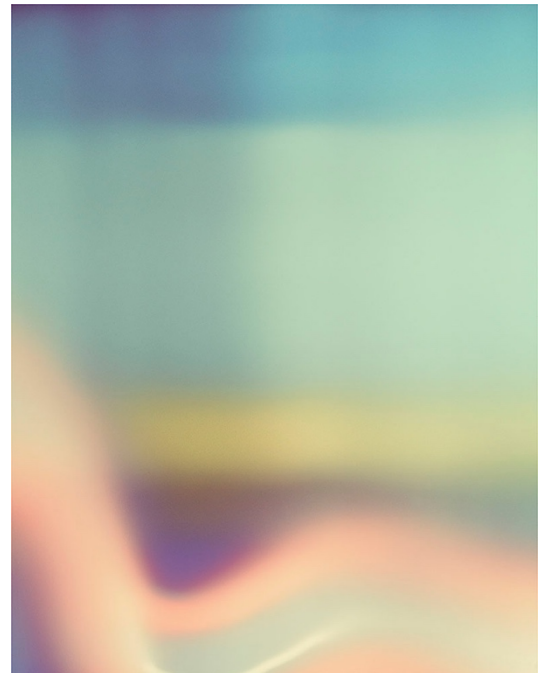
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Blindspot Gallery participates in PARIS PHOTO 2016  
featuring works by Jiang Pengyi, Liu Zheng and Zhang Hai'er**

Date: 10-13 November, 2016

Venue: Booth B13, Grand Palais, Paris, France

Blindspot Gallery is proud to participate in "PARIS PHOTO 2016" that takes place in Grand Palais, Paris, on the 10-13 November 2016. We will present the works of three Chinese artists: Jiang Pengyi, Liu Zheng and Zhang Hai'er. The featured works, iconic and monumental each in its own way, represents major moments of advancement and innovation in the history of experimental photography in China.

One of the most inventive and progressive contemporary Chinese artists, Jiang Pengyi's artistic evolution has taken him from digital photography to experimentation with the photographic material itself. Premiering at PARIS PHOTO 2016, his newest series *Void* is an extension of the *Intimacy* series, in which the artist utilizes a cameraless analogue technique on film photography. In the intimate void of the darkroom, the artist choreographed the interaction between a light-absorbing and light-emitting fluorescent paper, and a light-sensitive photographic film. Creating unpredictable and abstract images in strokes of accidental beauty, Jiang described, "*I am painting with light, through photography.*"



Liu Zheng's monumental series *The Chinese* is an ambitious project in a set of 180 photographs, which spanned over eight years from 1994 to 2002, covering many miles of Chinese countryside amidst an era of rapid urbanization, when traditional identities often disappeared without a trace. Part of the New Documentary movement in the 1990s, Liu attempted to construct a broader cultural narrative by capturing the universal states of many marginalized subjects, including transvestites, dying elderly, homeless and the mentally disabled. *The Chinese* has only been offered and procured as a whole (180 works altogether); this edition (18/20) is the only exception, an exclusive opportunity to select and collect the works in the series individually.

Although both Liu Zheng and Zhang Hai'er are portraitist, Liu discovers the one in the many, while Zhang focuses on the many in the one. In *Bad Girls*, Zhang enumerates the many iterations of the self-fashioning and self-exposition of identities by telescoping into the one subject of femininity and womanhood. In his portraits of Guangzhou prostitutes, socialites and ordinary women, half-dressed subjects in an interior setting stare provocatively at the camera, engaging the viewer and exposing the at times performative presence of the photographer. Selected works from this series (four of them the very original prints) were exhibited in Les Rencontres internationales de la photographie d'Arles in 1988, a much-historicized moment of the first-ever Chinese participation in this international photography festival.



### About the artists

**Jiang Pengyi** Born in Yuanjiang, Hunan Province in 1977, Jiang Pengyi graduated from the Beijing Institute of Art and Design in 1999. He has been awarded the Aletti ArtVerona Prize for Photography in 2011, the Jury Grand Prize from the Société Générale Chinese Art Awards in 2010 and the Tierney Fellowship Award from the First Annual Three Shadows Photography Award in 2009. Jiang was invited to participate in the Helsinki Photography Biennial 2012 and was nominated for the Prix Pictet 2012. His work is collected by Guy & Myriam Ullens Foundation Collection (Switzerland); French Regional Contemporary Art Fund (Frac des Pays de la Loire) (Loire Region, France); Tierney Family Foundation (USA); ArtNow Contemporary Art Collections (USA); UniCredit Art Collections (Italy and Germany); Bank Aletti Foundation (Fondazione Banca Aletti) (Italy) and CAFA Art Museum (Beijing, China). He currently lives and works in Beijing, China.

**Liu Zheng** Born in 1969 in Wuqiang Hsien, Hebei Province, China. In 1991, Liu Zheng graduated from the Beijing Technology Institute in China. From 1991 to 1997, Liu worked as a photojournalist at one of China's most prominent newspapers *Worker's Daily*. Liu's work is collected by major international institutions and collections, including Deutsche Bank Collection; Daimler Art Collection (Germany); Sigg Collection (Switzerland); The J. Paul Getty Museum (Los Angeles, USA); (International Centre of Photography (New York, USA); Museum of Contemporary Art (Los Angeles, USA); San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (San Francisco, USA); Liu currently lives and works in Beijing, China.

**Zhang Hai'er** Born in Guangzhou in 1957, Zhang Hai'er graduated from Shanghai Theatre Academy in 1982. One of the pioneers of experimental photography in China, Zhang Hai'er and four other young Chinese photographers were invited to participate in the prestigious Les Rencontres internationales de la photographie d'Arles in 1988 in France, the beginning of international exposure of Chinese photography to the western world. His work is collected by Fondation Danielle Mitterrand (France); Musée de l'Élysée (Lausanne, Switzerland); White Rabbit Collection (Sydney, Australia); Power Station of Art (Shanghai, China), Shanghai Center of Photography (Shanghai, China), Sifang Art Museum (Nanjing, China) and Taikang Space (Beijing, China). He currently lives and works in Guangzhou, China and Paris, France.

### 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](mailto:info@blindspotgallery.com)

Image captions:

**Jiang Pengyi**, *Void No. 1*, 2016, Archival inkjet print, 178.6 x 140 cm, Edition of 3 + AP

**Liu Zheng**, *An Old Peking Opera Actor Playing a Female Role*, Beijing, 1995, Archival inkjet print, printed in 2015, 35 x 35 cm, Edition: 18/20

**Zhang Hai'er**, *Hu Yuanli*, Guangzhou, 1987, 1987, 61 x 50.5 cm

(Image courtesy of artist and Blindspot Gallery)