

**In Progress** Friday, February 10, 2012 | By Erik Tanner | Add a Comment

Powered by WordPress.com VIP

## A Record of China's Changing Coastlines

1 of 16



Zhang Xiao

Coastline No.3, Maoming City, Guangdong Province, 2010

Like 75

Tweet 45

9

Share 10

In recent years many contemporary photographers have focused their work on the rapid industrialization taking place in China. We've seen mega cities rise and industry boom along with the population. But, in a move away from the trend, Chinese photographer Zhang Xiao turned his attention to changes to China's coastal areas. The work, currently on view at Hong Kong's Blind Spot Gallery, records subtle and surreal moments of life by the sea. "These scenes are true reality, though they seem to be beyond our imagination," Xiao says.

The photographer began the series in 2009 after quitting his job as at the Chongqing *Morning Post* in Chongqing city, China. He was drawn to the ocean, driven to snap his shutter when confronted with scenes of change. "The coastline is the frontier of China's reform," he says, "but also the first area of impact from external culture and the rapid economic development."

Xiao's attachment to the sea was not new: he was born in the coastal city of Yantai, which boasts about 25 miles of coastline. "It's a pity that I seldom went to the seashore during my whole childhood," he says, "but there's always a strong affection towards the sea that remains in the bottom of my heart."

He plans to continue working on the project until the end of this year, following his instinctual approach to picture making: wandering the beaches, looking for scenes of daily life to reveal something about modern life in China, capturing the people who are frolicking in the surf and looking for some kind of peace, lost in the beauty of the sea.

The series Coastline is on display at Hong Kong's Blind Spot Gallery through March 10, 2012.

Zhang Xiao is a freelance photographer based in Shandong Province, China. He is represented by Troika Editions and you can see more of his work here.

Related Topics: China, Chinese photographers, Coastline, landscape photography, photography, Zhang Xiao

Sponsored Links

Graduating From A Levels?

The World's Top CEOs Prefer Monash Graduates. Apply Now! monash.edu/hongkong

Date Sexy Chinese Women

Chinese Dating and Singles Site. Find the Perfect Chinese Woman Now! www.ChineseLoveLinks.com/Dating

Eunice Lim Photography

Menu, Advertising, Cookbook Editorial, Food Packaging www.eunicelim.com

Latest Posts



Out There

Big Shots: Photography at 'The Sports Show'

Monday, March 19, 2012

Can you really mount a worthwhile retrospective of sports photography without some of the most iconic athletes and moments? Turns out you can. In fact, "The Sports Show," a photography and new-media exhibit at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, is better off for it.

Read More



Photo Essay

Inside Syria: Photographs by Rodrigo Abd



The Backstory

A Year and a Day with Bob Dylan

Real-time updating is enabled.

Comments for this page are closed.

Showing 0 comments

Sort by popular now

Stay Connected with TIME.com

Subscribe to RSS Feeds

Sign Up for Newsletters

Get the TIME Magazine iPad Edition

Read TIME Mobile on your Phone

Become a Fan of TIME

Get TIME Twitter Updates



NewsFeed U.S. Politics World Business Money Health Science Entertainment Photos Videos Specials Magazine

© 2012 Time Inc. All rights reserved Privacy Policy RSS Newsletter Mobile TIME For Kids

Subscribe Contact Us Terms of Use Media Kit Reprints & Permissions Help Site Map Ad Choices

OUR PARTNERS