

"Play and Loop" — a 7-week screening programme  
Week 5 | 7.8 – 11.8.2018

## Tao Hui

In week 5 of "Play and Loop", Blindspot Gallery is pleased to present two video works by Tao Hui, *Joint Images* (2016) and *Talk About Body* (2013). Dialogue or monologue, exposition or re-enactment, these scripted moments reveal a playful intersection between the performances of individual identity and the various structures that govern modern life.

*Joint Images* consists of 10 parts, each part represents a TV clip from well-known news programme, drama series, variety and reality shows. The artist plays these scenes on TV screens in the backgrounds of daily settings, while actors in the foreground reenact the corresponding clip. These scenes are overtly sensational and melodramatic, ranging from lovers' spat to a daughter's tearful reconciliation with her family. The conflation between private emotions and public spectacle, experienced reality and perceived performativity, produces a dislocation from truth and certainty, which is a glaring characteristics of our collective experience of the mass media culture in the present age.



*Talk About Body* is a private ceremony about the human body and its objective history. In a private bedroom filled with people, the artist played the role of an Islamic girl, cross-dressed in Islamic garb while speaking in the voice of an old woman. She performed a first-person narrative based on a physiological-anthropological analysis, which factually describes the artist's own body structure, physiognomic characteristics, hereditary traits and genetic lineage. This decidedly materialist account of the body attempts to preclude human prejudices, subjective feelings, and the dualist rigidity in traditional religions, while searching for an equilibrium between the material body and the spiritual mind.



### About Tao Hui (b. 1987)

Tao Hui graduated with a BFA in Oil Painting from Sichuan Fine Arts Institute in 2010. Tao recently held his solo exhibition "Not at all" (OCAT Xi'an, China, 2017) and "New Directions: Tao Hui" (Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China, 2015). He has recently shown at the 2017 Bi-city Biennale of Urbanism\Architecture in Shenzhen and the 11<sup>th</sup> Shanghai Biennale as well as The National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (Seoul), Rockbund Art Museum and Fondation Louis Vuitton. He is the winner of the Grand Prize at the 19<sup>th</sup> Contemporary Art Festival Sesc\_Videobrasil and the Art Sanya Huayu Youth Award Grand Jury Prize in 2015. Tao currently lives and works in Beijing.

Image:

*Joint Images*, 2016, HD single channel video, 14'27"

*Talk About Bodies*, 2013, HD single channel video, 3'45"