

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Blindspot Gallery participates in PARIS PHOTO 2019 featuring works by JIANG Pengyi, JIANG Zhi, and Pixy LIAO in Galleries sector

Date: 9-12 November 2019

Venue: Booth B05, Grand Palais, Paris, France

Blindspot Gallery is pleased to participate in “Paris Photo 2019”, presenting the works of three contemporary Chinese artists – JIANG Pengyi, JIANG Zhi, and Pixy LIAO – who use photography to explore intimate relationships in personal and spiritual terms.

Pixy LIAO's *Experimental Relationship* is a celebration of the naturally unconventional relationship between the artist and her partner Moro, who is Japanese and five years her junior. *Experimental Relationship* playfully subverts the conventions of traditional power dynamics through a hyperawareness in the performativity of gender, often presenting the female artist in the dominant role and her partner in a submissive position. Liao stages images that range from the intimate to the risqué, as the artist questions concepts such as heteronormativity, gender hierarchy, and the public-private domains of a relationship.



In the iconic *Love Letters* series (2011-2014) dedicated to the memory of his deceased wife, JIANG Zhi sets living flowers on fire, and photographs the moment when petals and flames coexist in the equanimity of beauty and suffering. The artist staged a visceral way to mourn, to imagine suffering, and to create a fleeting yet perpetual moment suspended between destruction and rebirth, agony and sweet melancholy.

JIANG Pengyi is renowned for his cameraless photography that pushes the boundary of the medium and explores the limits of the materiality of light. In this series, *Medium*, the artist uses instant films to capture found images of Christian and Buddhist art, and then manipulates the work with an emulsion lift, draping them to create unique objects that blur the line between photography and sculpture. The artist likens the intimate and private contact between the photographer and the film in the dark room as the eroticism between lovers, or the spiritual experience between human and a higher being. Not only does the artist reference the history of aniconism and iconoclasm in major world religions, he testifies to the irresistible urge of human beings to create and gaze upon images.



### About the Artists

**Pixy LIAO** (b. 1979, Shanghai, China) is a multidisciplinary artist whose practice covers photography, installation, and performance. Liao is known for her staged photography, where she poses with her boyfriend-turned-muse, Moro. Her works challenge the traditional gender roles in heterosexual couples, humorously revealing the multitude of ways to be together. In 2019, Liao had a major solo exhibition at the Rencontres d'Arles in Arles, France. Liao has also participated in exhibitions and performances in institutions internationally, including the UCCA Center for Contemporary Art (Beijing, China); He Xiangning Art Museum (Shenzhen, China); the Museum of Sex (New York, USA); Asia Society (Houston, USA); Open Eye Gallery (Liverpool, UK); and Firstdraft Gallery (Sydney, Australia). Liao currently lives and works in New York.

**JIANG Pengyi** (b.1977, Hunan, China) Jiang is an artist who constantly innovates with the infinitely generative potentialities of the photographic medium. His recent artistic evolution has taken him from digital photography to the experimentation with the materiality of photographic film with the use of cameraless analog technique and traditional darkroom processes. Jiang was 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 currently lives and works in Beijing.

**JIANG Zhi** (b. 1971, Hunan, China) Jiang works with a wide range of media, including photography, painting, video, and installation. Writing and poetry have also been an important part of his artistic output. Consistently engaging with contemporary social and cultural issues, Jiang consciously positions himself at the intersection of poetics and sociology. Jiang Zhi has had two major solo retrospectives, respectively at OCAT Shenzhen, and Times Museum in Guangzhou. His work has also been exhibited by international institutions and biennials, including the Guggenheim Museum (New York, USA); M+ Museum (Hong Kong); Shanghai Biennale (Shanghai, China); Guangzhou Triennial (Guangzhou, China); the Biennale di Venezia (Venice, Italy); and the 4th Gwangju Biennale (Gwangju, South Korea). Jiang currently lives and works in Beijing.

### About Blindspot Gallery

Set up in 2010, Blindspot Gallery is a Hong Kong-based contemporary art gallery. The gallery began with a primary focus on contemporary photography and image-based art, and has evolved to include diverse 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. May Wong at 2517 6238 or by email [info@blindspotgallery.com](mailto:info@blindspotgallery.com)

Image Captions:

**Pixy LIAO**, *Kiss Exam*, 2015, C-print, 75 x 100 cm, Edition of 3

**JIANG Zhi**, *Love Letters No.17*, 2014, Archival inkjet print, 106 x 80 cm, Edition of 6 + 2AP

**JIANG Pengyi**, *Medium No.9*, Instant film, acid free cardboard, 18K gold nail, 27.5 x 21.5 cm  
(Image courtesy of artists and Blindspot Gallery)