

Ren Hang (1987 – 2017)

The late Ren Hang used the photographic medium to depict scenes of spontaneity, where the young naked subjects are staged in explicit poses. Ren carefully choreographed the compositional arrangement, iconic make-up (e.g. red lips and red finger nails) and mise-en-scène, all of which straddle between meticulous intentionality and momentary inspiration. Despite the playful and colourful scenes filled with young and beautiful bodies, his images portray certain human conditions filled with loneliness and vulnerability.

Ren was awarded the Outset | Unseen Exhibition Fund at Unseen, Amsterdam in 2016 and Third Terna Contemporary Art Award, Italy in 2010. Important solo exhibitions include "LOVE, REN HANG" (Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris, France, 2019), "Ren Hang" (Museum of Fine Art, Leipzig, Germany, 2017), "Naked/Nude" (Foam Fotografiemuseum, Netherlands, 2017) and "Human Love" (Fotografiska, Sweden); His selected group exhibitions included "Medium of Desire: An International Anthology of Photography and Video" (Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art, USA, 2015), "Chinese Photography: Twentieth Century and Before" (Three Shadows Photography Art Centre, China, 2015), "Contemporary Photography in China 2009-2014" (Minsheng Art Museum, China, 2014), "Curated by RongRong: Inner Ear" (Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, China, 2011), and Rencontres d'Arles Festival (France, 2011). Ren's works is collected by National Gallery of Australia and White Rabbit Contemporary Chinese Art Collection (Australia), CAFA Art Museum and Three Shadows Photography Art Centre (China), Kansas State University Art Museum (USA), and Multimedia Art Museum (Russia).

Ren died in Beijing, China in 2017.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2020 "Ren Hang: Nudes", Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci, Prato, Italy

- 2019 "Ren Hang: Chinese Spring #4", Markgravelei 95 POP UP, Antwerp, Belgium
"LOVE, REN HANG", C/O Berlin Foundation, Berlin, Germany
"LOVE, REN HANG", Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris, France

- 2018 "Ren Hang: Wake Up Together", Open Eye Gallery, Liverpool, UK

- 2017 "Ren Hang: Beauty without Beards", KWM Art Center, Beijing, China
"Ren Hang: Beauty without Beards", Modern Art Base, Shanghai, China
"Ren Hang", Museum of Fine Arts, Leipzig, Germany
"Human Love", Fotografiska, Stockholm, Sweden
"Naked/Nude", Foam Fotografiemuseum, Amsterdam, Netherlands

- 2016 "What We Do is Secret", MAMA Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
"Ren Hang: TOKYO", matchbaco Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
"Athens Love", Klein Sun Gallery, New York, USA
"白日昇天", Modernsky Lab, Beijing, China

- 2015 "NEW LOVE", matchbaco Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

- "Ren Hang - Morphology", HDM Gallery, Hangzhou, China
- "Occupy Atopos# Ren Hang", Atopos cvc, Athens, Greece
- "Ren Hang", Atelier 72 Gallery, Marseille, France
- "In Presence of REN HANG", Stieglitz 19 Gallery, Antwerp, Belgium
- "Ren Hang: 野生", OstLicht. Galerie für Fotografie, Vienna, Austria
- "Ren Hang 2014", Capricious 88 Gallery, New York, USA
- "My Mum/ My Father", Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong

- 2014 "Hide", Soy Sauce Factory, Bangkok, Thailand
- "REN HANG", Nicolas Hugo Gallery, Paris, France
- "Anatomy of the Image 104", Galerie 104 Kléber, Paris, France
- "Physical Borderline", Three Shadows +3 Gallery, Beijing, China
- "In Addition to Sleep", Copenhagen Photo Festival, KONTOR projects, Copenhagen, Denmark
- "In Addition to Sleep", Galleri Vasli Souza, Malmö, Sweden
- "La Chine a NUE", NUE Galerie, Paris, France

- 2013 "Pulse", Galerie Jane Zhang, Frankfurt, Germany

- 2011 "Stillbirth: Ren Hang's Photography Salon", Yugong Yishan Live House, Beijing, China
- "Allergy", Kubrick, Beijing, China

- 2010 "INTERCOURSE WITH BEIJING", Yugong Yishan Live House, Beijing, China
- "Eat Naked Lunch!", YuYinTang Live House, Shanghai, China

Group Exhibitions

- 2021 "Closer", Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong

- 2020 "About Us. Young Photography from China", Alexander Tutsek-Stiftung, Munich, Germany
- "China Fever", Migrant Bird Space, Berlin, Germany

- 2019 "Spectrosynthesis II – Exposure of Tolerance: LGBTQ in Southeast Asia", Bangkok Arts and Culture Center, Bangkok, Thailand
- "Stop Peeping", Cement Fondu, Paddington, Australia

- 2018 "40 Years of Chinese Contemporary Photography (1978-2018)", Shenzhen OCT Contemporary Art Terminal, Shenzhen, China
- "Ten Directions - The 10th Anniversary Exhibition of Three Shadows Photography Award", Three Shadows Photography Art Center, Beijing, China

- 2017 "40 Years of Chinese Contemporary Photography (1976-2017) - Three Shadows 10th Anniversary Special Exhibition, Three Shadows Photography Art Center, Beijing, China

- 2016 "f/stop Photography Festival", Leipzig, Germany
- "Unseen Photo Fair", Booth: Stieglitz19, Westergasfabriek, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- "London Art Fair", Business Design Centre, London, UK
- "Art Fair Tokyo", Booth: matchbaco Gallery, Tokyo International Forum, Tokyo, Japan
- "Art Paris Art Fair", Booth: ON/Gallery, Grand Palais, Paris, France
- "LOIVE", matchbaco Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

- 2015 "From Old Ground", Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, Sydney, Australia

- “Medium of Desire: An International Anthology of Photography and Video”, Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art, New York, USA
- “Contemporary Istanbul”, Booth: Galerie Paris-Beijing, Istanbul Congress Center, Istanbul, Turkey
- “Chinese Photography: Twentieth Century and Before”, Three Shadows Photography Art Centre, Beijing, China
- “ARTINTERNATIONAL”, Halic Congress Center, Istanbul, Turkey
- “Yesterday We Wanted To Be The Sky”, Kamarade, Stockholm, Sweden
- “New Chinese Photography Forces - Three Shadows Photography Art Centre at Tsumari”, Echigo-Tsumari Art Festival, Tokyo, Japan
- “Three Shadows Second Experimental Image Open Exhibition”, Three Shadows Photography Art Centre, Beijing, China
- “Photo Basel”, Booth: Stieglitz 19 Gallery, Basel, Switzerland
- “The New Portrait – Part I”, Stieglitz 19 Gallery, Antwerp, Belgium
- “Paris Photo Los Angeles 2015”, Booth: Capricious 88 Gallery, Paramount Picture Studios, Los Angeles, USA
- “Art Miami New York”, Booth: Galerie Paris – Beijing, Pier 94, New York, USA
- “Under Lines”, Nicolas Hugo Gallery, New York, USA
- “Portrait of the World”, Barbado Gallery, Lisbon, Portugal
- “Temporary Boundary”, Galerie Paris-Beijing, Brussels, Belgium
- “Art Paris Art Fair 2015”, Grand Palais, Paris, France
- “Remake Love – 7th Yangon Photo Festival”, Yangon, Myanmar
- “Three shadows +3 gallery Annual Exhibition”, Three shadows +3 gallery, Beijing, China
- “Faceless”, De Markten, Brussels, Belgium
- 2014 “Paris Photo 2014”, Booth: Three Shadows +3 Gallery, Grand Palais, Paris, France
- “2nd Yuandian Contemporary Photography Festival”, Yuan Art Museum, Beijing, China
- “Staging Encounters: Ten Years of Contemporary Photography in China”, Lianzhou Foto Festival, Lianzhou, China
- “c/o Umbria World Fest”, Palazzo Trinci, Foligno, Italy
- “Get it Louder 2014”, Sanlitun Village, Beijing, China
- “Contemporary Photography in China 2009-2014”, Minsheng Art Museum, Shanghai, China
- “New Frontiers in Contemporary Photography”, Galleri Tryffelgrisen, Stockholm, Sweden
- “Arles Photo Festival”, Booth: Le Magasin de Jouets Gallery, Arles, France
- “ARTVILNIUS’14”, International Contemporary Art Fair Congress Center, Vilnius, Lithuania
- “Three Shadows First Experimental Image Open Exhibition”, Three Shadows Photography Art Centre, Beijing, China
- “New Photos Since 2009”, Wuhan Art Museum, Wuhan, China
- “Art Brussels”, Booth: Stieglitz 19, Antwerpen, Belgium
- “Faceless”, Stichting Mediamatic, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- “Chinese Spring”, Stieglitz 19, Antwerpen, Belgium
- 2013 “Farewell to Experience”, Lianzhou Foto Festival, Lianzhou, China
- “The 2nd Conceptual Film Photography Show”, F518 Idea Land, Shenzhen, China
- “True Panic - Photography Exhibition”, Bowl Island Gallery, Beijing, China
- “Aura and Post Aura”, 1st Beijing Photo Biennial, China Millennium Monument, Beijing, China
- “Network real-time exhibition”, Museum of Contemporary Art Shanghai, Shanghai, China
- “Unseen Photo Fair”, Booth: Stieglitz 19, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- “Faceless Part 1”, Museumsquartier, Vienna, Austria
- “Atypical”, Gallery Beijing Space, Beijing, China
- “FUCK OFF 2”, Groninger Museum, the Netherlands

"Remote Places, Close Spaces", Street Level Photoworks, Trongate, Glasgow, Scotland
"Equal Relationships", Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong

- 2012 "Secret Love", Östasiatiska Museum, Stockholm, Sweden
"Memory Lost and Found", Gallery Beijing Space, Beijing, China
"The First 'CAFAM · Future' Exhibition", CAFA Art Museum, Beijing, China
"FÉROCES Photographie Internationale Exhibition 2012: REN HANG/JORDANE YARDEN GAUDENZI", Avignon, France
"(+150) Visione: Origine e Potere. Energia Attraverso le Generazioni", Multimedia Art Museum, Moscow, Russia
"symptoms: Becoming Peninsula I", Iberia Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China
- 2011 "FÉROCES Festival de Photographie Internationale 2011", Avignon, France
"Light Room", J Gallery, Shanghai, China
"Suan Tian Ku La: 4 flavors, 4 photographers, 4 eyes on Chinese society", Grand Theatre d'Angers, Angers, France
"Rencontres d'Arles festival -THE VIEWER", Arles, France
"Recurrent Shadows- Selected Works from the Three Shadows Photography Award 2008-2011", He Xiangning Art Museum, Shenzhen, China
"Young Movement", Tel Aviv, Israel
"Micro- Intervention: The 4th 54 International Young Art Festivals 2011", Beijing 798 Art Zone, Beijing, China
"Myriad Visions: The 2011 Three Shadows Photography Award Exhibition", Three Shadows Photography Art Centre, Beijing, China
"Curated by RongRong- Qiu & Ren Hang: Inner Ear", Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China
- 2010 "Third Terna Contemporary Art Award", Rome and Milan, Italy
"Warmth: 2010-2011 Multi-media Show", Shanghai, China
"New Photo Magazine, KLACK & 7Fei", The Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre (JCCAC), Hong Kong
"This! This is Me.- 789 Festival Young", Beijing, China
"The First International Contemporary Art Festival of China Jimei", Xiamen, China
"IN TO THE MOOD", A-artcenter, Hong Kong
"TORA TORA TORA: Chinese Cutting-Edge Photography Exhibition", CaoChangDi, Beijing, China
"2010 Screenage Art Document Exhibition- Natural·Unnatural", Songzhuang Art Museum, Beijing, China
- 2009 "80s Peaceful Evolution", The Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre (JCCAC), Hong Kong
"Woman · Image International Photography Exhibition", Communication University of China, Nanjing, China
"Personal Chat", Zhenshi Cinema, Shanghai, China
"The First Chinese Art Exhibition on Gender Diversity", Songzhuang Art District, Beijing, China

Awards

2016 Outset | Unseen Exhibition Fund

2010 Third Terna Contemporary Art Award, Italy

Collections

Kansas State University Art Museum, USA

CAFA Art Museum, China

Multimedia Art Museum, Russia

Sunpride Foundation, Hong Kong

Three Shadows Photography Art Centre, China

White Rabbit Contemporary Chinese Art Collection, Australia