

Liu Yefu Solo Exhibition

NO EASY SYMBOLISM

Curated by Yuan Fuca

15th May to 20th June, 2018

Opening: 15th May, 4 pm to 6:30 pm

In his second solo exhibition *NO EASY SYMBOLISM* at Magician Space, Liu Yefu presents recent video works as well as a group of small sculptures.

By constantly magnifying the self-contradictions of things or peoples' behavior, Liu Yefu's video works often reflect a structural crisis and deviation from existing meanings on a more abstract level. For this exhibition, the artist has chosen to use "screening," the simplest and most unaffected form, to display his videos, presenting a direct entry point into the judgement of the subjects that the works explore, and hinting towards the ambiguous role video art plays in shaping its own surrounding discourse and value. This group of works is a continuation of the artist's longtime state of constant shifting between Eastern and Western culture. Faced with engaging and criticizing western rhetoric as an individual who has returned to his home country, Liu has made necessary adjustments against the backdrop of recent global political and societal changes. Through his working methods, which blur the boundaries between the private and the public, the studio and the outside world, as well as the staged and the edited aspects of the filmed subject, the destructive power of these adjustments gradually becomes clear. In revising history, language, and image through his videos, the artist manages to speak imagination.

Notes to the editors

Liu Yefu (b. 1986, Beijing) currently lives and works in Beijing.

Major solo exhibitions include *NO EASY SYMBOLISM*, Magician Space, Beijing (2018); *Episode 1*, Magician Space, Beijing (2016); Major group exhibitions include *Re-assessment of Post-Globalisational Politics*, OCAT Institute, Beijing (2018); *The Ecstasy of Time: Reframing the Medium of Knowing*, He Xiangning Art Museum, Shenzhen (2017); *Every Skyscraper is Built from the Ground*, the 2nd Changjiang International Photography and Video Biennale, Chongqing (2017); *The New Normal: Art and China in 2017*, UCCA, Beijing (2017); *HISTORICODE: Scarcity & Supply*, *The 3rd Nanjing International Art Festival*, Baijiahu Art Museum, Nanjing (2016); *OverPop*, Yuz Museum Shanghai, Shanghai (2016); *You won't be young forever*, 235 Guangfu Rd., Shanghai (2016); *Lost in Shenzhen*, Shenzhen (2016); *No Dice (I)*, Kimberly-Klark, New York (2015); *Sludge Jam*, MINT, Columbus (2014); *VOX X: Present Tense*, Vox Populi, Philadelphia (2014).