

# Xing Danwen

Born in Xi'an, China. As a teenager, Xing Danwen took a professional study in painting at the primary art school affiliated to the Xi'an Academy of Fine Art from 1982-1986. She continued painting and did her BFA at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing from 1989-1992.

In the late 80s, she discovered photography and was immediately drawn into this medium. As a self-taught photographer she was the one of a few artists in late 80s and 90s in China that was exploring the boundaries of photography and using photography as an art form. Through the camera, she observed and challenged the questions on the Chinese society, humanity, female identity and the generation that was born 60s.

With an ACC grant and fellowship, she went to New York where she did her MFA at the School of Visual Arts from 1998-2001. It improved and enriched her artistic experience. In her current art-practice she works, beside photography, also in the field of video and multi-media installations.

Xing Danwen exhibits domestically and internationally and her works are collected widely by museums and private collectors. Her artistic practice is both rich and varied and her subjects include: Dislocation between cultural status, conflicts between globalization and traditions, problematic environmental issues created by the development, the urban drama between the desire and reality. Fiction, truth and illusion often play an important role in her works.

## Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2007 "Roland Fischer/Xing Danwen", Galerie Sollertis, Toulouse, France
- 2006 "disCONNEXION/duplication", Chinese Museum, Melbourne, Australia  
"Urban Fiction", TPW, Toronto, Canada
- 2004 "disCONNEXION", Kiang Gallery, Atlanta, USA  
"dis+dup", Gow Langsford gallery, Sydney, Australia  
"Urban Fiction", Galerie Piece Unique, Paris, France

## Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2007 "City of Expiration and Regeneration", 2007 Shenzhen Biennial, China  
"Chinaproduction", Architekturzentrum Wien, Vienna, Austria  
"Floating", National Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, Korea  
"Thought Provoking, Sense Provoking", Noorderlicht, Groningen, The Netherlands  
"Altered States", Tisch Gallery, AIDEKMAN ARTS CENTER / TUFTS University, USA  
"METAMORPHOSIS", Tampere Art Museum, Tampere, Finland  
"MADE in CHINA", Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Denmark  
The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel
- 2006 "Private Lives", URBIS, Manchester, UK  
"TOTALSTADT/BEIJING CASE", ZKM, Karlsruhe, Germany  
"C On Cities", the 10th Venice Architecture Biennale, Venice, Italy

- 2006 "New Urban Realities", Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam & NAI, The Netherlands  
 "Fantasy Landscapes", Asia House, London, UK  
 "MADE in CHINA", Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, USA
- 2005 "Urban / Culture" CP Biennale , Museum Bank Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia  
 "Traces and Omens" the 12th Noorderlicht Photo Festival, Groningen, the Netherlands  
 "The WALL", Albright-Knox Art Gallery/UB Anderson Gallery, Buffalo, USA  
 "Unspeakable Happiness", MUSEO TAMAYO ARTE CONTEMPORANEO, Mexico city, Mexico  
 "On the Edge", Cantor Center for Visual Arts, Stanford University, California, USA  
 "Between Past and Future", Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK  
 "Re-VIEWING the CITY", 1st Guangzhou Photo Biennale, Guangdong Museum of Art, China
- 2004 "Grotesque Reality", the National Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, Korea  
 "GRAVITY", the Singapore Art Museum, Singapore  
 "Die Chinesen", Kunst Museum Wolfsburg, Wolfsburg, Germany  
 "REASON & EMOTION", the Biennale of Sydney, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, Australia  
 "Between Past and Future", International Center for Photography & Asian Society, New York, USA  
 Smart Museum of Art & Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, USA  
 "Je t'envisage: La disparition du portrait", the Musee de l'Elysee, Lausanne, Switzerland
- 2003 "Chinese Maximalism", UB Art Gallery, Buffalo, USA  
 "Les Rencontres d'Arles Festival", Arles, France  
 "the American Effects", the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA  
 "Alors, la Chine?", Centre Pompidou, Paris, France  
 "Spatial Narrative", Japan Society, New York, USA
- 2002 "Re-interpretation, A Decade of Experimental Chinese Art", 1st Guangzhou Triennial, Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangzhou, China  
 "Queens International", Queens Museum of Art, New York, USA
- 2001 "Mega Wave-Towards a New Synthesis", 1st YOKOHAMA TRIENNIAL, Yokohama, Japan  
 "1st Tirana Biennale", Tirana, Albania
- 1999 "BEIJING-The Revolutionary Capital", the Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, UK  
 "Transience-Chinese Experimental Art at the end of the 20th Century", the Smart Museum of Art, Chicago, USA

## Awards

- 2003 Best Publishing Project Award from Les Rencontres d'Arles Festival, Arles, France  
 1998-2001 Grant & Fellowship from Asian Cultural Council, New York, USA

## Corporate & Public Collections

Whitney Museum of American Art, USA  
The Progressive Corporation, USA  
JGS Foundation, USA  
Estella Collection, USA  
Santa Barbara Museum of Art, USA  
ICP, International Center for Photography, USA  
the Smart Museum of Art, USA  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, USA  
Groupe Lhoist, Belgium  
Dr. Sigg Collection, Switzerland  
UBS, Union Bank of Switzerland  
George Pompidou Center, France  
The Red Mansion Foundation, UK  
Guangdong Museum of Art, China

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