David Cotterrell: Shanghype (Chicago) - 27.09.09

Date: 27th September 2009

This Autumn the film Herowill be presented in Chicago as part of the touring exhibition, Shanghype!

From September 20 to December 13, 2009 the Hyde Park Art Center presentsthe exhibition featuring the video work of eighteen international artists who explore aspects ofShanghais rapidly evolving urban culture. Held in the Art Centers Black Box Gallery, the exhibition, Shanghype! dismantlesperceptions of the citys identity, stimulating complicated visions of the Far Orient and asking the public toreevaluate notions of neoliberalism and globalization.

Focusing on a city that is constantly in fluxhaving been built from scratch, rebuilt, and overbuilttheexhibition reveals a generations dramatic achievements while questioning the sustainability of existingurbanism. Using the notion of China at its height as a beginning metaphor, the exhibition works to exploreShanghais aspirations and desire to regain its once legendary reputation, the reflected need of China to berecognized as international and modern, and the power struggle between Shanghais local and global identity.Organizers of Shanghype! worked closely with selected artists on specific projects pushing the place ofShanghai in the imaginary.

All artists involved with the exhibition have spent significant time in China conducting conceptual and visualresearch on cultural authenticity. Artists include: Sun Xun, Qiu Anxiong, Tang Maohong, Bu Hua, Song Tao, CaoFei, Zhang Ding, Yang Fudong, David Cotterrell, Xu Zhen, Yang Zhenzhong, Pierre Giner, Olivo Barbieri, D-fuse,Jin Shan, Speedism, Mathieu Borysevicz, and Zhou Xiaohu. The works were selected by Davide Quadrio, aShanghai-based curator and founder of BizArt, one of Chinas oldest and most renowned independent spaces forcontemporary art. Co-curating the exhibition is Dan S. Wang, a widely published Chicago-based writer and artist.

Shanghype! will be held in conjunction with the exhibition Reversed Images: Representations of Shanghai and ItsContemporary Material Culture at the Museum of Contemporary Photography at Columbia College Chicago. Bothexhibitions explore the cityscape of Shanghai as conceptual terrain. This program is part of a college-wide initiativeat Columbia called Eyes on China. This exhibition and related programming has been supported in part by TheCenter for The Arts of East Asia at the University of Chicago, Dr. Samuel Wang, and anonymous donors.

Shanghype! will be on view from September 20 to December 13, 2009 at the Hyde Park Art Center, 5020 SouthCornell Avenue, Chicago, IL, 60615; 773.324.5520 and www.hydeparkart.org. Hyde Park Art Center exhibitions arealways free and open to the public.

Exhibition Reception:Sunday, September 27, 35 pm

Black Box Gallery Hours:
Monday Thursday: 10 am 8 pm
Friday Saturday: 10 am 5 pm
Sunday: 12 pm 5 pm

Artists Talk: Sunday, September 27, 2 pm
Peggy Wang and Qiu Anxiong will discuss thecurrent state of video art in China.

Sponsored by the Center for the Arts of East Asiaat the University of Chicago.

Shanghype Chicago Publicity Credit: Image: Bu Hua, Savage Grow, 2008. (2009)