

# LEO XU PROJECTS

## HE AN

Born in 1970 in Wuhan, China, He An lives and works in Beijing. Growing up in the midst of China's enormous industrial expansion, the artist's practices of vandalism explores the narratives formed by calligraphies appearing across cities. In 2000, He An started incorporating neon light-box characters into art practices, with a particular focus on signs, lights, and language that populate the built environment. His light sculpture material is specific to the the context of newer Asian cities—such as Shenzhen and his native Wuhan—and through (re)constructions of names and associates that are close to him, the artist produces evocative combinations that reflect the aesthetics environment of these new cities. His work also investigates taboos and illegalities in the contemporary Chinese society. He An's recent year practices involve installations in the city landscape. Referencing rock music and movies, the artist produces works that are simultaneously abstract and poetic.

He An has been widely exhibited in international art institutions, including: “Overpop”, Yuz Museum, Shanghai, China, 2016; “Linguistic Pavilion”, Shanghai Minsheng Art Museum, Shanghai, China, 2016; “New Image—2016 New Media Exhibition & screening”, Chengdu Hong Museum, Chengdu, China, 2016; “A Modern Adventure—The Renault Art Collection”, Today Art Museum, Beijing, Wuhan, China, 2015; “The Exhibition of Annual of Contemporary Art of China”, Minsheng Art Museum, Beijing, China, 2015; “A Modern Adventure—The Renault Art Collection”, Today Art Museum, Beijing, Wuhan, China, 2015; “Post Pop East Meets West”, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK, 2014; “The Garden of Diversion”, Sifang Art Museum, Nanjing, China, 2013; “Writing Without Borders”, Lehmann Maupin Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China, 2013; “2013 Carnegie International”, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, USA, 2013.

The artist's recent solo exhibitions include: “Redtory”, Guangzhou, China, 2016; “Yuzhi”, HDM Gallery, Hangzhou, 2015; “Armenia”, Tang Contemporary Art Center, Beijing, China, 2015; “Wind Light as a Thief”, Galerie Daniel Templon, Brussels, Belgium, 2014.

## **BIOGRAPHY**

1971            Born in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China  
1996            Graduated from the Oil Painting Department of the Hubei Academy of Fine Arts, China  
Lives and works in Beijing.

## **SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITION**

2016                            *Redtory*, Guangzhou, China  
  
2015                            *Yuzhi*, HDM Gallery, Hangzhou, China  
                                      *Armenia*, Tang Contemporary Art Center, Beijing, China

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- 2014 *Wind Light as a Thief*, Galerie Daniel Templon, Brussels, Belgium  
*It's Forever Not*, Magician Space, Beijing, China  
*Though Guys Don't Dance*, Madein Company, Shanghai, China
- 2012 *Who is Alone Now Will Stay Alone Forever*, TOP Contemporary Art Center, Shanghai, China
- 2011 *He An Solo Show*, Galerie Daniel Templon, Paris, France  
*I am Curious Yellow I am Curious Blue*, Tang Contemporary Art Center, China  
*A Mole on Each Breast and Another on the Shoulder*, Magician Space, Beijing, China  
*The Wind Light as a Thief*, Arrox Factory, Beijing, China
- 2010 *I Believe Someone Will Take Me There, But That's for Tomorrow*, Magician Space, Beijing, China
- 2009 *What Makes Me Understand What I Know*, UCCA, Beijing, China  
*What Makes Me Understand What I Know*, Tang Contemporary Art, CIGE, Beijing, China  
*Just Because I'm Superficial Doesn't Have to Mean You Can't Love Me*, UCCA, CIGE, Beijing, China
- 2008 *Cheap Way of Loving Souls*, BizArt Art Center, Shanghai, China
- 2003 *HE AN*, Chinese Arts Center, Manchester, UK
- 2000 *HE AN Photography Exhibition*, Loft Gallery, Paris, France

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITION

- 2016 *Overpop*, Yuz Museum, Shanghai, China  
*The Suggestive Wheel: An Era of Metaphors*, Boxes Art Space, Shenzhen, China  
*Nan Kan—Inexplicit Ethics and De-ranking Perspective*, Surplus Space, Wuhan, China  
*Community of Celibates*, Shanghai Gallery of Art, Shanghai, China  
*New Image—2016 New Media Exhibition & screening*, Chengdu Hong Museum, Chengdu, China  
*Linguistic Pavilion*, Shanghai Minsheng Art Museum, Shanghai, China

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- 2015
- The Exhibition of Annual of Contemporary Art of China*, Minsheng Art Museum, Beijing, China  
*A Modern Adventure—The Renault Art Collection*, Today Art Museum, Beijing, Wuhan, China  
*Art 021, Public Program*, Shanghai Exhibition Center, China  
*Land, Devil and Night*, Ullens Centre for Contemporary Art × JNBY, Beijing, China  
*Inventing Ritual—A Contemporary Art Pattern*, Moscow Biennale, Biennale de l'Oural, Graz Museum, Pimao Art Festival, Art Sanya, Moscow, Oural, Graz, Hong Kong, Russia, Austria, China  
*Rims and Reasons*, Blackbridge Offspace, Beijing, China  
*Stereognosis Zone*, Redtory Museum of Contemporary Art (RMCA), Guangzhou, China  
*Concert of Form: Art Without Text*, Today Art Museum, Beijing, China
- 2014
- CAFAM Biennale— The Invisible Hand: Curating as Gesture*, CAFA Art Museum, Beijing, China  
*Post Pop East Meets West*, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK
- 2013
- Carnegie International*, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, USA  
*Once*, Tang Contemporary Art, Beijing, China  
*Archipelago, V-Art Centre 1 Space*, Shanghai, China  
*The Garden of Diversion*, Sifang Art Museum, Nanjing, China
- 2012
- Neon. Who's Afraid of Red, Yellow and Blue?*, Maison Rouge, Antoine de Galbert Foundation, Paris, France  
*Pulse Reaction—An Exchange Project on Art Practice*, Guangdong Times Museum, Guangzhou, China  
*EDIT: Image Fetish and Phobia*, ShanghART H-Space, Shanghai, China  
*The Theme Exhibition of the Fourth Guangzhou Triennial—The Unseen*, Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangzhou, China  
*COART Asian Youth Art Scene— 2012 Autumn*, Shuhe Ancient Town, Lijiang, China
- 2011
- Gallery Hotel Art Project*, Gallery Hotel, Beijing, China  
*Sweet Dreams (Are Made of This)*, Leo Xu Projects, Shanghai, China  
*SH Contemporary 2011*, Shanghai Exhibition Center, Shanghai, China  
*Top Events 3<sup>rd</sup> Session—Poster Exhibition*, TOP Contemporary Art Center, Shanghai, China  
*Remote Ten Years of White Rabbit—Contemporary Chinese Art Collection*, White Rabbit Museum, Sydney, Australia

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- 2010  
*Great Performance*, Pace Beijing, Beijing, China  
*Erotic*, Hadrien de Montferrand Gallery, Beijing, China  
*A Close-up Focus on Chinese Contemporary Art Trends*, Platform China, Beijing, China
- 2009  
*Bourgeoisified Proletariat: Contemporary Art in Songjiang*, Songjiang Creative Studio, Shanghai, China
- 2008  
*Homesickness—Memory and Virtual Reality*, T-Space, Beijing, China  
*Off-site Project*, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, UK  
*Rendez-Vous*, Mac-Lyon, Lyon, France
- 2007  
*Art in Motion*, Long March Project, Beijing, China  
*Individual Artists*, Long March Project, Beijing, China  
*The Real thing*, Tate Liverpool, Liverpool, UK  
*Nono*, Long March Project, Beijing, China
- 2006  
*It's All Right*, Hangzhou, China  
*City in Progress/Live form Zhangjiang*, Shanghai, China  
*Solo Exhibition*, 2577 Creative Garden, Shanghai, China  
*Art Game*, He Xiangning Art Museum, Shenzhen, China  
*Paining for Joy*, Beijing Tokyo Art Projects, Beijing, China
- 2005  
*Something is Happening*, Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China  
*The Other Shore of This Shore*, the 5<sup>th</sup> Pingyao International Photography Festival, Pingyao, China  
*After 1970s*, Beijing Today Art Museum, Beijing, China  
*True to Life*, Top Space Gallery, Beijing, China  
*Interval*, Creation Loft, HI-SHANGHAI, Shanghai, China
- 2004  
*The Exhibition of Young Artists*, Shanghai Duolun Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai, China  
*DIAL 62761232 (Express Delivery Exhibition)*, *Courier Exhibition*, BizArt Art Center, Shanghai, China  
*China, the Body Everywhere?*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Marseilles, France  
*Arts-in-Residence*, Chinese Arts Center, Manchester, UK
- 2003  
*Distance*, The Guangdong Museum of Arts, Guangzhou, China  
*Ctrl + Z*, Taikang Top Space Gallery, Beijing, China

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- 2002 *Contesting Meaning in Public Space: Labor Community and Public Art*,  
National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan  
*Paris-Beijing*, Paris, France  
*Chinese Contemporary Arts*, St. Paul, Brazil  
*Run, Jump, Crawl, Walk*, The East Modern Art Centre, Beijing, China
- 2001 *Weightlessness*, Volker Diehl Gallery, Berlin, Germany  
*In Contradiction*, Finnish Museum of Photography, Helsinki, Finland  
*Next Generation*, Loft Gallery, Paris, France  
*Chinese Photography*, Chambers Fine Art, New York, USA
- 2000 *The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Sculpture Exhibition*, He Xiangning Museum, Shenzhen,  
China  
*Fuck Off*, Eastlink Gallery, Shanghai, China  
*Lovely*, Modern Museum, Beijing, China  
*Documentary Exhibition of Chinese Avant-Garde Art in the 1990s*, Fukuoka  
Art Museum, Fukuoka, Japan