

BLOUIN ARTINFO, *Pictures: Leandro Erlich's Anti-gravity Installation Comes to Shanghai*, Nov 2013

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People pose on Leandro Erlich's "Shikumen House" installation.
(Courtesy Sam Gaskin)

Shanghai shoppers dangle precariously from window frames and do handstands on high ledges, their handbags floating mysteriously beside them, while enjoying **Leandro Erlich's** "Shikumen House" installation.

The Argentine artist has installed a huge, angled mirror above a replica facade of one of the city's distinctive, early 20th century stone gate houses. In photos, people merely lying on the ground appear to be scaling — or plummeting from — the building.

Lunchtime crowds queued for around 15 minutes to spend time on the wall, which will be installed in the **Jing'an Kerry Centre** plaza until November 22, and is open 10am-9pm. The work is presented as part of the 15th Shanghai International Arts Festival.

Erlich has created versions of the work using local architecture twice before. He produced the illusion using Victorian style architecture at London's Dalston House, and installed a Parisian facade at Le Centquatre.

Speaking to the *Global Times*, Erlich stressed the importance of tweaking the work for local audiences so that "something ordinary and familiar is transformed into something new, something that would be surprising."

In addition to "Shikumen House", Erlich is showing a work entitled "Changing Rooms" in the north block of the shopping center. It's a kind of mirror maze disguised as a block of changing rooms. The work is deliberately disorienting, just like shopping malls themselves.

Both works present countless opportunities to shoot selfies, not that Shanghai citizens are reticent about taking snapshots of themselves elsewhere.

[Click to see more images of Leandro Erlich's works in Shanghai.](#)

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