

JULIA STOSCHEK COLLECTION

NEW METALLURGISTS

7 October 2018 – 28 April 2019



SHEN Xin, WARM SPELL, 2018, 34'24", HD video, color, sound. Courtesy of the artist

For the first time, the JULIA STOSCHEK COLLECTION is focusing on a new generation of Chinese contemporary artists in a show entitled **NEW METALLURGISTS**.

The idea for this exhibition was developed in collaboration with Chinese artist CAO Fei and scientist and curator YANG Beichen.

The JULIA STOSCHEK COLLECTION has been accompanying the work of Beijing-based artist CAO Fei since the early 2000s. In addition to her expansive installation *Whose Utopia* (2006), the collection also holds three of her other time-based works. The presentation of these works in the artist's show at K21 in Düsseldorf (October 7, 2018 – January 15, 2019) coincides with **NEW METALLURGISTS**.

Starting with the French theorists Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari, who described the production and processing of metal, so-called "metallurgy," as a paradigmatic example of a nomadic art, the exhibition presents the artist as new metallurgist. According to curator YANG Beichen this is an obvious analogy, as metallurgists are not only guided by the specific properties of various materials

and their processing, and indeed in their works also hybridize and meld a wide variety of contemporary themes.

“The work of the new metallurgists overcomes all the divides between knowledge and activity; these are transdisciplinary artists, who in their works defy their own physical existence. What the exhibition attempts to show is the working itself.” (YANG Beichen)

The result is an exhibition featuring 16 works by eight contemporary artists from China who reflect on their pluralistic and global worldview while simultaneously demonstrating that the view of classic China shaped by exotic Orientalism has become obsolete. Many of the works mirror this new reality by visualizing the multi-dimensional nature of time. For example, in his work *Dream Delivery* (2018), which was filmed in a Shanzhai amusement park, artist ZHENG Yuan demonstrates the concept of temporality in a decelerated setting: In this artificial landscape, couriers who are normally in a permanent rush are transformed into statues. Through this deceleration the artist makes palpably clear his own view of society and visualizes the downsides of global capitalism.

In the piece *Competition of Spokesperson* (2017), ZHU Payne critically highlights China's increasing economic clout. In his work the artist takes up a central topic of his: the means of production and communication typical of capitalism. ZHU Payne has produced a promotional film about a fictional sports brand, whose name LIKE is modelled on NIKE, to take a critical yet humorous swipe at the global player. He has designed a logo and sports clothing and has African immigrants act as brand ambassadors for the fictional brand, parodying the way African-American athletes feature in commercial advertising.

The artist FANG Di comments in his work *Hit Me!* (2013) on the influence of African-American culture on American society by having his protagonist, a black dancer, walk along a street and repeatedly break into an improvised dance. It is typical for the artist to embed contemporary topics in a new context. The dance, African-American culture, American society and history – none of this belongs to the culture of the artist's native country.

The artworks featured in **NEW METALLURGISTS** point to a futuristic understanding of non-linear temporality and vitality. They reveal not only which marginal areas the artists operate in, but also how they strive to open them up.

With works by FANG Di, LIU Yujia, SHEN Xin, SONG Ta, WANG Tuo, YAO Qingmei, ZHENG Yuan, ZHU Payne.

The exhibition is accompanied by a brochure with essays by CAO Fei, YANG Beichen and Monika Kerkmann.

CAO Fei's (*1978 in Guangzhou, China; lives and works in Beijing, China) films and installations reflect on the rapid and chaotic changes that are occurring in Chinese society today.

Her works were showcased inter alia at Tate Modern in London, at Guggenheim Museum and MoMA PS1 in New York, as well as Fondation Louis Vuitton, Palais de Tokyo and Centre Pompidou in Paris. Currently, the Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen is presenting a comprehensive retrospective of the artist.

YANG Beichen (* 1983 lives and works in Beijing, China) is a contemporary art and film studies scientist. He got his M.A. in University Paris Nanterre and his Ph.D. in Beijing Film Academy. His current research interests focus on the contemporary Moving-Image theory, Media Archaeology and New Materialism. His doctoral dissertation „Film as Archive“ will be published soon.

THE CONCEPT OF THE JULIA STOSCHEK COLLECTION

The principle behind the private collection of contemporary art is the aspect of contemporaneity, connected to the aspiration of reflecting social and cultural trends of the respectively current generation. The constantly growing collection is consequently focused in its conception on the moving image from the 1960s onwards and spans a range of disciplines: video, single and multiple image projections of analogous and digital film material, multimedia environments as well as computer and internet based installations, not to mention ephemeral art forms such as performances. The collection currently comprises over 850 works by approximately 250 mostly European and American artists.

GENERAL INFORMATION

OPENING

2 October 2018, 7 p.m.

EXHIBITION DURATION

7 October 2018 – 28 April 2019

OPENING HOURS

Sonntags, 11–18 Uhr

SPECIAL GUIDED TOURS

Also outside opening hours.

Cost: EUR 20.00 per person for groups of 10–25 persons.

For enquiries and to register, please send an e-mail to visit@julia-stoschek-collection.net
Free of charge for groups of students from universities, colleges and art academies

FACEBOOK /juliastoschekcollection

TWITTER @juliastoschek

INSTAGRAM @juliastoschekcollection

#juliastoschekcollection #jsc #newmetallurgists

IMAGES

<https://app.box.com/s/ffk18s8ry0zzlyj8glu79wb58i6egow4>

<https://app.box.com/s/iev5mxq0vjkgf3q3gkvl8rj2kn8fze08>

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