

SHAO YINONG AND MU CHEN

Husband and wife **Shao Yinong & Mu Chen** work together in Beijing to create photographs that illuminate the facets and functions of memory - a poignant process in China where a conservative agricultural society has been propelled within a few decades into an economic superpower. Their series "Assembly Hall" consists of documentary photographs of spaces annexed during the Cultural Revolution for political meetings. The halls' various subsequent fates mirror the experiences of people who have lived through China's period of extreme political turmoil. Shao Yinong and Mu Chen's large scale color photographs have attracted critical attention not only for their ability to evoke and examine the tension between the political past and the political present, but also for the subtle beauty of their images. Their work has been widely exhibited, particularly in the important *Alors la Chine* exhibition at the Pompidou Center in Paris and in Arles.

Shao Yinong

1961 Born in Qinghai Province, China
1982 Graduated from Qinghai Normal University

Mu Chen

1970 Born in Liaoning Province, China
1995 Earned M.A. from People's University of China in Photojournalism

Both artists currently live and work in Beijing

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2006 10 Chancery Lane Gallery, Hong Kong
2005 The Assembly Halls, FotoGrafia-Festival Internazionale di Rome, Museum of Trastevere Rome, Italy
2004 Illusions of Memory: Recent Photographs by Shao Yinong & Mu Chen, Goedhuis Contemporary, New York, USA
2003 Shao Yinong & Mu Chen Works Exhibition, Rencontres d' Arles, France
2002 Family Register: Shao Yinong & Mu Chen Works Exhibition, Courtyard Gallery, Beijing, China
History of Time: Shao Yinong & Mu Chen Photography Exhibition, Pingyao, China
International Photography Exhibition, Shanxi, China
1996 Shao Zhenpeng Oil Painting Exhibition, TAO Gallery, Beijing, China

Selected Group Exhibitions

2007 Made in China, The Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebæk, Denmark
Zhù yì! Fotografia actual en China, ARTIUM Centro-Museum Vasco de Arte Contemporáneo, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain
Thermocline of Art: New Asian Waves, Museum für Neue Kunst & Mediuseum, Karlsruhe, Germany
2006 China Now – Kunst in Zeiten des Umbruchs, Sammlung Essl, Klosterneuburg, Austria
Another World, Photography from China, Lukas Feichtner Galerie, Vienna, Austria
2005 Mahjong, Kunstmuseum Bern, Bern, Switzerland
Contemporary Art from Greater China, Goedhuis Contemporary, New York; London, United Kingdom
Born in China, Goedhuis Contemporary, New York, USA
2004 Chinese Eyes: Contemporary Photography from China, Goedhuis Contemporary, New York, USA
2003 *Alors La Chine?*, Pompidou Center, France

- The Strange Heaven, Prague Rudolfinum, Czech Republic
Spread in Prato, Prato, Italy
2002 2002 Taipei Biennial, Taipei, Taiwan
Paris-Pekin, Espace Pierre Cardin, Paris, France
Money and Value/the Last Taboo, Biel, Switzerland
2001 Chinese Plan: Rotate 360, Paragold International Art Centre, Shanghai, China

Selected Collections

- Dr. Uli Sigg Collection, Switzerland
The Estella Collection, New York, USA
International Center of Photography, New York, USA
JGS Foundation, New York, USA
Fonds National D'Art Contemporain, Puteaux, France
The Olenska Foundation, Geneva, Switzerland
Long March Foundation, Beijing, China