Approaching Marc Lee's 10.000 Moving Cities | UNArt Art Center Exhibition

Helvetia  2019-08-15

Marc Lee, "10.000 Moving Cities"
In progress, the latest version was completed in 2017
Interactive network and remote interactive installation, image copyright © 2019 Marc Lee

From August 24th to October 20th, Swiss artist Marc Lee will present the new work "Non-Places" at the opening exhibition of "Unfavorable Kindness" at the UNArt Center. Marc Lee himself will also perform at the UNArt Art Center in early October. This new facility is located in the former site of Dongchang Cinema, the first home theater in Pudong New Area, Shanghai.

This exhibition will display 43 works / groups of 38 artists / groups at home and abroad, all created in the ten years from 2008 to 2018, covering easel painting, installation, photography, video, performance and other forms.

"Non-Places" | Non-Places
"Non-Place" explores urbanization and globalization in the digital age. In these synchronized videos, visitors walk through the visual world composed of information published on social platforms such as Flickr, Freesound, Twitter and Youtube. Viewers participated in the social actions of our time. This journey is also about the similarities and differences in the distribution of these social networks, local, cultural and even linguistic. In the virtual space, this information is presented on abstract, squares of different heights, forming a new skyline-a city that may exist anywhere in the world.

The work also explores how our city continues to evolve and is increasingly converging. We are witnessing the birth of more and more Marc Augé's "non-places", which may exist anywhere in the world, no longer have a regional character, but are full of highways, airports, hotel rooms and shopping malls.

Most of the videos used in "Non-Place" come from "10.000 Moving Cities" (Marc Lee has been creating). So far, this work has been available in AR, VR, and space installations.
Marc Lee, "10.000 Moving Cities", ZKM, Germany
The latest version was completed in 2017

Marc Lee, "10.000 Moving Cities", Seoul National Museum of Modern Art
The latest version was completed in 2017
Who is Marc Lee?

Artist website: marclee.io

Marc Lee (b. Born in 1969) is a Swiss artist. His work focuses on real-time computing and computer-programmed audio-visual installations, such as interactive installations, media art, internet art, performance art, video art, augmented reality (AR) art, virtual reality (VR) art and mobile art. He is experimenting with information and communication technologies and within his contemporary art practice, he reflects critically creative, cultural, social, economic and political aspects. His work has been exhibited in several museums and new media art exhibitions, including: ZKM (Karlsruhe Media Art Center, Germany), New Art Museum in New York, Berlin Transmediale Festival, Austrian Linz Electronic Arts Festival (Ars Electronica), etc. His artistic practice reflects all aspects of society, culture, politics, economy and creativity.
Marc Lee, "Realtime Stories"
Zurich Aktionshalle, 2018

Marc Lee, "Skin the Sculpture"
Space exhibition "From Chongqing to Chongqing", 2013

What did "The Kind Stranger" respond to?

To "be good stranger" is the title of the exhibition, designed to reflect and accelerate, driven by the new context of contemporary human society to some extent in response to the
technological revolution. The entire exhibition is based on a fictional scene: the protagonist of the story is a person who may be a future or a brand new species, living in a "new era". The exhibition creates an exploration scene, presenting its "private collection". Here, the anchors of time and space are indistinguishable from chaos; the **exhibition invites the audience to set and even reorganize the objects, texts, sounds and atmosphere in front of them, and even use themselves as part of the story to escape from 2019 and Shanghai The city is pulling away.**

Humanism has always had its role in the technological environment of continuous progress and iteration, and it can be parallel or intertwined with technology. We should not consider the so-called "humanism" and "technology" in isolation, but should regard them as two roles of coexistence and balance in a larger dynamic historical torrent. However, we currently seem to be in a special historical stage in which discussions about technological acceleration and singularities force both "humanism" and "technology" to constantly oscillate new boundaries and dynamic equilibrium. Therefore, in order not to get lost or get into a dilemma, we need to ask humanism: can it still climb along certain clues as in the past, or can a radical change be triggered?

Some futurists believe that human society has approached the "final stage" of its existence. And whether this is a prophecy or a warning, we all need to rethink a question: from a personal and collective level, how should we meet the upcoming "new era", the final chapter of humanity-the end of the world, superhuman, or What does Latour mean by "the age of Gaia"? Is "New Era" really "new"?

This exhibition does not attempt to provide any definitive answers. But as a cultural activity, it can still reflect the situation we are in: an era of major change, which contains certain things that each of us must experience. The exhibition touched on the discussion of "new cognitive abilities" as a positive response to this changing era.
The Kind Stranger | The Kind Stranger
UNArt's first exhibition

Opening:
August 23, 2019

Duration:
August 24 to October 20, 2019

(Free to the public)

Location:
UNArt Art Center
(No. 150, Nanquan North Road, Pudong New District, Shanghai)
Swiss Culture Foundation Shanghai Office

Planning team:
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Exhibitors: