



Corner 3 Sample Gallery

Rhinoceros

There are Sumatran (Asian two horned) Rhinoceros, Indian Rhinoceros and Java Rhinoceroses in Asia. Since the horns of rhinos were treasured as antipyretic and stamina drink in Chinese medicine, they were poached and every species is now facing extinction. Only around 300 Sumatran Rhinos that is depicted in this painting survive in Borneo Island, Malay Peninsula and Sumatra Island. The artist reproduced a horn of rhino using the empty bottles of the energy drink. The work is a crystallisation of the sorrow of animal that is brought to extinction by selfish behaviours by human.

Tang Dawu (Singapore)
Horn Chase 1991
Tiger Whip 1989
Both pencil on paper
Reconstructed Horn from Rhino Drink 1989
Plaster, plastic medicine bottle

Frog

Frog, living between water and land, is regarded as a familiar creature in rice paddies especially because it is believed to call for rain and eats harmful insects.

These frogs are the part of the 2048 frogs made of rice, which the artist made with his consciousness about rapid rise of population and issues of famine and food shortage all around the world. The rice frog got insects and mould for its material nature, died and is buried in the transparent gravestone. Yet it keeps sending a message to human who may extinct as a result of the population increase.

Fuji Hiroshi (Japan)
Rice Frogs Turn into Grave Stone 1994
Rice, acrylic resin, cloth and push car



Corner 4 Annex

Dog

Dog has long worked as a good partner of human helping hunting and stock farming. Various kinds of dogs have been bred throughout the time. Some are luxurious pedigree dogs while others are mongrels that are positioned low.

These are two dogs wearing the outfit of Dalmatian and Collie. In the video, they appear in front of the mongrel dogs, but because of their appearance, other dogs bark at them. The work comically satires people who wear expensive brand goods and the ostentation of human who would even make their pets as a brand.

Penh Hunchih (Taiwan)
One Lassie
One Dalmatian
Both 2000, Chibachrome print, light box
Dress Up at Home 5
2001 VCD

Tiger

Tiger is the animal living mainly in Asia. Its academic name is Panthera Tigris. The Latin words originate in Tigris and Euphrates River where the civilization started. Tigris in ancient Persian means 'arrow' and 'rapid stream', which may turn to 'tiger' that moves fast and is fearful.

The tiger in this work is very small like a cat and in the posture of threatened as if it is scared. It may reflect Asian people who are obsequious towards Europe, even though they are from the place where the civilization started.

Rasheed Araeen (Pakistan)
Tigris 1992
Porcelain, acryl, wood, glass and shoes

?

Tserennadmidin Tsegmed (Mongol)
Extraordinary Thing 1993
Oil on canvas



福岡アジア美術館
Fukuoka Asian Art Museum

Animal FAAM

17 June - 14 September 2004

At Asia Gallery B



Foreword

Various kinds of creatures exist on the Earth. Even only within Asian region, a variety of species exist under different climates and environments. The Fukuoka Asian Art Museum presents the Animal FAAM as a part of its summer programme, exhibiting artworks with animal motifs.

The relation between human and animal differs depending on the instinct and habits of animals and the lifestyles of people in a particular district. In the Animal FAAM, one cannot see living animals, however, we hope the exhibition will be a chance for you to think about how people relate animals to ourselves, and various other issues in human society by observing animals depicted from different viewpoints.



Corner 1 FAAM Ranch

Cow

In India, needless to mention about the population, the number of the livestock is so huge that 12 % of the world's livestock is said to be kept in India. Cow is a representative livestock among others. Indian cow, called Zebu, is characterised with a hump on the back. Zebu also has a dewlap in front of the chest. It lives in the tropics and subtropics in Asia and Africa. It is resistant to hot, humid and dry weather as well as to parasites.

As Krishna, avatar (manifestation) of Vishnu, is represented as a cow keeper, cow is a sacred animal in Hinduism. Hindus, therefore, do not eat beef at all.

Sudarshan Shetty (India)
Home 1998
Paint on fibre glass, wood, stainless steel

Bowa Devi (India)
Krishna and Cow 1996-7
Ink and pigment on paraconcrete wall

Pig

Pig has been utilised as livestock in human life since ancient times. Initially, it was Boer that was raised as livestock. With breed improvements, current pig came to exist. In other words, pig is a man-made species. However, the images imprinted on pig are mostly negative such as ignorant, greedy, and filthy.

According to the artist, this work is a satire to rotten Nepalese politicians and other people, representing them in the shape of pig. Even if it is so fat because of bribes it receives, it smiles pretending to be innocent, which adversely exposes shame and immorality. Apple is thought to be a symbol of desire.



Ragini Upadhyay Grela (Nepal)
Apple on the Mouth of Pig 1999
Oil on canvas