



Photographs Play

Mon 2 January - Tue 21 March, 2017
 Asia Gallery

Experience another world, disguised as someone else.

That's the premise of this exhibition, in which visual artists take on another guise and appear their own photography, contrived photographs depicting unreal worlds, and more. Around 30 works from Asia are featured.

Self-portrait style artwork, in which the artists themselves appears is known for a series of works by Cindy Sherman (1954-), an American artist active since the late 1970s, or by Morimura Yasumasa (1951-), a Japanese artist who embed himself into iconic images of famous paintings or celebrities. The artists introduced in this exhibition, on the other hand, seek to articulate a difficult reality of the state or the society in which she or he lives in by acting a particular role rather than by transforming her-/himself to draw a portrait of someone else.

A Sri Lankan artist, Pradeep Thalawatta, for instance, stands on the street that is destroyed by a long civil war arising out of religious conflicts. The artist wears clothes which symbolize Hindu, which he as a Buddhist has never worn, and looks straight as if he is seeking to foresee the direction of the post-war society. A female Myanmar artist, Nge Lay plays a male role in her anniversary photographs with a family without a father. A Korean artist, Nikki S. Lee plays various roles by changing her appearance like a chameleon. She acts for assimilating herself into different communities and classes that exist in the United States.

What will you discover in the schism between the realities and fictions shown by these artists' photographs?



▲ Nge Lay(Myanmar)
 "The Relevancy of Restricted Things-2"
 inkjet print, 2010 (2012)

List of works

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|---|---|---|
| <p>▲ Pradeep Thalawatta (Sri Lanka)
 "Roadscape"
 digital type-C print on gloss paper,
 mounted on aluminum composite board,
 2012 (2014)</p> <p>▲ Chi Peng (China)
 "Apollo in Transit"
 digital type-C print, 2004</p> <p>▲ Tseng Kwong Chi (China)
 "Expeditionary Self-Portrait Series"
 Cape Canaveral, Florida 1985
 New York, New York 1979
 New York, New York 1979
 San Francisco, California 1979
 Kamakura, Japan 1988
 gelatin silver print</p> | <p>▲ Nge Lay (Myanmar)
 "The Relevancy of Restricted Things-2, 4, 6"
 inkjet print, 2010 (2012)</p> <p>▲ Nge Lay (Myanmar)
 "Observing Self on Being Dead-10"
 inkjet print, 2010 (2012)</p> <p>▲ Hanh Thi Pham (Vietnam)
 "What It Is to Be #1, #3, #4"
 type-R print, 1985</p> <p>▲ Chen Ching-Yao (Taiwan)
 "I ♥ NY Series"
 Le Boeuf a la Mode, Upper East Side
 Star on 18, Chelsea
 Dim Sum Go Go, China Town
 Papatzul, Soho
 digital type-C print, 2009</p> | <p>▲ Chen Ching-Yao (Taiwan)
 "Hakata Ramen Shop /
 What are you looking? / Look at What?"
 "Cafe / Kohakukan"
 digital type-C print, 2012</p> <p>▲ Nikki S. Lee (South Korea)
 "The Hip Hop Project (19)" 2001
 "The Punk Project (7)" 1997
 "The Exotic Dancers Project (4)" 2000
 "The Young Japanese Project (6)" 1997
 "The Skateboarders Project (22)" 2000
 type-C print</p> <p>▲ Tiffany Chung (Vietnam)
 "Playing Ball in Blue and Orange"
 "Shortcuts to Bliss"
 "Pulling a crate full of limes in golf course"
 digital type-C prints mounted on
 MDF panels, 2004</p> |
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