The Chinese Festival landscape

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Performing Art
About Shanghai Biennale

First launched in 1996, the Shanghai Biennale is not only China's most established and influential international biennale of contemporary art, but also one of the most important biennales in Asia.

With its changing theme every two years, the biennale has always taken Shanghai as its primary focus, gathering the most talented and cutting-edge international curators and artists at the pinnacle of the industry, to explore the ultimate connection between urban life, contemporary art and the public. It has also become a large-scale biennale platform in Shanghai for the exchange and exhibition of contemporary art pieces.

Themes of Previous Shanghai Biennales

1996 - "Open Space"
1998 - "Inheritance and Exploration"
2000 - "Spirit of Shanghai"
2002 - "Urban Creation"
2004 - "Techniques of the Visible"
2006 - "Hyper Design"
2008 - "Translocalmotion"
2010 - "Rehearsal"
2012 - "Reactivation"
2014 - "Social Factory"
“Why Not Ask Again? - Maneuvers, Disputations & Stories”

“Why not ask again? Why not begin at the beginning, or the end, or the middle of a question, or a desire (because the task of ‘asking’ can stand both for the posing of a question as well as for the awakening of a desire)?”

This phrase, inspired by Raqs Media Collective’s reading of the Indian New Cinema movement pioneer Ritwik Ghatak’s film Jukti, Takko aar Gappo (Arguments, Counter-Arguments & Stories) [1974] anchors the curatorial design of the forthcoming Shanghai Biennale.

[*Towards the end of Ghatak’s film, the protagonist, an alcoholic intellectual, falls in with a band of fugitive peasant and student rebels. To their proposals and counter-proposals, their arguments and counter-arguments, the protagonist offers his stories, his reminders, and his incandescent confusions.]*

The artist who Raqs imagine as a protagonist for the forthcoming Shanghai Biennale is like a figure in a fable who transforms the telling of the story he is in by presenting riddles and engines, by asking necessary, difficult and engaging questions.

The triad - Maneuvers, Disputations and Stories - is like the three-body problem* in physics.
Raqs Media Collective was founded in 1992 by Jeebesh Bagchi (New Delhi, 1965), Monica Narula (New Delhi, 1969) and Shuddhabrata Sengupta (New Delhi, 1968). Raqs is a word in Persian, Arabic and Urdu and means the state that "whirling dervishes" enter into when they whirl. Raqs follows itself declared imperative of 'kinetic contemplation', and enjoys playing a plurality of roles, often appearing as artists, occasionally as curators, sometimes as philosophical agent provocateurs. They make contemporary art, have made films, curated exhibitions, edited books, staged events, collaborated with architects, computer programmers, writers and theatre directors, and have founded processes that have left deep impacts on contemporary culture in the world with their originality and scope.

As artists, Raqs has presented works at most of the major international shows, including Documenta (2002), the Venice Biennale (2003, 2005 & 2015), and the Shanghai Biennale (2010). The members of Raqs were co-curators of Manifesta 7 - the European Biennial of Contemporary Art (2008) in Bolzano and INSERT2014 in Delhi.
世纪对话
岭南画派与广东国画研究会的学术论争
展期：2015.9.18-10.25
地点：广东美术馆5、6、7号展厅

第二届广州三年展
The Show
05.11.18-06.11.18

别样：一个特别的项目 当代开放空间 BEYOND: an extraordinar

Home  >  Exhibition
Asia Time
THE 1ST ASIA BIENNIAL AND
THE 5TH GUANGZHOU TRIENNIAL
首届亚洲双年展暨第五届广州三年展
2015.12.11 - 2016.4.10
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MUSIC
SHENZHEN NEW YEAR'S MIDI FESTIVAL 2015/16
2015/16深圳跨年迷笛音乐节
NO DRUGS WE ROCK

2016全年主题：远离毒品 靠近音乐
2015年12月31日 至 2016年1月1日
深圳龙岗大运中心（龙岗区龙翔大道3001号）
MIDI Festival

The Midi Music Festival, sometimes also called Midi Modern Music Festival or simply Midi Festival (Chinese: 迷笛音乐节; pinyin: Mídí Yīnyuè Jié) is among China's largest rock music festivals and is hosted by the Beijing Midi School of Music. Since its inauguration in 1997 it has been held each year in Beijing during the May holiday (May 1–3), with some breaks in 2003, 2004 and 2008 (all times held in October). The 2008 festival was delayed to October for reasons related to the 2008 Summer Olympics. The festival currently is held annually in three Chinese cities: Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen.

The 2006 festival, held in Beijing's Haidian Park, hosted 40-80 thousand visitors, and featured performances by more than 50 bands (including 18 foreign bands, such as Alev, Monokino, Yokohama Music Association, The Wombats, and The Mayflies) performing on four stages (Main Stage, Guitarchina Stage, Mini Midi Stage, and Disco Stage). The artists represented the genres of rock, electro, and DJ. The 2007 festival included UK acts the Crimea, Kava Kava (band), Dave Stewart of the Eurythmics, and Soundtrack Of Our Lives.

The festival regularly features environmental themes as their slogan, such as raising awareness for animals threatened with extinction and PM2.5 for their 2012 festivals.
The Modern Sky Festival is an outdoor rock music festival in Beijing, China, organized by the Modern Sky record label. The first festival was held October 2–4, 2007 at Haidian Park. It featured four stages of music and over 120 bands, including the headliners, the American band Yeah Yeah Yeahs. Chinese bands included New Pants, Rebuilding The Rights Of Statues, P.K. 14, Queen Sea Big Shark, Joyside, Carsick Cars, and Snapline.

In the 2009 festival, all foreign bands were dropped from performing due to "unforeseen circumstances". Only local Chinese bands performed. As of 2014, the parent company Modern Sky Entertainment put on more than 20 festivals a year throughout China. In August 2014, Modern Sky announced its first festival in the United States, to be held in Central Park's Rumsey Playfield October 4–5.
China Shanghai International Arts Festival (CSIAF), which is hosted by the Ministry of Culture of the People's Republic of China and organized by Shanghai Municipal People's Government, is the only state-level International Arts Festival in China. Since 1999, CSIAF, driven by the concept of “innovation and development” with the emphasis on brand-effect development, has grown into a flagship project for cultural exchange of the country as well as one of the most influential festivals in the international art circles.
The 17th China Shanghai International Arts Festival is held from October 16 to November 16, 2015. The Arts Festival this year follow the tenet of “A Festival of Arts, A Gala For All” and highlight the features as being international, classic, artistic, innovative and appreciative. The Festival consists of several sections, including stage performances, exhibitions and expositions, the Art Space Series, program transactions, forums and seminars, art education, Themed Festival, and the Young Talents Program called “R.A.W!” (Rising Artists’ Work). With a galaxy of artistic classics as well as a dazzling display of original works and creative cultures, the arts festival consistently present the most fabulous and splendid art feast to the audience from home and abroad. Meanwhile, by improving and enhancing public cultural service, upgrading “Art Space” Series, launching art education projects, and maintaining such public benefiting projects as “low price ticket policy” and “experiencing the Art Festival”, CSIAF continues to lower the threshold of ordinary people’s participation of the festival and provides a wider platform for the interaction and communication between the artists worldwide and the public.
NCPA MAY FESTIVAL
National Centre for the Performing Arts
2016.05.01-05.21
FAQ: MEET IN BEIJING ARTS FESTIVAL

What is the Meet in Beijing Arts Festival?
An international arts festival held yearly in Beijing. The festival aims at promoting cultural exchanges by presenting Chinese culture while introducing international arts.

When does the Festival take place?
From late April to the end of May annually.
DESIGN
About BJDW
Beijing Design Week (BJDW) is an annual citywide event co-hosted by National Ministries and the Municipal Government of Beijing during the National Day holiday every year in Beijing. Attracting over 2,000 designers, institution representatives and industry experts, over 5 million visitors, and more than 100 accredited news media in attendance every year, BJDW has become a A-class international design event, the largest and most influential platform in Asia for display, promotion, exchange and trading of creative designs.

The 2015 BJDW has taken place from September 23rd to October 7th in Beijing, centered on construction of three modeling platform service systems - Design Service, Design Exhibition and Design Trade. Guided by design market, and featuring seven key sections – Design Service, Classic Design Award, Smart City, Design Night, Design Trade, Guest City and Design Hop, BJDW is here to display and introduce the innovated and integrated products of the cultural creativity, design service and concerned industry. It will foster exchange and trading of main elements in the design market. The first Beijing Design Trade Fair is added to the lineup at Beijing Tianzhu Free Trade Zone - Culture Free Trade Park, a new portal to bridge China with international design resources, products, services and copyrights, providing international design organizations and brands with more convenient trading channels and professional trade port services.
FILM
19th SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
2016.6.11-19
www.siff.com
Founded in 1993, Shanghai International Film Festival (SIFF) is the only competitive film festival in China approved by International Federation of Film Producers Associations.

Relying on the rapid development of the Chinese film industry and the trend of globalization in the film industry, SIFF focuses on awards, markets, forums and film exhibitions so as to build an international platform, and promote the development of the Chinese film industry, and the exchange and cooperation between Chinese and foreign film industries.

In recent years, with the increasing growth of China’s economic strength and the rise of its international status, Chinese films have attracted more and more attention from people around the world, and SIFF, held in June annually, has become a great event for filmmakers worldwide, whose universal industry appeal, international influence, and effect on the world’s multicultural film culture and development of the film industry have also been praised by people inside and outside the industry. In 2014, 447 mainstream media around the world and 1,385 journalists reported on SIFF. People’s Daily, Xinhua News Agency, CCTV, Shanghai Media Group, Sina, Tencent, Sohu, Netease and other mainstream media paid much attention to it. “The Wall Street Journal,” “The New York Times,” “The Los Angeles Times,” “The Mirror,” “The Daily Mail,” Reuters, Associated Press, EFE and other international mainstream media as well as “The Hollywood Reporter,” “Variety,” “Screen International,” “Film Business Asia” and other famous professional film magazines gave a lot of reports on SIFF so that SIFF won much public praise.
第六届北京国际电影节圆满闭幕 凝聚全球影人 展现蓬勃魅力
6th BJIFF successfully concludes Attracting global filmmakers shining vigorous charm
Beijing International Film Festival is an international cultural exchange activity held by State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television of the People's Republic of China and People's Government of Beijing Municipality. It has witnessed five successful International Film Festivals since its foundation in 2011. With the objective of “Share the Screen, Shape the Future”, the festival promotes the concept of “Beauty in Variety, Harmony in Diversity”. It strictly follows the pattern of international famous film festivals in the organizational operation and has gone through the developing stages of high starting point, great-leap-forward improvement and compliance with international standards. The international level, professional standard, brand impact and public participation have been growing for years on end. It has explored and solidified the positioning and style of “3M”, namely “Master, Mass and Market”.

In the past five years, the film festival has attracted thousands of global film elites and industrial representatives to come to Beijing. 2,298 films from all over the world have entered the competition for the “Tiantan Award”. 45 excellent films from 26 countries have been nominated. 1,370 films of over 90 countries and regions have attended the Beijing film panorama. 17 movie-themed forums focused on the hot topics of numerous domestic and international honored guests. The Film Market has attracted over 2,600 film institutions and over 20,000 attendees to participate in the festival. The total amount of contract amounted to RMB 41.164 billion yuan. China has become the largest Asian Film Market with the highest growth rate in the world. Nearly more than 4 million person-times have attended the Film Carnival. Beijing International Film Festival has quickly developed into high-end and professional international film gala and plays a more and more important role in the process of building up national culture center.