



18<sup>th</sup> February, 2013

## ***Ye Funa: Where are we from? Where are we going?***

### **Exhibition of Videos, Installation & Photographic Works**

Artist	:	Ye Funa
Opening Cocktail	:	6 – 8 pm, Tuesday, 5 March, 2013 The artist will be present.
Venue	:	Contemporary by Angela Li * <a href="#">NEW GALLERY ADDRESS</a> G/F, 248 Hollywood Road, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong
Exhibition Date	:	6 <sup>th</sup> March – 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2013
Website	:	<a href="http://www.cbal.com.hk">www.cbal.com.hk</a>

***“Ye Funa: Where are we from? Where are we going?”*** is the first exhibition to be unveiled at the new gallery space of Contemporary by Angela Li, after its recent move. On show will be more than 20 works by this young contemporary Chinese artist, including videos, installations and photographic works.

In her works, Ye Funa turns herself into a “historical curious youth” (in the words of famous Chinese contemporary artist Qiu Zhiji). She invites her friends and relatives, as well as the security guards and cleaning ladies that she knows, to dress up and act as the characters in the propaganda-like front covers of the historical ethnic magazine *The Nationalities Pictorial*. Through the deliberate and unnatural stiffness of the actors and the strange atmospheres, the artist investigates the cliché images that together form the collective memories in Chinese history. Ye Funa also interviews and acts as her own parents and grandparents and turns the old black-and-white family photographs into videos. Through the study of her own family history and these magazine covers, we see a post-80’s artist looking at her own “roots”, on both personal and social levels.

As a second generation artist<sup>1</sup>, Ye Funa’s creativity is surprisingly independent. She does not seem to carry the baggage of having the need to surpass the success of her older generation. Having graduated from the prestigious Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing and then obtaining an MFA from London’s Central St Martin’s College of Art, she is currently a full-time artist and also teaching in the Sichuan Fine Arts Institute in Chongqing. This background and her upbringing ~~have~~ has given Ye Funa the best training and unlimited creative freedom. As a post-80’s youth living in a contemporary Chinese society, she investigates through her works the slowly disappearing values of the family, society and her country, under the constant bombardment of the media, advertisements and the growing trend of globalisation.

Remarks<sup>1</sup>: The Chinese term of second generation artist ( “藝二代” ) comes from the term “Fuerdai” - second generation of the rich ( “富二代” ). Ye Funa’s father is the famous contemporary Chinese artist Ye Yongqing.

**Selected Works in the Exhibition**



Ye Funa, **Nationality Pictorial Series – Minority Scenery**, Video Installation



Ye Funa, **Family Album Series – My Maternal Grandparents and Me**, Video, 3'20"



Ye Funa, **Nationality Pictorial Series – Front Cover – Folk Dancing**, Video with Sound, 5'  
 Original Cover Description – January 1957 Happy New Year  
 Actors – Art School Students, University Students, Doctor



Ye Funa, **Nationality Pictorial Series – Front Cover – National Leaders**, Video with Sound, 2'  
 Original Cover Description – In August 1956, The Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso Panchen Lama Erdeni Quigyi Gyaincain and Mao Zedong with 56 minorities people in Beijing.  
 Actors – Security Guards



Ye Funa, **Family Album Series – My Mom's Family and Me**, Photograph

All images: Courtesy of the artist & Contemporary by Angela Li.

## About *Contemporary by Angela Li* art gallery

Founded in 2008, **Contemporary by Angela Li** has been dedicated to the promotion of contemporary and avant-garde artists from China and around the world. The gallery has held successful exhibitions for Chen Jiagang, Chen Wenling, Tony Oursler, Shi Jindian, Peter Steinhauer and Nancy Chu Woo, to name but a few. In January 2013, the gallery moved to a bigger space at the trendiest part of Hollywood Road, with 3,000 sq. ft. of newly renovated exhibition space. The gallery shall continue to hold quality exhibitions for local and international audiences.



### **Contemporary by Angela Li**

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Opening Hours : Mon – Sat 10.00 am – 6.30 pm  
Sun & Public Holidays 12.00 – 5.00 pm