

THE EROS OF FLOWERS
Solo Exhibition of Xiao Hui Wang



Elisabeth de Brabant Art Center, Shanghai
Lower Gallery

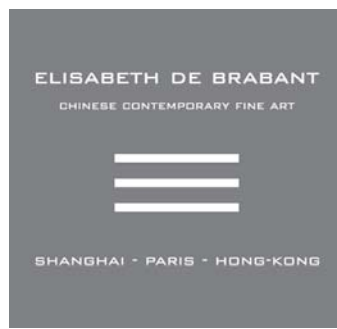
December 17, 2009 – January 17, 2010

Xiao Hui Wang's 'Erotic Flowers' series has paved a new route in the genre [of Chinese contemporary photography]. Her "flowers" do not hinge on the nature of beauty, and they do not exist for the purpose of being appreciated as plantlife either. They possess the nature of human beings within the particular composition and context she creates: the splendor of life, the feeling of loss, and primal desire. Xiao Hui conveys her idea which can't be eloquent through the image of flowers.

-Art Critic / Curator Michael Zhang 纽约 (New York)

Xiao Hui Wang is a photo artist who works in various mediums, including sculpture, video, and photography. As an author, she is known for her acclaimed autobiography 'My Visual Diary'. Her works have been exhibited in museums and galleries worldwide and are collected by private and public institutions alike.

Xiao Hui Wang's photographic works are at once intimate, sensorial, and complex. The artist, who herself endured a radical life-changing accident, brings to her works the essence of the soul, life and death, and the definition of the feminine. She uses her own life-changing experiences to feed a continuing process of paradox, of social perception, inner and outer beauty. Her life and work are a journey which have merited her to be considered by many the Frida Kahlo of China.



The artist's central focus concerns the female being and the feminine essential. The viewer becomes witness to so much more than what is perceived at first glance. In this exhibition, Xiao Hui Wang's sensibility is demonstrated through a discourse on eroticism and its perception. Her dialogue asks us to consider what we assume and what is not obvious.

Perception is paramount in the dialogue created by Xiao Hui Wang in the "Erotic Flowers" series. These images at first alarm and provoke. They are not what they seem. Distortion plays in the eye of the viewer. These are flowers, not human bodies.

The discussion again returns to intimacy and erotic sensual detail. Her enigmatic works beg a series of questions.

Is this a taboo?

What is perception at first glance?

What is shock?

Why is the eye drawn to associate the images with the human form?

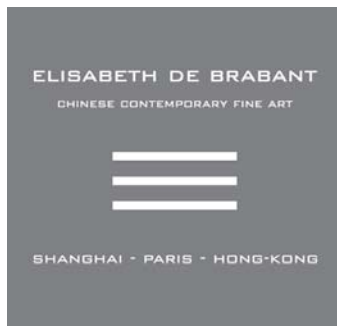
Taboos in Chinese history are pervasive and complicated. Chinese society today is redefining its social roles, its moral and cultural rules, and is not completely at ease with how to deal with its own evolving limits. The acceptance of the newer modern roles in society, for men and women, of boundaries that have been clearly defined for many generations, is an interesting subject to witness and explore. Xiao Hui Wang plays with these rules, these limits, outlines and boundaries to recreate a dialogue, a type of testimony to society and the evolution of its inner-most definitions.

Xiao Hui Wang's work provokes the perception of the viewer, creating a challenge, an invitation to observe and to reflect upon the role and impact of limits and conventions within a society.

The beauty perceived in Xiao Hui's 'flowers' is real and naked, distorted but revealing an inner soul, a world beyond our own perceptions of a flower. Intimacy is again enhanced, laid open, sensitized and desensitized. It is pure innocent beauty.

XIAO HUI WANG BIO

To date, Xiao Hui Wang has published over 40 books, mostly photo catalogues, with famous publishing houses such as Prestel, Fischer, and Edition Braus. Her autobiographical book "My Visual Diary" has been published over 20 times and has won important Chinese Book Prizes such as the "Shanghai Excellent Book Award", "National Literature of Female Authors Award" and "Bingxin Award" (National Literature Award).



She has been a professor at Tongji University in Shanghai since 2002. She founded the institute "Xiao Hui Wang Art Workshop" in 2003 Tongji University and the Tongji International Media Art Center (TIMAC) in 2006. Concurrently, she is the art director of "German City" in Shanghai. She is currently responsible, with her team, for the design and conceptualization of the Chinese Theme Pavilion for the 2010 Shanghai World Expo.

Xiao Hui Wang is also active in cultural exchange between Germany and China. Her work as a "Cultural Ambassador" led her to receiving the "German-Sino Friendship Award" from the German Government. She was named as one of the top 50 "Chinese who Impact the Future of the World" by the famous Hong Kong magazine "Phoenix Life". In 2008 she has the "Photographer of the Year Award" in China and the "International Star Artist Award" at the Art Masters in St. Moritz.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Date: December 17-19, 2009

Time: 2:00 - 6:00 pm

RSVP

Miss Karen Hsu

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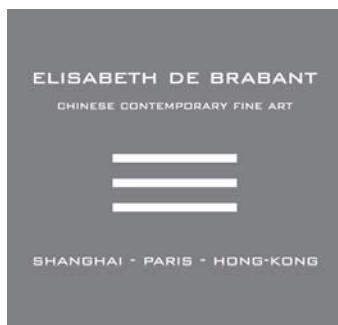
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Art Center Hours

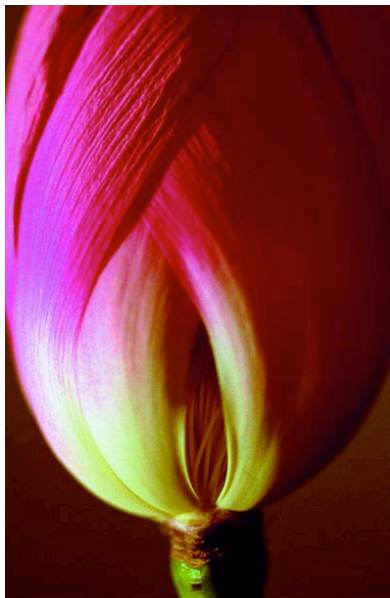
Tues-Fri, 10a – 6:30p; Sat & Sun, 1:30 – 6:30p

Closed on Mondays

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THE EROS OF FLOWERS 花之灵/性
王小慧摄影艺术展



Elisabeth de Brabant Art Center, Shanghai
Lower Gallery

12月17日，2009年—1月17日，2010年

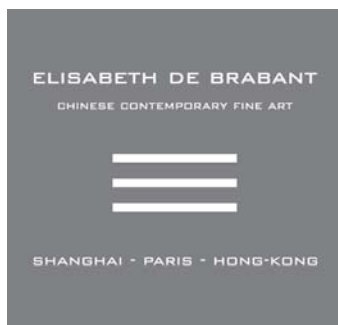
王小慧的花卉影像系列为花卉一类作品的创作划出了一个全新的途径。她的“花”不是回归“美”的自然属性，它不是作为一种自然观赏物而存在，在王小慧独特的结构样式中，它蕴含了全部人的属性：人的生命的斑斓，落寞与原始的冲动。她把某种不能言传的状态透过“花”传达给我们。

-Art Critic / Curator Michael Zhang 纽约 (New York)

王小慧是一位摄影艺术家并运用多种形式，包括雕塑，影像，与摄影。作为一位作家，自传《我的视觉日记》广受美誉。她的作品展出于世界各地的博物馆以及画廊，并被私人及公众相关机构收藏。

王小慧的摄影作品给人的感觉私密、感性、并复杂。艺术家在亲身经历过一场改变她一生的事故以后，将生活的本质、死亡和对于女性的定义。她用自身的生活精力去支持一个持续的过程：悖论，社会感知，内部与外部美。她的生活和工作旅程使她理所应当的被誉为中国的弗里达·卡罗。

艺术家的作品主要着重在女性及女性本质。这使得观者得到的感触多过于最初的一瞥，同时成了一位目击者。在这个展览中，透过展现情色主义和它的概念，王小慧感性的一面一览无遗。她的对白使我们思考原本被认为既定的事实和其隐晦之处。



在王小慧创作的“花之性”系列作品中，观察力再次扮演了至关重要的角色。这些画面让人感到震惊，而且也略带挑衅意味。它们或许不是表面上看到的那个样子。颠覆性干扰了观众的视觉，这些究竟是花朵还是人体？

她蕴含神秘气质的作品同时也提出了质疑——

这是禁忌吗？

何谓直觉？何谓震撼？为何视线会被无形地吸引而将这些图像与人体发生自然而然的联想？

社会禁忌是渗透中国历史的复杂事物。当今的中国社会仍然在检讨与重新界定这些社会角色，其道德规范与文化规则，而且对这系列的议题仍没有找出最终的解决方案。根深蒂固的性别角色正在接受挑战，而社会对这些新价值的逐渐接纳也是一个非常值得关注和耐人寻味的过程。王小慧在作品中游弋于这些规范、限制以及界限之间，从而创造了一种崭新的对话，让我们从不同的角度见证社会内在价值的转变。

王小慧的作品在不停的挑战观众的艺术知觉，引导观众一起观察和反思社会习俗与常规所扮演的角色及其影响力。

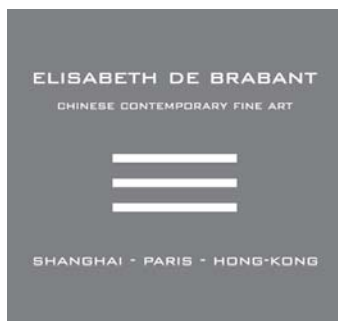
那美是如此的真实、直率，被扭曲却诠释出内在的灵魂，一个超越我们自身感知的花朵世界，私密性再一次被放大，如此的坦率，自觉或不自觉间成就一种纯粹的美。

王小慧简介

如今，王小慧出版了近40部书籍，其中大部分为照片集，由诸如Prestel, Fischer和 Edition Braus这样著名的发行社。她的自传《我的视觉日记》曾被出版近20次并赢得了如中国书籍的奖金诸如“上海市优秀图书”奖，“国际女性作家文献奖”“冰心奖”（国际性文献奖）。

王小慧于2003年在同济大学创立“王小慧艺术中心”，2006年创立“同济新媒体艺术国际中心”。2006年成立了同济国际媒体艺术中心（TIMAC）。同时，是上海“German City”总监。近团队致力于一个关于2010上海世博会中国题材的场馆。

王小慧也同样积极参与中国与德国文化交流。她的作品就像“文化大使”般，并被德国政府授予“德中友谊奖”。2006年被香港《凤凰生活》杂志评为“影响世界未来华人榜”的50位人物之一。2007年在中国获SMG“年度国际摄影家奖”和“年度艺术家奖”。2008年获“十大设计惊艳人物”、《艺术家》“年度最具生活品味女性奖”和瑞士圣·莫瑞兹大师艺术节之“明星艺术家奖”。



CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE 开幕

日期：12月17-19日，2009年

时间：下午2:00-6:00

联系人

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艺术中心开馆时间

星期二-五, 10a - 6:30p; 周末, 1:30 - 6:30p

星期一休馆

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