

# Cheng Ran

1981 born in Inner Mongolia, China  
lives and works in Hangzhou, China

Cheng Ran is considered the most represented figure of contemporary Chinese video art. He is part of the second generation of young Chinese artists who grew up in an era of pirated DVDs, the Internet, the deluge of media pseudo-facts, and plentiful opportunities to travel abroad. Unlike the first generation, whose focus lies primarily on identity or generic cultural reflection, Cheng Ran seeks his individual artistic autonomy in an increasingly monopolized global environment. He is particularly interested in themes such as boundaries, differences, resistance and marginalization.

## Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2019 *Miraculous Trajectories*, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Hong Kong, China  
(screening-performance co-presented by M+ Museum for Visual Culture and Art Basel Hong Kong)
- 2018 *The Lament: Mountain Ghost*, Ota Fine Arts, Shanghai, China  
*Echoes of Möbius*, Mezcalito, Hong Kong, China (performance)  
*Diary of a Madman: Trilogy*, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Tel Aviv, Israel
- 2017 *13 cigarettes*, CHENG RAN & LE CINÉ XIII, LA NON MAISON, Paris, France  
*The Reillusion*, chi K11 art museum, Shanghai, China  
*Diary of a Madman*, Galerie Urs Meile, Beijing, China  
*Neoclassical*, Gallery Weekend Beijing, Galerie Urs Meile 798, Beijing, China (performance)  
*Cheng Ran - In Course of the Miraculous*, MAC, Belfast, Northern Ireland  
*Cheng Ran: Selected Films*, Galerie Urs Meile, Lucerne, Switzerland
- 2016 *Diary of a Madman*, New Museum, New York, USA  
*In Course of the Miraculous*, K11 Art Foundation, Hong Kong, China  
*Orange Blue*, Qiao Space, Shanghai, China
- 2015 *Orange Blue – In the Process of a Film*, YUAN Space, Beijing, China  
*A Film in Progress*, Galerie Urs Meile, Lucerne, Switzerland  
*In Course of the Miraculous*, Galerie Urs Meile, Beijing, China  
*Orange Blue*, Art Nest, Hangzhou, China
- 2014 *Always I Trust*, Armada, Milano, Italy  
*Simply Wild*, Discoveries, Art Basel Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China  
*A Telephone Booth Romance*, Leo Xu Projects, Shanghai, China
- 2013 *Existence Without Air, Food, or Water*, Galerie Urs Meile, Lucerne, Switzerland  
*The Last Generation*, Galerie Urs Meile, Beijing, China  
*Cheng Ran*, Video Bureau, Guangzhou, China
- 2012 *Wall/Ladder/Machine in conjunction 9BC Performance*, New York, USA  
*Silent Cinema*, ARARIO Gallery, Seoul, Korea

- Cheng Ran: What Why How*, Leo Xu Projects, Shanghai, China
- 2011 *Hot Blood, Warm Blood, Cold Blood*, Galerie Urs Meile, Beijing, China  
*Everything Has Its Time*, Galerie Urs Meile, Beijing, China  
*Circadian Rhythm*, Qingying Gallery, Hangzhou, China
- 2009 *Immersion and Distance*, Ullens Center for Contemporary Art (UCCA), Beijing, China

**Selected Group Exhibitions**

- 2021 *SNAPSHOT*, Galerie Urs Meile, Beijing, China
- 2019 *Flow in sight*, VCD Lumen Quarterly 2019 Spring, Ullens Center for Contemporary Art (UCCA), Beijing, China (screening)  
*Kollectors Series: Media in Motion*, chi art space, Hong Kong, China
- 2018 *LOVELOVELOVE: Intimate*, Today Art Museum, Beijing, China  
*The Post Southern Song Dynasty*, KWM artcenter, Beijing, China  
*The Exhibition of Annual of Contemporary Art of China 2017*, Beijing Minsheng Art Museum, Beijing, China  
*FRONT International: Cleveland Triennial for Contemporary Art An American City*, Transformer Station, Cleveland, USA (screening)
- 2017 *Extended Ground*, Galerie Urs Meile, Lucerne, Switzerland  
*Sparkle! When will I See You Again*, Oil Street Art Space, Hong Kong, China  
*Constellation - Contemporary Art in Today's China*, The National Gallery of Georgia, Tbilissi, Georgia  
*Art Institute of Chicago*, Chicago, USA (screening)  
*The 63rd International Short Film Festival Oberhausen*, Oberhausen, Germany (screening)  
*In Course of the Miraculous*, Kino der Kunst, Munich, Germany (screening)  
*PARADOXA*, Museo d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea - Casa Cavazzini, Udine, Italy (screening)  
*China Remixed Initiative*, The Media School of the University of Indiana, Indiana, USA (screening)  
*LEAP SCREEN / What You See is Not What You See*, Photofairs San Francisco, San Francisco, USA (screening)
- 2016 *The World Precedes the Eye*, Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore, Singapore (screening)  
*Taiwan International Video Art Exhibition 2016 - Negative Horizon*, Hong-Gah Museum, Taiwan (screening)  
*The Image Expression in the Art Practice of New Generation*, Xi'an Art Museum, Xi'an, China (screening)  
*Turning Point: Contemporary Art in China Since 2000*, Shanghai Minsheng Art Museum, Shanghai, China  
*Beyond the story told*, Château La Coste, Pourrières, France (screening)  
*A Beautiful Disorder*, The Cass Sculpture Foundation, West Sussex, UK  
*Time Test: International Video Art Research Exhibition*, CAFA Art Museum, Beijing, China  
*Illusion*, Night Gallery, Los Angeles, USA  
*MIC/MAC*, A2Z Art Gallery, Paris, France  
*Unlimited*, Art Basel, Messe Basel, Messeplatz, Basel, Switzerland  
*Utopia and Beyond*, Castello di Rivara - Centro d'arte contemporanea, Turin, Italy  
*MARTIN GOYA & Bach*, chi K11 art museum, Shanghai, China (performance)  
*Film*, Art Basel Hong Kong, agnès b. cinema, Hong Kong Arts Centre, Hong Kong, China (screening)  
*Ocean Wave*, Qiao Space, Shanghai, China (performance)  
*The Pack - Impressions from Our Family*, EYE, Amsterdam, Netherlands (screening)  
*Adrift*, OCAT Shenzhen, Shenzhen, China
- 2015 *I Love Shanghai, Shanghai Loves Me*, ART021, Shanghai, China (performance)  
*Anti-Persistence*, chi K11 art museum, Shanghai, China (performance)

- Editing the Spectacle: the Individual and Working Methods Post-Mediatization*, Hive Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China  
*Utopia and Beyond*, Paratissima, Turin, Italy  
 Cinéphémère, FIAC, Paris, France (screening)  
*SALTWATER: a Theory of Thought Forms*, 14th Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul, Turkey  
*Essential Matters – Moving Images from China*, Borusan Contemporary Perili Kosk, Istanbul, Turkey  
*When I Give, I Give Myself*, Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
*Film*, Art Basel Hong Kong, agnès b. cinema, Hong Kong Arts Centre, Hong Kong, China (screening)  
*The XXX*, chi K11 art museum, Shanghai, China; Duddell's, Hong Kong, China (performance)  
*Cinematheque*, chi K11 art museum, Shanghai, China  
*Reads Like A Book*, Cricoteka, Krakow, Poland  
*Utopian Days - Fairy Tales*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei, Taiwan  
*Screen on / No Screen*, STRP Biennial, Eindhoven, Netherlands  
*Fairy Tales*, Taipei Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei, Taiwan  
*The Tell-Tale Heart*, chi art space, Hong Kong, China  
*Inside China: L'Intérieur du Géant*, K11 Art Foundation Pop-up Space, Hong Kong; chi K11 art museum, Shanghai, China
- 2014 *Inside China: L'Intérieur du Géant*, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France  
*Always I Trust*, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France; Armada, Milan, Italy; 4bid Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands (performance)  
*Forest of Illusions*, Galerie Perrotin, Hong Kong  
*The Sociology of Oneself*, Eslite Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan  
*Standing in the Shadow*, Ota Fine Arts, Singapore  
*We have never participated*, 8th Shenzhen Sculpture Biennale, OCT Contemporary Art Terminal (OCAT), Shenzhen, China  
*Aesthetic Freedom*, Perdu Space, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
*NOW YOU SEE*, New Chinese Video Art from the Collection of Dr. Michael I. Jacobs, Whitebox Art Center, New York, US  
*Decorum: carpets and tapestries by artists*, Power Station of Art, Shanghai, China  
 Video Art Auction Pixeling, Garage Turenne, Paris, France  
*Die 8 Der Wege/ The 8 of Paths*, Uferhalle, Berlin, Germany  
*The Exchange Program*, AVIFF Art Film Festival Cannes, France  
*Degeneration*, Australia China Art Foundation (ACAF), Sydney, Australia  
*The Book Lovers 4.0*, Pop-up Booksore, De Appel Arts Centre, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
*Urban Tour, N-box*, Times Museum Screening Season, Guangdong, China
- 2013 *Degeneration*, OCT Contemporary Art Terminal (OCAT), Shanghai, China  
 Rijksakademie OPEN 2013, Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
 West Bund 2013 A Biennial of Architecture and Contemporary Art, Shanghai, China  
*Building Bridges – Zeitgenössische Kunst aus China*, Wolfsberg, Ermatingen, Switzerland  
*Standing in the Shadow*, Ota Fine Arts, Tokyo, Japan  
 Video Screening, The Lizard Lounge, Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
 The 26th European Media Art Festival, Osnabrueck, Germany  
*Kino der Kunst*, University of Television and Film Munich, Munich, Germany  
*Shanghai Surprise - A Group Show on Contemporary Art in Shanghai*, chi K11 art space, Shanghai, China  
*ON | OFF: China's Young Artists in Concept and Practice*, Ullens Center for Contemporary Art (UCCA), Beijing, China
- 2012 *Perspectives 180: Unfinished Country - New Video From China*, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston (CAMH), Houston, USA  
 Video Art Festival, Video Guerrilha, Sao Paulo, Brazil

- Future - Get It Louder*, Beijing, China  
 The 4th Off&Free International Film & Art Festival, Seoul, Korea  
*Dressing the Screen, The Rise of Fashion Film*, UCCA, Beijing, China  
*First issue*, SH Contemporary, Shanghai, China  
 Art Dialogue City - 2nd Edition N-Minutes Video Art Festival, Shanghai, China  
*China Drifting*, video installation section, Zurich, Switzerland  
*FM98.5 MHz*, Floor #2 Press, Beijing, China  
*The 1st CAFAM Future*, CAFA Art Museum, Beijing, China  
 The First Xinjiang Contemporary Art Biennial, Xinjiang International Expo Center, Wulumuqi, China  
*Day For Night: Between Reality and Illusion*: In Collaboration with Art 21: Season 6 BMCC (CUNY), New York, USA  
*Memento Mori*, ARARIO Gallery, Beijing, China  
*Model Home*, Rockbund Art Museum, Shanghai, China  
*Boy: A Contemporary Portrait*, LEO XU PROJECTS, Shanghai, China  
 FCAC Video Project, Hannover, Germany  
*Becoming Peninsula 1: Symptoms – Young Artists Project of ICCA*, Iberia Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China  
*Manoeuvres: Apply to 'Arts Actuels La Reunion Biennale'*, Li-Space, Beijing, China
- 2011 *The Other Wave: Contemporary Chinese Photography*, Ben Brown Fine Arts, London, UK  
*Video Art in China - MADATAC*, Reina Sofia Museum, Madrid  
 "One World" Exposition, Hong Kong, China  
 Video Art Terminal, Venice, Italy  
 Reunion Island Biennale of Today's Art 2011, Reunion Island, France  
*Moving Image in China: 1988 - 2011*, Minsheng Art Museum, Shanghai, China  
*Daybreak*, Arario Gallery Beijing, China and Arario Cheonan Spaces, Korea  
*The Journey- Video Room*, SH Contemporary, Shanghai, China  
*Be With Me*, House of Electronic Arts Basel, Liste, Basel, Switzerland  
*Sweet Dreams (Are Made of This)*, Leo Xu Projects, Shanghai, China  
*Catch the Moon in the Water: Emerging Chinese Artists*, James Cohan Gallery, New York, USA  
*Present Continuous Past(s)*, Taikang Space, Beijing, China  
*In a Perfect World...*, Meulenstein Gallery, New York, USA  
*Intermission*, James Cohan Gallery, Shanghai, China  
*Yun Lang Project - Hangzhou*, Galleria dell'Arco, Shanghai, China  
*End to End – New Media Art Show*, Harvestworks Digital Media Art Center, New York, USA  
*Optional Exercise*, Li-space, Beijing, China  
*How to Do*, Henglu Art Museum, Hangzhou, China
- 2010 *Out of Focus*, Hangzhou, China  
*The Passage Project #1 – Alex: A Tribute to Alexander McQueen*, James Cohan Gallery, Shanghai, China  
*In the Garden Contemporary Art Exhibition*, Shiwudong Garden, Hangzhou, China  
*Cultivating the Future: The Contemporary Art as a National Education*, Young Artists Promotional Exhibition, 798 Art Center, Beijing, China  
*Reflection of Minds MOCA Envisage Biennial*, MOCA Shanghai, Shanghai, China  
*Mongolia 360° – 1st Land Art Biennale Mongolia*, National Mongolian Modern Art Gallery, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia  
*Get Moving*, Li-space, Beijing, China  
*Use the Hand, do the Job*, Shift Station, Shanghai, China  
*Gas Station 3: Soft Landing, Hard Landing*, Vanguard Gallery, Shanghai, China  
*3rd i project: compilation of Chinese video art*, V2 Institute for the Unstable Media, Rotterdam, Netherlands

- The Tell-Tale Heart (Part 2)*, James Cohan Gallery, New York, USA  
*Homestay*, Osage Gallery, Shanghai, China  
*Reshaping History*, Arario Gallery, Beijing, China  
*Jungle – A Close-Up Focus on Chinese Contemporary Art Trends*, Platform China Contemporary Art Institute, Beijing, China  
*The Tell-Tale Heart*, James Cohan Gallery, Shanghai, China
- 2009 *Cream – International Festival for Arts and Media*, Yokohama, Japan  
*There Is No I in Team*, PROGRAM, Berlin, Germany  
 Seoul International Experimental Film Festival, Seoul, Korea  
 The 6th China Independent Film Festival, Nanjing, China  
*YiPai – Century Thinking: A Contemporary Art Exhibition*, Today Art Museum, Beijing, China  
*Blackboard – Group Exhibition*, ShanghARTH- Space, Shanghai, China  
*What Has Been Happening Here? – The Inaugural Exhibition of Chinese Independent Film Archive*, Iberia Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China  
*New Work from China*, Fortune Cookie Projects Singapore, HT Contemporary Space, Singapore
- 2008 *Prelude*, Shanghai Art Museum, Shanghai, China (performance)  
 The Third Guangzhou Triennial, Guangzhou Museum of Art, Guangzhou, China  
 The 3rd China Media Art Festival, Hangzhou, China  
*There Is No I in Team*, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK  
*Infantization*, MOCA Art Museum, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2007 *Focus Automatically – 15 video art works*, Suzhou, China  
*Refresh: Emerging Chinese Artists*, ARARIO, Beijing, China  
*Amateur World*, Platform China Contemporary Art Institute, Beijing, China  
*The First Today's Documents 2007*, Today Art Museum, Beijing, China  
*Refresh: Emerging Chinese Artists*, Himalayas Art Museum, Shanghai, China  
*Marking Time, Waiting for the Answer*, DoArt Beijing, Beijing, China  
*IDAP*, QUT Museum, Australia  
*Infantization*, Shanghai Art Museum, Shanghai, China  
*The First Chinese Contemporary Art in Anhui Province*, Hefei, China  
*Shouting Truth – A Contemporary Art Exhibition*, Platform China Contemporary Art Institute, Beijing, China  
*On view: Selections From China*, Paul Morris Gallery, New York, USA
- 2006 *Contemporary Video in Asia*, Video Garden Miami Beach, Miami, USA  
*GIFT-2, Loft49*, Hangzhou, China  
*Elektrische Schatten China Video Festival*, Salzburg Museum of Modern Art, Austria  
*Image Flux: China New Work in Video Art*, Guangzhou, China  
*Chinese Independent Films Screenings 05-06*, RCM Art Museum, Nanjing, China
- 2005 *GIFTS: Contemporary Art Exhibition*, Modern Art Museum of Hangzhou Normal University, Hangzhou, China  
*In the Deep of Reality: A Case of Chinese Contemporary Art*, Basement of Tianyu Apartment, Hangzhou, China
- 2004 *Wink: Video Festival*, DDM Warehouse, Shanghai, China  
 The Second Chinese New Media Art Festival, China Academy of Art, Hangzhou, China  
*Circle Place: Video Installation Exhibition*, Bai Ta Ling Space, Hangzhou, China  
*Chinese Independent Films Screenings*, Nan Jing Arts Institute, Nanjing, China
- 2003 *Bai Ta Ling - Contemporary Art Exhibition*, Bai Ta Ling Space, Hangzhou, China

