

Yu Cheng-Ta at Taipei Fine Arts Museum

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TAIPEI — Taiwanese artist **Yu Cheng-Ta** opened a solo exhibition entitled “[Practicing Live](#)” at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum (TFAM) on August 2.

For this exhibition, Yu invited a motley crew of friends and acquaintances to rehearse and then appear in a play that he filmed from a variety of camera angles. Although the plot of the play follows the members of a family who get together to celebrate their father’s birthday, these characters are all played by art world professionals — the director of TFAM, the director of Yu’s Taipei-based gallery, a Japanese collector, an independent curator, an artist, an art professor, and an art critic.

Although nominally a fictional construct, Yu’s deft interlocking camerawork also manages to coax real-life detail out of these characters as their performances gradually reveal a host of slippages that intervene between their temporary assumed identities and their “real” ones. The result is a compelling, fictional drama-cum-documentary that discloses various contemporary realities of the art world today.

Born in 1983, Yu Cheng-Ta participated in the 6th Taipei Biennial and was chosen as one of the artists to represent Taiwan at the Venice Biennale 2009. Last year was a particularly productive year for the artist, with a one-man showing at the Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts in Taiwan and appearances at the Asian Art Biennial at National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts in Taichung, as well as Queens International at the Queens Museum in New York.

Yu Cheng-Ta's *"Practicing Live"* runs at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum (TFAM) from August 2 through September 21.