

Chi-Wen Gallery

Su Misu “*I am a fake but my heart is true, Part III*”

Special Performances on Touring Bus with Audience Participation

18 July 2020, 1-7 pm

Chi-Wen Gallery is pleased to present Su Misu’s new project “*I am a fake but my heart is true, Part III*”, a group performance with audience participation on a local bus driving through Taipei City. The duration of each performance is approximately 150 minutes. This event is open to the public, however RSVPs are kindly requested. (<https://www.facebook.com/yaoofficialtw/>)

As part of the event, videotaped documentary interviews with the actors who perform role-play on the bus will be on view at the gallery from 18 July to 8 August.

Born in 1990 in Taipei, Taiwanese photographer and performance artist Su Misu is known for her practice in exploration of gender, BDSM and LGBTQ+ topics. Coming from a medical background, she’s interested in “the synthetic”, “the unnatural”, and other embodiments, using photography, video and performance to discuss the struggle between what is real and what is illusory.

Film Screening Programme

Date: 18 July - 8 August

Location: Chi-Wen Gallery

Su Misu in conversation with Yi-Lin Wu

Date: 30 July 2020, 7-9 pm

Location: VA Hub

Chi-Wen Gallery

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Chi-Wen Gallery is pleased to present Su Misu's new project "I am a fake but my heart is true, Part III", a group performance with audience participation on a local bus driving through Taipei City. As part of the event, videotaped documentary interviews with the actors who perform role-play on the bus will be on view at the gallery from 18 July to 8 August.

In January 2020, Chi-Wen Gallery invited Su Misu to produce her first performance with audience participation titled "Build a House", which was part of the group exhibition, "Every Man is an Artist' – Talking About Artists' Social Engagement." This performance was an extension from her existing art practice that touches upon the subjects of bondage and LGBTQ+ issues. In it Su Misu and some of her friends acted as coaches who directed volunteers to run around and wrap the gallery building with rope. Through this event, the artist wanted to draw attention on the way citizens can raise a family under Democratic Government control.

For this new project "I am a fake but my heart is true, Part III", Su Misu, as event project director/coordinator, collaborates with a wide range of professionals to learn how people from different background interpret this particular project. The performances again embody Su Misu's career-spanning examination of gender, BDSM and LGBTQ+ topics and socially engaged practice.

When Su Misu was young with nothing much to do, she would sometimes as an adventure hop on a bus without knowing where it would go. Years later, after growing up, she heard someone call a girl "public bus" and came to realise that there is also another meaning for the term, which is also Taiwanese slang for 'slut'. This inspired her to create this "public bus" project as the third part of her "*I am a fake but my heart is true*" series.

Findings from some 30 sex surveys from around the world show that the existence of large and important differences between men and women in matters of sexuality, sexual desire, sexual behaviour and attitudes still persist in the 21st century, long after the contraceptive and sexual revolutions of the 1960s. Dr Catherine Hakim, a sociologist at the London School of Economics and Political Science poses that women's lower sexual motivation and interest means that many heterosexual men experience a shortfall in their desired sexual activity. Furthermore, a reversal of the sex ratio to a male surplus among prime-age adults and other trends also suggest that the sexual deficit among men may increase even more.

This male sexual deficit (or surplus male sexuality) helps to explain sexual harassment, sexual violence, rape, rising demand for commercial sexual services and other behaviours that are almost exclusively male. In response to this, Dr Hakim argues that prostitution should be fully legalised. Because the empowerment of women has created this "male sex deficit", Dr Hakim further postulates that, what she terms "erotic capital" and which can be defined as a "combination of physical and social attractiveness", is more important for women than even a college degree.

This project uses role-play to create "erotic capital" by inviting 'characters' on the bus ride whose roles objectify them as human commodities, such as maids, queens, mistresses, and attendants. Not invited however are those that offer sex services directly.

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About the Artist

Su Misu (b. 1990) currently lives and works in Taipei, Taiwan.

As a photographer, Su Misu is known for exploring gender, BDSM and LGBTQ+ topics. Coming from a medical background, she's interested in the "Synthetic", the "Unnatural", and other embodiments, using photography, video and performance to discuss the struggle between the real and the illusory. Her work draws from Lacan's psychoanalytic concept of the mirror stage, which is where a subject becomes alienated from itself and is introduced into an imaginary order. In her series "*ihategoodbye*" (2016), the artist, as the narrator in the documentation of a past relationship, looks closely at how she felt during those special moments, just before pressing the shutter of her camera. The virtual images reflect reality but are combined with the instability of alienation and estrangement.

Su Misu has participated in many important exhibitions, festivals and performances, including: "I am a fake but my heart is true, Part III", special performances on touring bus with audience participation on July 18 and film screening at Chi-Wen Gallery, Taipei (TW, 2020); "Every Man is an Artist" - Talking About Artists' Social Engagement, Chi-Wen Gallery, Taipei (TW, 2020); "Chi-Wen Produces:", Chi-Wen Gallery, Taipei (TW, 2019); "Mulan, Make Up!", Taiwan Academy in Los Angeles, Los Angeles (US, 2019); "Milan Meets Taiwan: Su Misu & NanaSSuS, Tempio del Futuro", Milan (IT, 2019); "Pink Night", Far East Film Festival, Udine (IT, 2019); "Su Misu solo-exhibition: I am a fake but my heart is true, Part II", Chi-Wen Gallery, Taipei (TW, 2019); "Fun Femme Festival, Lez's Meeting", Treasure Hill, Taipei (TW, 2017); "AbyssHot x Su Misu x Ching w/Soda Plains", Korner, Taipei (TW, 2017); "Wet", Foto Aura, Tainan (TW, 2016); "ihategoodbye, Su Misu x BDSM company x Zuvia De", Bengmipang, Kaohsiung (TW, 2016); "Androgyny XXX Party", Neo Studio, Taipei (TW, 2016); "ConText, BDSM Company", Chung Shan Creative Hub, Taipei (TW, 2014); "Maya Mai x Walker x Su Misu, Against Again Troupe", Taipei (TW, 2014); "Anti-oppressive", Tsai Jui-yueh Dance Research Institute, Taipei (TW, 2014); "Cave Project – Body Suspension", Taiwan UFO Cultural & Creative Park, Taipei (TW, 2014).



Su Misu is highlighted in a current CNN Style article on Taiwan as creative haven for LGBTG art.

Chi-Wen Gallery

Su Misu

Biography

1990 Born in Taiwan, lives and works in Taipei, Taiwan

Current MFA in New Media Art, Taipei National University of the Arts, Taiwan

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2019 *"I am a fake but my heart is true, Part II"*, Chi-Wen Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan

2016 *"ihategoodbye"* - Su Misu Solo Exhibition, Nanhai Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan

Selected Group Exhibitions

2020 *"Every Man is an Artist"* - Talking About Artists' Social Engagement, Chi-Wen Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan

2019 *"Chi-Wen Produces:"*, Chi-Wen Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan

"Mulan, Make Up!", Taiwan Academy in Los Angeles, Los Angeles, US

2017 *"Fun Femme Festival, Lez's Meeting"*, Treasure Hill, Taipei, Taiwan

2016 *"Wet"*, FotoAura, Tainan, Taiwan

"ihategoodbye" Su Misu x BDSM company x Zuvia De, Bengmipang, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

2014 *"Retro: ConText"*, BDSM Company, Chung Shan Creative Hub, Taiwan

Performances

2020 *"I am a fake but my heart is true, Part III"*, special performances on touring bus with audience participation on July 18 and film screening, Chi-Wen Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan

2019 *"Milan meets Taiwan: Su Misu & NanaSSuS"*, Tempio del Futuro, Milan, Italy

"Pink Night", Far East Film Festival, Udine, Italy

2018 *"Porn Massage"*, Xplore Art Festival, Berlin, Germany

"Impulse", Music Video by SEN, Taiwan

2017 *"Lez's Meeting"*, AbyssHot - Su Misu x Ching, Treasure Hill, Taipei, Taiwan

"UnderU", AbyssHot - Su Misu x Ching w/Soda Plains, Korner, Taipei Taiwan

"A Fucking Day", Music Video by The White Eyes, Taiwan

2016 *"Androgyny XXX Party"*, Neo Studio, Taipei, Taiwan

"Takatekote Shibari", Music Video by Kichiku Girls, Taiwan

2015 *"King of Doubt"*, Music Video by Hush, Taiwan

2014 *"Maya Mai x Walker x Su Misu"*, Against Again Troupe, Taipei, Taiwan

"Anti-oppressive", Tsai Jui-yueh Dance Institute, Taipei, Taiwan

2013 *"Cave Project - Body Suspension"*, Taiwan UFO Cultural & Creative Park, Taipei, Taiwan

2012 *"Taipei Fringe Festival with BDSM company"*, Huashan 1914 Creative Park, Taipei, Taiwan

Publication

2019 *Voices of Photography - SHOUT IV*

2016 *ihategoodbye*, photobook and diary