

Title **Umbrella - Exhibition at Art Space Organ House 2009**  
16-23 may, 2009

address Organ, 501 Art Space. Huang Jueping, Jiu Longpo District, Chongqing, 400053. PR China

Participating artists

1. Wouter Venema -video
2. Lotje van Lieshout - video/performance
3. Judith Leysner - video/performance
4. Paula Albuquerque - interactive media installation
5. Sang Woo Kang - drawings/small sculpture
6. Bojana Panevska - video/performance
7. Eric Von Robertson - sculpture/installation

Curators Curators Paul Donker Duyvis - Xiaowen Ju  
in Collaboration with Sandberg Institute.

### **Introduction**

All invited artists are working and living in Amsterdam, the Netherlands and have all studied at a Fine Arts Post-Graduate Program under the umbrella of the Sandberg Institute. Amsterdam is a multicultural Metropolis, the global city. Amsterdam with 743.104 inhabitants, counts 175 nationalities, more than any other city in the world!

### **Chongqing**

Chongqing is much bigger, 31.442.300 inhabitant, but less known in the world, but not for long we expect... After Beijing and Shanghai is Chongqing China's third biggest city.

The Huang Jue Ping art district in Chongqing is one of the most important art areas next to the 798 in Beijing and Moganshan in Shanghai. Organhouse Art Space is a non-profit and independent art organization, founded in 2001,

It is located next to the Sichuan Fine Arts Institute. It organizes multi-media art-exhibitions and cross-media art activities for young and experimental artists. They are concerning about the process of China's urbanization and the global village in the context of the international exchange of art. The two cities have little in common except rain and two famous Art institutes, the Sichuan Fine Arts Institute and the Gerrit Rietveld Academie that hosts the post-Graduate program Sandberg Institute.

Umbrella is the first coherent presentation of Art from Amsterdam and the Netherlands in Sichuan. It is also an interactive public event. Apart from the performances in and outdoors, meetings will be held in the evenings...Q and A with the participating artists and meetings with the artists from Chongqing and discussions with the public.

info SaE

[www.organhaus.org/Organ Haus-Umbrella exposition](http://www.organhaus.org/Organ Haus-Umbrella exposition)  
Sandberg Institute

### **Organhaus Art Space**

Organhaus Art Space, located in 501 Art Warehouse next to Sichuan Academy of Fine Arts, holds around 200m<sup>2</sup> exhibition space and relevant ancillary facilities. Currently, under the rule of easel painting in contemporary Chinese art, artistic individuality and originality has been weakened and its charm has been gradually lost in the pan-commercial background. To counter this tendency, Organhaus tries, actively and non-profitably, to create more suitable atmosphere for the survival of artistic media such as installation, image and behavior. It also takes the promotion of healthy development of non-easel painting as its responsibility, and provides the maximum support in both human and natural resources besides the basically small amount of financial aid and free rent for Chinese artists and overseas artists residing in China, who can therefore display their working states and exchange their art works. It plays an initiative role in organization and welcomes the collaboration

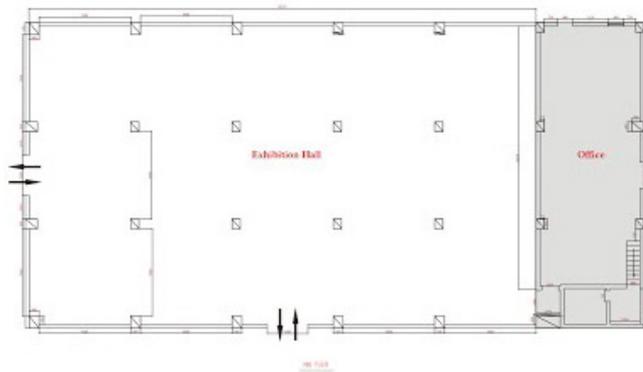
of other different art organizations. Meanwhile, it accepts art exchange of the intro- & inter- national artists and residency programs for international artists. Organhaus warmly welcomes the joint of all the groups and organizations with the same ideal as it has. At present, Haus-M- Commune and Gibsone Jessop Gallery have become its important collaborators in succession. Through the regular exhibition, Organhaus tries to promote diversity and sound progress of contemporary Chinese artistic ecosystem with joint efforts, whereby bringing about the birth of diverse, cutting-edge and experimental art into contemporary Chinese art on the basis of cooperation and exchange between art organizations both at home and abroad. In the past one year, many artists in Chongqing and rest of China as well as young artists across the world held their solo exhibitions, concerts and photo-image exhibitions in Organhaus.

#### **Operational Notions**

Yang Shu and Ni Kun, as the head and the curator of Organhaus respectively, throw their enormous energy into its survival and development. On the premise of non-profit, Yang Shu takes experimental art as the dominant factor, native artists and overseas artists residing in China as the major participants, and artistic styles and contents in connection with originality, entertainment, vividness, multi-meaning, non-commerce and non-delicateness as the value orientation, actively pushing ahead the development of experimental art with all his heart and open mind. He aims at strengthening inter- & intro-national cooperation and exchange in arts and offering experimental art a platform for its exhibition and practice so as to make artistic experiments performed, received and understood in the open, free and equal atmosphere. With the help of Organhaus, artists can exhibit their achievements, unique artistic experience and feeling, and uncommon personal thoughts independently and fully, and on the other hand, visitors can feel and think about artists' personal creativity in the quiet or enjoyable environment. In Organhaus, the top priority will be given to particular value of non-principle arts against the commercial background, and the active aid given to the young artists in experimental art for realization of their artistic value rather than commercial value. All of these will become the powerful backing and the basis of virtuous circle for artists who can continue to throw more passion and vitality into art in their future works. Since the foundation of Organhaus, a series of artists' solo exhibitions has all reflected that Yang Shu as the head of the art space has a special fondness of experimental and diverse art. From the German artist Josef to the Czech artist Radoslav Zrubec, from Li Yong to Zhou Yumei the two Chinese artists, their exhibitions not only takes on convergence and juxtaposition of various artistic media and diversity of artists' experimental media, but also clearly demonstrates the distinctions in their cultural background and individual character, far beyond the exhibition of single media works. In the project of international exchange and cooperation, Organhaus aims at spreading the unique value of its culture and also tries to think on the other side; meanwhile, it introduces approaches and states of artists across the world into different places, which extends artistic influence effectively.

#### **Experimental Art & Artists**

Organhaus caters to experimental artists, who will be the potential collaborators of the organization only if they possess experimental spirit whether their artistic interest focuses on installation, photograph, image or painting. Full of persistent enthusiasm for art and great courage for refusal of commercial assimilation, these artists dare to face their real inner world and utilize all kinds of artistic media in an unconventional way to create art works which are filled with wisdom, interest and originality. Such experimental artists as Organhaus selects are determined by fundamental requirement of art. Real art requires that artists with rare capability dare to be confronted with culture, society, art and themselves. Only this can motivate an artist to feel and think continuously, to create constantly for dealing with cultural change, experiment and renewal of art lingo, and to present individual artistic attitudes toward society and culture. These compose the very replies to artistic fundamental requirement from an artist in incessant creativity. This kind of artists is the determining force which presses art forward to develop continuously and elevates it onto a new stage or into a new field. Only they can eradicate the superstition that consistent artistic theme,



form and style are the right road to success in the pan-commercial background. Only they can cast a positive impact on sound development of art in spontaneity.



*Floorplan Exposition Space about 560 m<sup>2</sup> / height 4,5 m*

*501, Art Space, Huangjueping District, Chongqing*

#### **Exhibition Interaction**

Located within 501 Art Warehouse next to Sichuan Academy of Fine Arts, Organhaus has its regular visitors in each exhibition, including artists engaging in art profession and college students majoring in arts or art design. With a great interest in art and a good knowledge of artistic

background, they are easy to participate and share the artistic events and exhibitions. Additionally, there are still some other Chongqing citizens attracted to visit each exhibition from time to time. In accordance with these special visitors, Organhaus sets proper preface and detailed plentiful interviews on artists' works to each exhibition for helping the visitors learn about the background information of the art works, and moreover, relevant professionals in Organhaus offer them clues or ideas for their understanding of the exhibited art works. At the meantime, fine catalogues of works are presented to them. As souvenirs, the catalogues will become part of their living and spread the exhibition information to different parts of the city or the country, so that more and more people can learn about the exhibition, art works, artists, society and culture.

#### **Artists Symposium and Discussion**

Wed 20 May 2009: Introduction Contemporary Art in the Netherlands

Thur 21 May 2009: Introduction by the invited Artists 1

Fri 22 May 2009: Introduction by the invited Artists 2

Yours sincerely,  
Xiaowen Ju, Paul Donker Duyvis  
*curators*

Sino and Europe | Cultural Interaction Foundation  
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