The Drawing Center

For Immediate Release

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THE DRAWING CENTER ANNOUNCES

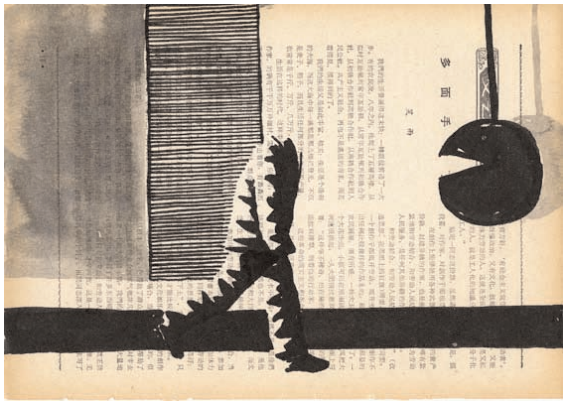
Sun Xun: Shock of Time

Drawing Room

February 20 – March 28, 2009
Opening Reception: Thursday, February 19, 6 – 8 pm

Gallery Talk: Saturday, February 21, 5:30 pm

New York, December 15, 2008 – From February 20 through March 28, 2009, The Drawing Center will present the first museum exhibition in New York devoted to the work of Hangzhou-based artist Sun Xun (b. 1980, Fuxin, China). The exhibition *Sun Xun: Shock of Time* comprises two recent video works, *Shock of Time* (2006) and *Lie of the Magician* (2005), both mediations on contingent notions of time and memory, and shown together for the first time. Formally trained as a printmaker at the China Academy of Fine Arts, Sun combines traditional drawing and printmaking techniques with new media.



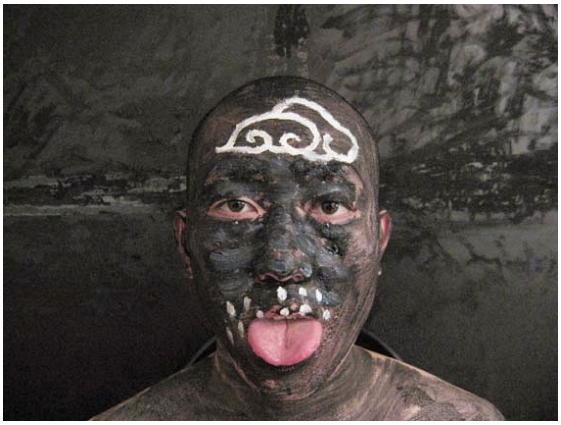
SUN XUN, Still from *Shock of Time*, 2006. Single channel video, 5:29 minutes. Courtesy Fortune Cookie Projects.

The shifting notions of time that define much of China's growth in the post-socialist era lie at the core of both of Sun's films. Made from hundreds of drawings on Communist newspapers, and using some of the traditional Chinese printing techniques and brush painting rejected by Mao's Cultural Revolution, Sun's *Shock of Time* animates a series of vignettes about memory and the passage of time through various tropes of duration and transience. *Lie of Magician* makes use of the artist's own body as a landscape, its natural imagery evoking cycles of creation and decay. Reflecting a new generation of artists born into the prosperity of the reform era, these films belie a search for stable points of reference for a society swept up in the rush to modernize, where time and memory are caught between an accelerating future and a ruptured past. This exhibition is curated by João Ribas, Curator, The Drawing Center.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Sun Xun studied at the China Academy of Fine Arts from 2001 to 2005 and went on to establish his own animation studio, Pi, in 2006. His films have been featured in a number of exhibitions and film festivals including *Hammer Projects: Sun Xun*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA (2008); 25th Torino Film Festival, Torino, Italy (2007); Up-and-Coming International Film Festival Hannover, Hannover, Germany (2007); AURORA Film Festival, Norwich, UK (2007); 23rd International Berlin Short Film Festival, Germany (2007); 26th Uppsala International Short Film Festival, Uppsala, Sweden (2007); MECAL

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Sun Xun, Still from *Lie of the Magician*, 2005. Single channel video, 4:14 minutes. Courtesy Fortune Cookie Projects.

International Short Film Festival, Barcelona, Spain (2007); *China Power Station: Part II*, Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art, Oslo, Norway (2007); 8th Seoul International Film Festival, Seoul, South Korea (2007); 53rd International Short Film Festival Oberhausen, Oberhausen, Germany (2007); *Future Landscapes*, Duolun Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai (2006); and *The Minority is Subordinate to the Majority*, BizArt, Shanghai (2003).

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

There will be a free gallery talk on **Saturday, February 21 at 5:30 pm** with the artist and curator João Ribas.

PUBLICATION

To accompany the exhibition, The Drawing Center will publish *Sun Xun: Shock of Time*. This 48-page edition of the *Drawing Papers* will feature an introduction by João Ribas and an essay by **Richard Vine**, author of *New China, New Art* (Prestel, 2008).

HOURS & ACCESSIBILITY

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 am to 6 pm and Saturday, 11 am to 6 pm (closed Sundays and Mondays). The Drawing Center is wheelchair accessible.

CREDITS

This exhibition is made possible in part by The Experimental Television Center's Presentation Funds program, which is supported by the New York State Council on the Arts.

Additional funding is provided by members of the Drawing Room, a patron circle founded to support innovative exhibitions presented in The Drawing Center's project gallery: Laura Jacobs Blankfein, Devon Dikeou and Fernando Troya, Amanda Innes, Judith Levinson Oppenheimer, Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation, Elizabeth R. Miller and James G. Dinan, The Speyer Family Foundation, Inc., Louisa Stude Sarofim, Deborah F. Stiles, Ann Tenenbaum and Thomas H. Lee, and Isabel Stainow Wilcox.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Drawing Center is the only museum in the U.S. to focus solely on the exhibition of drawings, both historical and contemporary. It was established in 1977 to provide opportunities for emerging and under-recognized artists; to demonstrate the significance and diversity of drawings throughout history; and to stimulate public dialogue on issues of art and culture.

www.drawingcenter.org

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