

MALEONN'S PHOTO STUDIO

AJG art gallery presents the second exposition of one of the most important and famous contemporary artists of China, Maleonn (Shanghai, 1972), a teacher of theatre and set design. The showing presents a series of works that demonstrate his interest for the old studios of photography that have disappeared with developing technology and where he finds anything irreplaceable like the emotion and quest for perfection in photography. They are shots that recreate an ideal world, full of happiness, unlike the hard real life. Maleonn considers this project to be an action in order to share dreams and happiness with people in its environment, as being characterized and incorporated into creating scenic photographs of study. This series has been the germ of his current project *Maleonn's Mobile Studio* in which the artist emulates the old ambulant photographers, touring with a truck loaded with props for many provinces and cities throughout China. The idea of this new project arises from the eviction that the artist suffered for part of the government of his country in order to eliminate the presence of problematic artists for the regime. In protest, Maleonn starts this project interested in finding real looks, of "ordinary people" which convert into protagonists of this new photographic work.

ABOUT MALEONN

Lives and works in Shanghai, China, 1972.

Maleonn's photographic work investigates the different links between the occidental and oriental cultures through the influences of theatre, literature, film, art and the European landscape painting. He investigates the influences in Chinese contemporary art through an imaginary and an iconography next to the public with clear influences of Dalí, Tarkovsky and Angelopoulos. Since the beginning of his artistic career he has been awarded both nationally and internationally. Maleonn has exhibited his work in Shanghai, Toronto, Singapore, San Francisco, Roma and Paris. His works have been exhibited in the most important museums such as Shanghai Art Museum, The Zendai MoMA in Shanghai, The MOCA of Shanghai, as well as in the Liu Hai Su Art Museum, The MOCA of New York, The Victoria & Albert Museum of London, The DeVos Art Museum of Michigan and The Chicago Museum of Contemporary Photography. He also has participated in the main worldwide biennials such as The Shanghai Biennial and The Venice Biennial.