

Su Yu-Hsien

Artist Statement and Biography

Artist Statement

The title, *Hua-shan-qiang*, originates from the pediments of buildings, which is used originally in Taiwan for ventilation and fire prevention. During the Japanese colonial period (1895-1945), however, the purpose of pediments changed from one with practical uses, to serving a decorative function. Su draws from this shift for the exhibition's works and its layout. The central piece of the exhibition, Su's latest video of the same title, is set in a miniature house designed for the dead, and follows a self-immolated man through the afterlife. Through the video, digital works, and multi-media installation, we follow the man's journey, which is built upon people's imaginations of another world. Fire serves as a transmitter between the "real" world and the underworld, and also delivers the confusion of self-recognition that occurs along the way.

Artist Biography

Su Yu-Hsien Taiwan

Su Yu-Hsien (b. 1982) was born in Tainan, Taiwan, where he currently lives and works. His most recent solo exhibition, *I am Pluto yo*, was held at the VT ArtSalon in 2009. In 2011 his works were presented at the Heard and the Unheard-Soundscape Taiwan at the Taiwan Pavilion at the 54th Venice Biennale. His other group shows include: *Today of Taiwanese Art* (Changwon, South Korea, 2010), *Plug in X Add on* (the Rag Factory, London, 2011), and *60-Minute Cinema* (Chinese Arts Centre, Manchester, UK, 2012). He also curated *Paradigm Shift-the Moment of Taiwan New Generation Arts* (798 Art Zone, Beijing, 2007), *CO Q-Young Taiwanese Artist from Nobody Collection* (Kuandu Museum of Fine Arts of Taipei National University of the Arts, Taipei, 2008), and *Oopject* (TKG+, Taipei, 2010). In 2007 Su was awarded the S-An Arts Award, the Kaohsiung Award, and the Taipei Arts Award's first prize.