

# ARTFORUM 艺术论坛

Artforum archive All contents are protected by copyright , without Artforum magazine permission , will be allowed to publish Artforum article archive .

## Cui Jie : old and new city plan

2014.12.05

2014.11.23-2015.01.04 LEO XU PROJECTS

"the old and new city program," the title was inspired by the 1960's active in the Japanese construction industry "metabolism" faction, the school emphasizes organic growth and the natural evolution of the city. Although the contents of the screen are all a source of inspiration and construction, but Cui Jie works more than just construction shown; the picture though traces of erased people, but revealed by the architecture and urban planning are inspired by the human feelings - in this Sentiment, nostalgia for the past and fear of the moment exist, just not coming.

The exhibition of paintings building prototype appeared first appeared in the last century the first large-scale urban planning boom, are now everywhere in any tier or third tier cities outside the city. In the nine paintings, an anonymous high-rise recurring, extending its edges up a circular observation deck. It is the protagonist in some paintings, in others it is far in the background a little shadow. Building and mutual mosaic sculpture, a combination of both, forming some kind of building monster. Sculpture image but also in our corner of the street the most common: pigeons, cranes, flying ribbon abstract, stainless steel ball was lifted etc. - were approved by the Chinese modernist interpretation of public art model. And other large buildings, and intertwined with each other crane looks exactly like dinosaurs, so we can not tell whether the painting scene prehistoric world or elimination of human civilization has been depleted doomsday. Cui Jie's works, these structures appear to be taken for granted, like too real illusion, I do not know is in question or in the maintenance of modernism fool's paradise.

Investigate and prosecute body painting cohesion of the collective unconscious in the same series of actions. Layers of paint on the canvas covering reminiscent of "construction" of this behavior, different coatings represents a different plane, the texture or object. Manuscripts from the show, we only see a simple image-building, the finished work was rich layers, whereby one can imagine, the artist in the painting process of how to deal with different arrangements and pigment layer is gradually conceived, can also probably understand, why the She finished a painting often takes months or even a year. Between different coatings, Cui Jie then remove the tape with adhesive tape as a way to "outline" (also, or "Erase") edges of the structure, will become negative contour outline. She was dealing with the same color of the screen is difficult to predict: sometimes looks like a carefully woodcut stripes, sometimes filled with irrelevant joke meant to color painted, sometimes realistic, sometimes symbolically alluded. Surface texture of these paintings is a digital copy could not be restored, and the level of richness also live audience at each stop and stay before painting. By manipulating the level, color, perspective and other factors, the artist makes no logic, space strange conflicting coexist on the same plane.

As the card between the old and the new, the new work Cui Jie also in between the organic and barren, the middle ground between the plus and minus. Her paintings both as erroneous multiple exposures, also seemed unfinished symphony; reminiscent of Sol LeWitt (Sol Lewitt) of "primary structures" at the same time, also with George de Qi Like (Giorgio de Chirico) to explore the metaphysical space resonated. However, she will be private and calm city of love and hatred into the dimension of the construction and destruction - this includes not only the screen dimensions of space disorder, also includes both a body and a pigment coating Vehicles, as well as the era of the fall secret.

- Text / Zhang Han Lu