



CITY OF SYRACUSE PUBLIC ART APPLICATION

All applications for the installation of public art will be evaluated based on the seven (7) criteria enumerated below. It is understood that some criteria will have more relevance than others depending on the proposed artwork. This will be taken into account and the criteria weighted accordingly.

- Artistic merit and quality, as substantiated by an artist's past history of exhibitions or sales, awards or other recognition, or an outstanding first work, as well as the inherent quality in terms of timelessness of vision, design, aesthetics and excellence;
- Intentionality of the artist, concerning the meaning and proposed or desired effect of the work as Public Art upon the viewing public, as rationalized and elaborated upon in the project description;
- Local significance, creating a sense of excitement in public spaces and presenting fresh ways of seeing the community and city reflected;
- Representation of styles and tastes within the public art collection, acknowledging existing works in the public art collection and striving for diversity of style, scale and media;
- Safety and durability, including the ability of the artwork to withstand weather conditions, as well as structural and surface integrity;
- Unrestricted public viewing, primarily the opportunity for public access, but also suitability for public participation, social and political attitudes, and functional considerations; and
- Installation and maintenance of the work, from practicality of fabrication and transport, to installation and long-term care.

PROJECT NAME: *What Happened: Work by Luis Arnias, Simon Liu, and Zhou Tao*

PROJECT TYPE: Temporary installation, February 11 – April 3, 2021 (Thursday- Saturday, dusk-11pm)

LOCATION: Urban Video Project, Everson Museum of Art (permissions have been granted)

ARTWORK TYPE: Looping video projection. Each artist's work in the exhibition will be featured as a solo loop for three weekends during the run of the exhibition.

Related Event: Screening + Q&A with the filmmakers March 4, 2020, 7pm (tentative) streaming online

ARTWORK DESCRIPTION:

What Happened, a group show featuring the short work of three experimental filmmakers, explores dream-like landscapes of ambiguity where it is unclear what already has or is about to happen. Are we pre- or post- event? Are we in a terrain of reality or fantasy? Autonomy or oppression? Recovery or impending disaster?

What Happened is a show about sitting with tension and moving through uncertainty.

Blue and Red, Zhou Tao

2014

25:14

In *Blue and Red*, Zhou Tao conducts a mesmerizing formal exploration of ambiguous zones: two public squares, one in Guangzhou, China during a street festival, and one in Bangkok, Thailand amidst political protests, the terrain surrounding a heavy metal mine, and a mountain village in southern China. Through the edit, these very different spaces merge into a single ambivalent reality. A mysterious colored light envelopes the animate and inanimate denizens in an otherworldly skin. Masses congregate, tents are erected, families take selfies, children play, hillsides collapse, police march, violence erupts, earth endures.

Signal 8, Simon Liu

2019

14:00

“Simon Liu’s eerie, entrancing portrait of contemporary Hong Kong tracks a series of strange disruptions to the city’s urban infrastructure. Deceptively tranquil 16mm images of everyday life are accompanied by muffled music cues, ominous radio transmissions, and intimations of an impending hazardous event that may never arrive.” — Projections, New York Film Festival

Happy Valley, Simon Liu

2020

13:00

In Hong Kong, echoes of resistance and turmoil are sensitively captured on 16mm in this poetic rumination of public spaces and everyday life in a metropolis in upheaval.

Terror Has No Shape, Luis Arnais

2020

10:00

In *Terror Has No Shape*, nocturnal wanderings through an unknown city are laced with amorphous anxieties and intrusions of the uncanny. Is there a threat around the corner, or are we having fun?

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

Zhou Tao

Zhou Tao (b.1976, China) is a Guangzhou-based artist trained in oil painting and mixed media. Since 2003, Zhou has primarily worked in video, drawing and photography. The visual narratives

in his works often combine different spatial constructs such as industrial landscapes, urban centres, constructions sites, parks, public squares and wastelands. Zhou's work has been the subject of solo exhibitions at the MIT List Visual Arts Center, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art; Kadist Art Foundation, Paris; and Museu d'art contemporani, Barcelona, among others. His 2017 work *The Worldly Cave [Fán Dòng]* was presented at the 57th Venice Biennale.

Simon Liu

Simon LIU (b. 1987) grew up in Hong Kong and Stoke-on-Trent in the UK. In 2006, he moved to New York to study Film and Television Production at Tisch School of the Arts, and he currently works as a director in Brooklyn. There, he creates short films and 16mm projection works which have been shown at IFFR, Toronto IFF, BFI London IFF, Edinburgh IFF, Centre Pompidou in Paris and Werkstatt der Kulturen in Berlin. His short *E-Ticket* (2019) was nominated for a Tiger Award, as well as the Short Film Grand Jury Prize at Sundance. *Signal 8* (2019) had its international premiere at IFFR 2020.

Luis Arnias

Luis Arnías (b.1982) is a filmmaker from Venezuela who currently lives and works in Boston, MA. In 2009, he completed the diploma program at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and in 2020 he received his Masters in Film/Video from Bard College. He is currently and was formerly (2014-17) a fellow at the Film Study Center at Harvard University.

LINK TO VIEW WORKS:

Zhou Tao:

Blue and Red

<https://vimeo.com/498061483/03a450e1ca>

Simon Liu:

Signal 8

<https://vimeo.com/448911112>

pw: uvp

(Because the original film is 4:3, we worked with the artist to create a 16:9 crop that will fill the Everson facade for exhibition at UVP. This preview shows the 16:9 projection crop.)

Happy Valley

<https://vimeo.com/448908496>

pw: uvp

(Because the original films are in 4:3, we worked with the artist to create a 16:9 crop that will fill the Everson facade for exhibition at UVP. This preview shows the 16:9 projection crop.)

Luis Arnias:

Terror Has No Shape

<https://vimeo.com/497061664/2d49b1db3a>

(Because the original film is 4:3, we worked with the artist to create a 16:9 crop that will fill the Everson facade for exhibition at UVP. This preview shows the 16:9 projection crop.)

APPLICANT:

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