

尋找城市 II -港口（前言）

集結人---湯皇珍

為什麼會有前言，因為，就是有人會好奇：城市就是城市，居住就好，還找什麼找呢？更又加上兩個命題頗大的字眼－港口。港口城市？城市港口？顯然有些人吃飽撐著，沒事專找煩惱，偏偏藝術家正巧就是一群具備如此這般特質的人類。凡事合理，藝術不生。

在我們又開始對城市做2度尋找的此刻，一位曾經一起參與尋找城市 I 的藝術家，我的好朋友王仁川猝然逝世，你說事情有合理的嗎？是人生合理，還是你給了一個合理的解釋，或者根本無從辨識你的解釋是不是解釋得合理。

港口，用來休息船隻，用來交換貨物，用來增加旅行的機會，用來進進出出。港口是一把深入內陸的刀，港口是可以對著油漬的水發呆的所在。港口，根本不是你所描述的一切；港口只是我軍中如服監一般的一段歲月，看到它就想逃走。

港口充斥著交雜的形形色色。無論是人種，是貨色，是貨櫃裡打開來：北歐傢俱可能與香港鮑魚赫然共處一室多時。或者，是大太陽下一櫃子走私而腐爛的食物臭味數十里外已經令人作嘔欲死。

記得不久之前金馬影展中有一部作品，以影片以及拍片過程同時製作成放映帶，對照去看頗為有趣。似乎二者都是一部影片。當中有一幕大拖車的貨櫃門大開，押送的是一箱子脫光衣服像是預備運去處以毒氣死刑的男女老少，或者根本不是這麼一回事。特別的是：排演的這一幕在影片中並沒有出現，被割捨了。

港口城市，城市港口，合理才奇怪；說不合理也很奇怪。你認為台灣是個港口？是中途站？是島嶼？國家？領土的潮間帶？那高雄港呢？台中港？基隆港？台南曾是一個港，渡過黑水溝的舢板船望見的希望土地，是荷蘭的戎克船望見的福爾摩沙。那就是一個港口嘛！

住久了會不會成為一個城市？

或者請你不要把一切想得如此狹隘又合理；這是一場集體的展覽，他們有一個抽象的共同出發點就是——尋找城市 II -港口。

在這個資訊混亂得令人興奮狂喜，影像爆滿得令人血脈憤張的年代，我只有能力提出一個出發點，並只有字詞不附解釋，但仍然膽敢以「創作的終途歧異如一枚

炸彈」的說詞，說服了又一群願意再次對城市展開尋找的藝術家，他們分別是：陳愷璜、林俊吉、崔廣宇、謝明達、林冬吟、李昆霖、劉秋兒、滾動論（團體）、謝東寧、王振惠與基隆島嶼劇團。

我夢想享受一群人共同創作的快樂所以集結，也參與創作。當然你也可以像像與一群高超的瘋子較勁的冒險。

我們將會以網站、影像、文字、遊戲來不斷與觀眾對話。尋找的過程就是一種人生，它就像王仁川熱愛又苦惱的考古現象紙，土色多少，溫濕程度，地點，層帶，結構，行為，模式，與生死的摸索。

City Body II – Harbor (Preface)

Tang Huang-chen

What is the point of this preface? Some people will surely ask curiously a city is a city, a place where people live what is there to search for? On top of which we have now added the word “harbor.” Harbor city? City harbor? Some people have nothing better to do than look for trouble and it tends to be the case that artists are exactly that sort of person. Art cannot live in a world of reason alone.

At the same moment we were beginning our second search of the city an artist who took part in City Body I and a good friend of mine, Mr. Wang jen-chuan, passed away suddenly, so don't talk to me about reason. Is life based on reason or do we simply decorate it with rational interpretations? Perhaps instead it is fundamentally impossible to differentiate whether your interpretation is explained in a rational way or not.

Harbors are places where sea going vessels are rested, where goods are loaded and unloaded and where opportunities for travel are multiplied, a portal for comings and going. A harbor is a dagger penetrating inland, a place from where people can look stupefied at the oily water before them. At the same time, a harbor is not everything you have described it to be, representing a time of military service for those in the navy and infused with the power to make people want to flee

Harbors are full of a multitude of different things and colors, whether people, goods or opened containers. Northern European furniture might surprisingly find itself spending a lot of time with Hong Kong abalone. Perhaps under the burning hot sun a container of smuggled food rots and is turning stomachs as far as a kilometer away.

I remember a film that was part of the Golden Horse Film Festival not long ago, both the film and the making of the film were made into tapes and the contrast between the two was extremely interesting, almost as if both of them were films. In one scene the doors of a large container being carried by a big rig are

open and appears to be carrying a group of naked people of all ages who seem to be on their way to the gas chamber. Though maybe that was not it at all, especially as that scene didn't appear in the film at all, it was cut.

Harbor city, city harbor, of course there is no rationale, but saying there isn't is equally strange. Is Taiwan a harbor? A way-station? An island? A country? A territorial shore? In that case what about Kaohsiung, Taichung or Keelung harbors? Even Tainan was once a harbor and the Sanpan that made it across the Taiwan Straits far looked upon a land of hope, what the Dutch warships saw as Formosa. That is a real harbor!

Will it become a city after you live there for a while?

We plan to maintain a dialogue with the public through websites, videos, written words and games. The process of searching is a life, just like the archeological phenomena that Wang Jen-chuan used to love so much; the earthy color, humidity, location, layers, structure, behavior, models and the search for life and death.

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