

THE UNITED STATES

A Vision Through Conflicts

T Tyler Rollins Fine Art is presenting *Finding One's Shadow in Ruins and Rubble*, a solo exhibition of new works by Tiffany Chung through May 30, 2015. One of Vietnam's most prominent and internationally active contemporary artists, Chung will also present a new project in the upcoming *Venice Biennale* as part of the exhibition *All the World's Futures*, curated by Okwui Enwezor (May 9 – Nov. 22, 2015).

Finding One's Shadow in Ruins and Rubble features multi-media works relating to the lingering effects of three natural and man-made disasters: the 1995 earthquake that devastated Kobe, Japan; the current conflict in Syria; and the battlefields of the Vietnam War. These intertwined components reflect the artist's long-term research into geographical shifts in countries that were traumatized by war, human destruction, or natural disaster, with a particular focus on the growth, decline, or disappearance of towns and cities, and related issues of urban development, environmental catastrophe, and humanitarian crisis.

The exhibition features work most explicitly linked to the biography of her father, a former pilot for the South Vietnamese Air Force. Archival fragments relating to his wartime experiences are juxtaposed with Chung's current investigations of disused and ruined airstrips scattered about southern Vietnam.

Chung's project relating to the massive destruction in Kobe, Japan, a country in which she has worked extensively for many years, is also informed by the notion of contemporary ruins, as related through archival video and photography as well as her characteristic map drawings.



Tiffany Chung, Kobe urban planning map after 1995, 2015, oil and ink on vellum and paper, 79 x 100 cm. Image: Courtesy of the Artist and Tyler Rollins Fine Art.

These meticulously detailed works involve a complex layering of topographies from different historical periods, interweaving historical and geologic events, as well as spatial and sociopolitical changes, with future predictions and utopian visions.

The exhibition also incorporates elements from Chung's ongoing research into the current civil war in Syria, with its enormous urban destruction and spiraling refugee crisis. She presents a new installation of light boxes, arranged like a chaotic cityscape, showing haunting images of the contemporary ruins of the Syrian city Homs, a poignant meditation on loss and shattered polity.

Tiffany Chung, who is based in Ho Chi Minh City, holds a BFA from California State University, Long Beach (1998) and an MFA from the University of California, Santa Barbara (2000). She was awarded the *Sharjah Biennial Artist Prize* in 2013.

Tyler Rollins Fine Art is at 529 West 20 Street, 10W New York, NY 10011. Tel: (1-212) 229 9100. Website: www.trfineart.com.

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CHINA

Borderless Space

De Sarthe Gallery was established in Paris in 1977. Their first Asian gallery opened in Hong Kong four years ago. De Sarthe Beijing is its newest addition, opened on April 4, 2015 with a solo exhibition by multi-media and installation artist Zhou Wendou, which will continue until May 10, 2015.

For Zhou, contemporary society is defined by

not only by physical borders and boundaries, but increasingly also by social and psychological ones. Through a series of installations—made especially for this exhibition—he explores how we are at once divided and yet united by these and how they affect our perceptions of the world around us.

"I hope that through using borders to create a borderless space, the lines between fantasy and reality will become blurred," says Zhou. "What you are seeing is not necessarily real, and this will allow the audience to see the world as I see it; to become immersed in the same kind of anxiety."

Having lived and exhibited extensively in Spain, Zhou's work has a global feel and as such becomes more accessible to an international audience. His installations take objects and sights from everyday life and presents them in ways that make the audience view them entirely differently—perhaps influenced by his studies of Zen Buddhism and the idea that everything contains its own opposite.

Zhou Wendou was born in Beijing in 1970. He graduated from the Central Academy of Art and Design in Beijing in 1996 and received his Diploma of Advanced Studies



Zhou Wendou, Untitled (Riverbed No.1), 2015, aluminum, 240 x 120 x 4 cm. Image: Courtesy of the Artist and De Sarthe Gallery, Beijing.