

Brownian Motion Installation

2017-06-29 Van Broekhuizen 艺中ArtCentral



The botanist Robert Brown was the first to describe the movement of curling smoke scientifically, in 1827. It is hard to describe this haphazard movement in a systematic way. Zhang Dali has produced an impressive composition out of Chinese, rusty scaffolding material, like a Brownian cloud. In this cloud of scaffolding hang the naked bodies of builders, pierced by pipes, like Asian Saint Sebastians. For Zhang Dali, the building site is an ambiguous place. Almost everybody can earn a day's wages on these sites. At the same time, they are a poverty trap. Wages are low, and the work is temporary: when the building is done, the scaffolding is dismantled, and people get unemployed.







A scaffold can also be a dangerous unsafe place, where one has to work at great heights. The scaffolding cloud conceptualises a chaos out of which one cannot escape. Building is the reason why traditional neighbourhoods disappear. It is a place of speculation for the investors.





For Zhang Dali, the building site is a metaphor for the complexity of Chinese society, the aggression of raw capitalism, and the tragedy of poverty.

BJM Van Broekhuizen

museum
**Beelden
aan**

Zee

张
大
力

Zhang Dali
Body and Soul
1 juli – 8 oktober 2017

Visiting address

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