

Xyza Cruz Bacani | Ryusuke Kido

## Photofairs Shanghai 2018

**September 20 - 23, 2018**

**Booth D22**

Shanghai Exhibition Centre, 1000 Yan'an Lu, near Tongren Lu  
Jingan Qu, Shanghai, 200000 China

**Press Preview:** Thursday September 20, 1pm - 2pm

**Collector Preview:** Thursday September 20, 2pm - 7pm

**VIP Preview:** Friday September 21, 12pm - 6pm

**Vernissage:** Friday September 21, 6pm - 9pm

**General Opening Hours:**

Saturday September 22, 11am – 6pm

Sunday September 23, 11am – 6pm

### For immediate release

Christine Park Gallery is delighted to return to Photofairs for its 2018 Shanghai edition, following the participation at Photofairs San Francisco in February 2018. The gallery will return with a duo-solo presentation by Hong Kong and New York based photographer Xyza Cruz Bacani (b. 1987) and Tokyo based sculptor Ryusuke Kido (b. 1984).

Working as a domestic worker in Hong Kong for almost a decade, Xyza Cruz Bacani uses photography to raise awareness about under-reported stories, focusing on migrants and human rights issues. Whilst dealing with heavily weighted socio-political issues, Bacani's works also reflect the isolation she felt whilst living in a foreign country, and also working as a domestic worker in this foreign setting. Echoing her 2015 exhibition "After Work" at Para-site Hong Kong - a group show that presented the historical stories of migrant domestic workers in Hong Kong and the South East Asia vicinity, as well as a modern interpretation of migrant labour- Bacani's act of taking photography is both a representation of the migrant worker and a representation of herself as an artist in a polarized modern society divided by class. Her work also engages with issues faced by young artists existing within highly competitive art market.

Based in Tokyo, Ryusuke Kido is a sculptor who develops his signature carving technique which he applies on different mediums from tree trunks to walls. His ongoing “Inner Light” series are influenced by the environmental and social issues raised by the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster caused by the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami in 2011. After the events of 2011 he decided to channel the negativity coming from the fear for the invisible and contamination into positive energy. For his 2011 solo exhibition at the Tokyo Wonder Site he carved the walls with motives similar to cancer cells so that light can penetrate through the holes. At 2012 MOT Bloomberg Pavilion Project First Prize Winner’s exhibition, he extended his wall carving works to furniture and individual sculptures.

For Photofairs Shanghai 2018, Christine Park Gallery will present Xyza Cruz Bacani’s black and white documentary photographs series entitled “We Are Like Air” that capture the lives of immigrant female workers in New York and a new series of body of works series entitled “Indistinct Chatter”, a colorful analog triptych series that portray the city scapes and sceneries of New York and Hong Kong. Also, “Inner Light - City H”, a photographic series by Ryusuke Kido, where the artist photographed on everyday scenes of Tokyo by carving acrylic frame on top of the photograph. Therefore each photographic work is unique. Last but not least, the booth will be complemented with Kido’s “self portrait” work, “Inner Light - Reflection #4, which carves an acrylic and glass mirror. Carving directly on the mirror allows him to carve on his self-reflection and the reflection of the viewer, thus making this piece a unique hybrid of photography and sculpture.

### **About the artists**

Xyza Cruz Bacani (b.1987) is a Filipina Street and Documentary Photographer based in Hong Kong. Bacani left the Philippines to work overseas at a very young age to support her family. She started photography to capture cityscapes in where she lives and to show them to her mother, who also works in another country. As a self-taught photographer, Bacani also uses photography to raise awareness about under reported stories about her fellow workers from her own country and its neighbors.

Her work has been featured on New York Times Lens Blog, CNN and various international media publications not only for her excellence in photography but also for her inspirational story.

Bacani has exhibited worldwide and won numerous international awards. She is one of the Magnum Foundation Human Rights Fellows 2015 and the recipient of a resolution passed by the Philippines House of Representatives in her honour, HR No.1969. Bacani is one of the BBC’s 100 Women of the World 2015, 30 Under 30 Women Photographers 2016, Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia 2016, Asia Society’s Asia 21 Young Leaders 2018 and a Fujifilm Ambassador.

After graduating from Tama Art University, Department of Sculpture, Ryusuke Kido (b. 1984, Tokyo) received his MFA in Sculpture from Tokyo University of the Arts, Graduate School of Fine Arts. While still a student, he began showing his work in galleries. In 2010, he was selected for the Tokyo Wonder Wall (TWW) and the selected work was exhibited at Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo. In the following year, he participated in an exhibition of TWW winners titled TWS-EMERGING 2011 Form of Sin at Tokyo Wonder Site Hongo.

From around this time, Kido began participating in various artist-in-residence programs internationally, traveling to Germany, Greece, Finland, Romania, Thailand, and Turkey. In 2012, he submitted his work to the Bloomberg Pavilion Project hosted by Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo. His work, appearing to erode the space designed by architect Akihisa Hirata, was highly praised and received a major award. His solo exhibition Inner Light was subsequently held at the same space, and solo exhibitions at LIXIL gallery (2014) and Gallery Coexist-Tokyo (2015) were followed.

He is Project Assistant Professor at Global Art Practice of Tokyo university of the Arts, while continuing his own practice. He lives and works in Tokyo.

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