



Individual photography
exhibition by
Yang Yankang

THE REFLECTION OF SOUL / YANG YANKANG

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**YANG
YANKANG**

Curator
João Miguel Barros

Texts
João Miguel Barros

Coordination
Fidelidade Chiado8

Installation Coordinator
António Sequeira Lopes

Installation
**Maria Torrada, Ricardo Leite,
Rute Delgado e Sílvia Santos**

Design
Liquid

02 MAR – 04 MAY

Chiado8 - Espaço Fidelidade Arte Contemporânea
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02 MAR – 04 MAY

In the important
relationship between
nature and religious faith,
I insert myself into the
personal lives of religious
people, with respect and
belief, so I can notice and
capture these moments.
I live with them and wait
patiently for the best
moments.

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"My photographs focus more on the spirituality of religious
life; it is a form of spiritual photography."

Yang Yankang



A monk carrying a teapot (Qinghai, 2010)

YANG YANKANG

He was born in 1954, in Anshun, Guizhou Province, China.
He currently lives in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province.
He works freelance and is also a contract photographer for VU' Workshops in France.

Exhibitions:

- Tibet - a photographic exhibition at the Leica headquarters, Wetzlar, Germany, 2013.
- Exhibitor at the Beijing Photography Biennial, 2013
- Exhibitor at Four Dimensions - Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macau Contemporary Photographic Exhibition, Hong Kong, 2010.
- Tibetan Buddhism - works exhibited at the LEICA Gallery Photography Exhibition, Singapore, 2010.
- Catholicism in Rural China - works exhibited at the American and European Exhibitions for Seven Members in View of China, 2008
- Tibetan Buddhism - works exhibited at the Shanghai Museum of Art, 2007. 20 works were purchased.
- Catholicism in Rural China - works exhibited at the Pingyao International Photography Festival, China, 2004.
- Catholicism in Rural China - works exhibited at the 14th VISA International Photography Festival, France, 2002.
- Personal exhibition at the Taiwan Centre for the Visual Arts, 2001.
- Works exhibited at the Dynamic Asia exhibition organised by the Du Portrait Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan, 1995.
- Works exhibited at The Side of the City - Rural Chinese Works exhibition, Germany, 1992.
- Works by Yang Yankang in North Shaanxi in personal exhibitions in Shenzhen, Shaanxi, Guizhou. These were published in 1998.

Prizes and Awards

- Coleção de Prémios Xu Xiaobing, em 2012.
- Fotógrafos Chineses Mais Influentes (2008-2009) em 2010.
- Prêmo de Fotografia HENRI NANNEN PREIS 2009 para Budismo Tibetano, na Alemanha, em 2009.
- 1º Prêmio de Fotografia Shaffer em 2007.50 obras foram adquiridas pelo Museu de Arte de Guangdong.
- Prêmio de Fotografia HENRI NANNEN PREIS 2005 para Catolicismo na China Rural, na Alemanha, em 2005.
- Melhor Fotógrafo Estrangeiro no 1º Festival Internacional de Fotografia de Dongjiang, na Coreia, em 2002.
- Reconhecido como o Fotógrafo Chinês Mais Influente pela revista chinesa Amigos da Fotografia, em 2002.
- Reconhecido como o Fotógrafo Chinês Mais Influente pela revista chinesa Amigos da Fotografia, em 2001.
- Prêmio de Subsídio Anual no Festival Internacional de Fotografia de



Pilgrims spreading the Longda (Sichuan, 2006)



A nun holding a dove (Sichuan, 2006)

My photographs focus more on the spirituality of
religious life; it is a form of spiritual photography.
Given the choice between the material and the spiritual,
I would always opt for the spiritual. It would be a
dangerous thing if greedy people were not spiritually
guided through the material world.
What is a society? What is the social dynamic?
Any civilised society needs to have faith. Faith steers
the soul towards perfection. The more developed and
more dynamic a society is, the more we need the
consolation and warmth of faith. When I was photographing
religious life in Tibet, it was the brightness of the
tranquillity and calmness that Chinese society needed
to see and feel. These are the poetic images that I seek."

"In the important relationship between nature and
religious faith, I insert myself into the personal lives of
religious people, with respect and belief, so I can notice
and capture these moments. I live with them and wait
patiently for the best moments. Religious people are
open-hearted, very kind and very friendly.
They also need to disseminate their faith and help
people to understand their religious life, by getting close to
them and feeling them. This is what makes faith
a truly vivid and moving force of nature."

"I shed blood, sweat and tears to capture Tibet I spent
8 months of the year there taking photographs. I was in
Tibet for 10 years, all told. I use traditional film and a
Leica camera for my work. I develop and select my own
photographs. I do it alone. I choose one image out of
a thousand and I try to present the most classic!"

Excerpts from a conversation between
Yang Yankang and the curator João Miguel Barros

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