



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Over the Influence Presents

New Change

First Solo Exhibition of Chinese Artist Liu Bolin in Hong Kong



Liu Bolin, *Supermarket Pyongyang*, Epson ultra giclée print, 2018.
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Media Preview: 5pm, 28 March 2019 (Thursday)

Opening Reception: 6-8pm, 28 March 2019 (Thursday)

Exhibition Dates: 29 March – 27 April 2019 (Tuesday – Saturday)

1 March 2019, Hong Kong - Over the Influence is pleased to present *New Change*, a major new exhibition of Chinese artist Liu Bolin in Hong Kong. Featuring new sculptures, photographs derived from over five years of performances, and a live performance at an off-site venue, the show continues the artist's ongoing exploration of critical issues and political controversies across the globe. Timed to coincide with Art Week in Hong Kong, *New Change* will open on March 28 and

runs until April 27, 2019. An opening reception for the artist will be held at the gallery from 6 to 8pm on March 28, 2019.

Known as “Invisible Man”, Liu Bolin has become internationally recognized for developing a unique visual composition that exemplifies the relationship between contemporary life and the urban environment. Fusing sculpture, performance and photography, Liu’s work keeps pushing the transformative potential of the individual and collective expressions of resistance, and investigates diverse themes from ancestral traditions and cultural symbols to ecological damage and consumerist societies, exposing a specific moment of global development.

At first glance, Liu’s photographs seem to be only of unique locations - a rack of Mexican wrestling masks for sale or a pile of municipal waste. On closer inspection, an outline of a man appears, precisely painted in camouflage and hiding in the open. Captivating audiences around the world since its inauguration in 2015, this series came out of political protest against the demolition of an artist compound in Beijing. Being unable to object in the open, the artist came up with an anonymous form of protest which he still practices today.

For his first solo exhibition in Hong Kong, *New Change* is anchored in the artist’s reflections on the abundance of capitalism and the destructiveness of consumerism, particularly on the environment. Included in the show is a new work immortalized from a performance in a surprisingly abundant Pyongyang supermarket with shelves fully stocked with iconic ceremonial objects and groceries from the region. Another work from 2015 sees Liu melted into the flags of the 193 UN countries, raising awareness of the UN’s Global Goals to end extreme poverty and to fight inequality, injustice and climate change.

A metaphor for the condition of today’s citizens who feel invisible to the greater powers of consumerism and urbanization, Liu Bolin’s sociopolitical works constantly provides examinations of the binaries between the city’s inhabitants and their surrounding environment, vision and reality, and illusion and truth. The relational dynamic touches a topical nerve that encourages the audience to contemplate their position when building a shared future.

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Notes to Editors

About Liu Bolin

Better known as The Invisible Man in media circles, Liu Bolin discusses the social concerns of his home country through his artistic practice, most prominently through his ‘camouflage’ installations. Traversing mediums such as performance, photography, Liu Bolin dissects the tense relationship

between the individual and society by ‘disappearing’ into environments which are sites of contention and criticism. His “Hiding in the City” series has been displayed in numerous museums and institutions across the globe. Inspired by his powerful visual messages, artists and institutions and organizations such as The Louvre (Paris, France), Harper’s Bazaar Magazine, JR, Carlos Cruz-Diez, Jon Bon Jovi and Kenny Scharf have invited Liu Bolin to collaborate on creative projects.

Liu Bolin was born in 1973 in Shandong, China and studied sculpture at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing, graduating with an MFA in 2001.

About Over the Influence

Over the Influence was founded in Hong Kong in 2015 and expanded to Los Angeles in 2018. The gallery represents an international roster of emerging and established artists working across different mediums and disciplines. Over the Influence is dedicated to championing artists who challenge traditional approaches to studio practice and presents a dynamic program that explores the intersection of contemporary art, architecture, design, music, and other forms of visual expression.

Address: 1/F, 159 Hollywood Road, Central, Hong Kong

Opening Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 11am – 7pm

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Media Inquiry

For high-res images or interview with the artist, **Liu Bolin** and/or Gallery Director, **Julliana Choi**, please contact:

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**Please note more details about Liu Bolin’s performance will be announced closer to the date.*