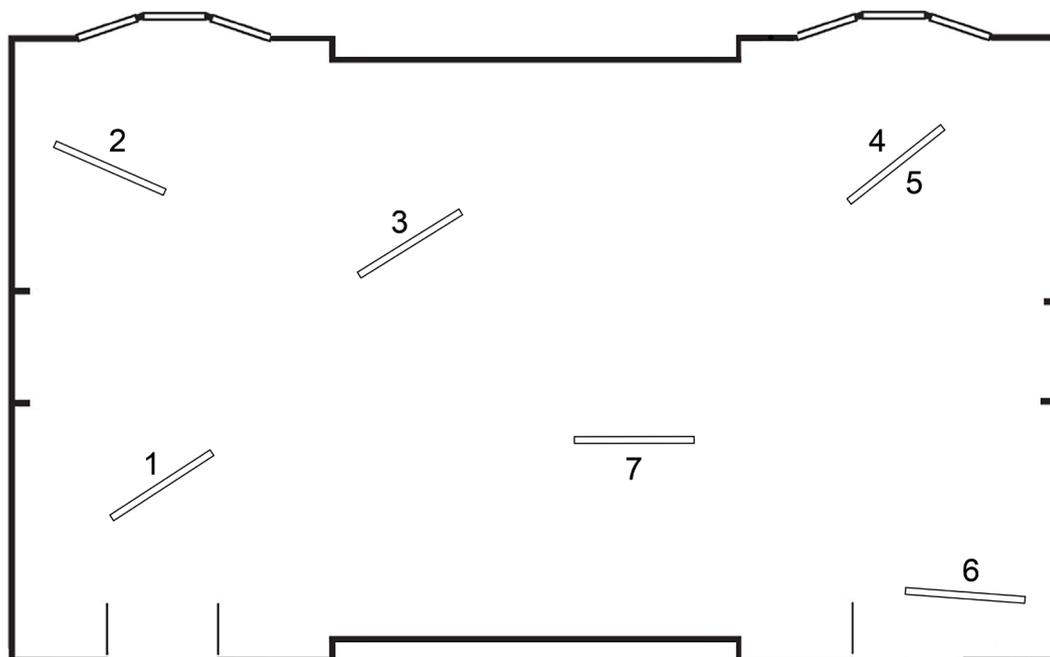


# The Knife's Edge: video recently seen in Beijing

26 March - 15 May

## List of works

- 1. Wang Qingsong**  
*Chops 123456*, 2008  
video with sound, 4'00"
- 2. Kan Xuan**  
*Looking, looking, looking for...*, 2001  
video with sound, 2'42"
- 3. Li Ming**  
*Comb*, 2008  
video with sound, 7'15"  
*Fireworks*, 2008  
video with sound, 5'03"  
*Pond*, 2010  
video with sound, 8'00"
- 4. Morgan Wong Wing-fat**  
*Plus-Minus-Zero*, 2010  
video with sound, 3'00"
- 5. Li Yongbin**  
*Face 17*, 2009  
video with sound, 9'06"  
*Face 11*, 2003  
video, no sound, 62'00"
- 6. Jin Shan**  
all works from the series *One Man's Island*  
*One Man's Island*, 2009  
video with sound, 1'20"  
*Not a Dream 2*, 2009  
video with sound, 0'22"  
*Something Couldn't Touch*, 2010  
video with sound, 3'50"  
*Not a Dream 3*, 2010  
video with sound, 0'40"  
*Memories of Earth Crust*, 2010  
video with sound, 0'42"  
*Not a Dream 4*, 2010  
video with sound, 1'30"  
*Not a Dream 6*, 2010  
video with sound, 0'10"
- 7. Zhao Yao**  
*I Love Beijing 999*, 2009  
digital photographs transferred to video  
nine frames per second, no sound, 40'38"



# The Knife's Edge: video recently seen in Beijing

26 March - 15 May

**Jin Shan**  
**Kan Xuan**  
**Li Ming**  
**Li Yongbin**

**Morgan Wong Wing-fat**  
**Wang Qingsong**  
**Zhao Yao**  
**Curated by Erin Coates**

The video works in this exhibition each articulate strikingly individual ways of perceiving and being in the world. Displacing simple acts and daily rituals from familiar contexts, these videos suspend the everyday and rupture the quotidian flow of time. They draw us into moments that are intensely subjective and ultimately celebratory in their assertion of the self over the body politic.

While viewers may read the works in this show in relation to the broader context of China and the maelstrom of change taking place there, these artists' methods of working are much more generative than reactive. Watching these videos, we are not just shown the world we see and know is there, we are taken to a precarious zone formed in the artists' imaginations; a place that balances on the knife's edge.

Curated by Perth-based practitioner Erin Coates, *The Knife's Edge* was developed during a six-month residency in Beijing in 2010. Drawn to artists practicing on the fringe of China's mainstream art market, Coates' research took her to studios in hutong labyrinths and the outskirts of Beijing's ever-expanding boroughs. The resulting exhibition presents a diverse collection of artists, both emerging and established in the international art world.

## Curator's acknowledgments

Gu Jian for her translation work and accompanying me on studio visits, Claudia Albertini at Platform China, Lu Jingjing at Beijing Commune, Sohan Ariel Hayes, George Gregson, Ric Spencer, and all the artists for their participation in this exhibition.

Gallery representation in Beijing; Kan Xuan, Galleria Continua, Wang Qingsong, Pékin Fine Arts, Jin Shan and Li Ming, Platform China and Zhao Yao, Beijing Commune.

The exhibition catalogue is available at Reception and further reading materials are located in the alcove opposite Reception.



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