

Opening Soon* The Other Side

The Other Side

Stir Gallery, Shanghai

1 Mao Ming South Road, 2nd Floor, Shanghai, China

December 13, 2008 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

The Other Side is a collaboration of two talented artists, Christiane Haase and Hu Xing Yi, whose works deal with the complexity of human emotions by employing mysterious human figures and faces that resemble both ghostly images from the other world and the living human being.



Ghosts, glazed porcelain, edition of 10, 60x140cm

German artist **Christiane Haase**'s large ceramic sculptures "Geister" (Ghosts) in the exhibition were recently created for a Rococo palace in southern Germany, built around 1770 - a time when porcelain manufacturing in Europe was in full swing and dancing ballerinas were one of the favorite motives. In this "Ghosts" series, the faceless dancers resemble the whirling Dervishes who dance themselves into trance as well as the "undead" returning to haunt the living. Haase's images of these supernatural beings evoke beauty and uncanniness at the same time. With no faces showing, they hide themselves under blankets or skirts - not allowing us to recognize their true nature and identity. The German word for ghost, "Geist" stands not only for the returning ancestors but is also used in the sense of mind and spirit.



不明身份 No. 4 Unidentified No. 4
100x100cm Acrylic on canvas

Paintings of **Hu Xing Yi**, titled "Unidentified", portrayed barely recognizable human faces that seem to fade away as of ghosts. They are like the faint image of Jesus on the Shroud of Turin. They are faces of those who speak to us from the other world behind the veil, dead or still alive. They are faces of ones among us, soullessly dwelling in the crowded cities, countless, unnoticeable and desolate. Silently they speak of loss. The depth of his work is revealed in his emotional outpour in his unpretending way of art making. In the quest to defining himself in art, Hu gave lives to the ghostly images by brushstrokes that carries human spirit and emotion. He painted the last images of a person on the ferry on his way to Hades (Hades, Greek: the invisible), the place on the other side of the river that separates the world of the living from the world of the dead. He painted life.