



Yiyang Sun 孙逸阳

2000 Born in Shanghai,China. An Artist gives birth to handmade films, games and puppets with digital puppetry . Sun focuses her practice on creating giant puppets and ritual experiences under matryoshka structure.

Her films have been screened worldwide in 30 countries, such as Animafest Zagreb,PÖFF Shorts,Kaboom Animarion Festival, Animateka Animated Film Festival. She got award in Best Experimental Film-PIAFF Paris International Animation Film Festival and Best Audience award in Rise and Shine CEE Animation lab in 2024. She was the Jury in International Short Film Festival Nijmegen in Netherlands.

She is rethinking the ontology of contemporary puppets by activating the play between puppets and humans, as well as the game rules of the game rules, the controller of the controller and the cybernetics of the cybernetics.

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Instagram

[yiyangsunyiyang](https://www.instagram.com/yiyangsunyiyang)

Facebook

[Sun YiYang](https://www.facebook.com/Sun.YiYang)

Wechat

[yiyangsunyiyang](https://www.wechat.com/qrcode/index?scan_qrcode_action=scan_qrcode)



Studio Photo in 2025

<https://yiyangsun.com/bio/>

CV

Education

2018 East China Normal University

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2022 BFA in Digital Art

2023 Estonian Academy of Arts

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2025 MA in Animation

2025 MA in Contemporary Art

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Language Skill

Chinese Native language

English ielts 7.0

Project

Film TaTaTa | Documentary Animation | 4mins26secs | 2020
<https://yiyangsun.com/tatata/>
Breed | Structural- materialist Animation | 8mins39secs | 2024
<https://yiyangsun.com/breed/>
Frozen Frog | Experimental Animation | 3mins21secs | 2023
<https://yiyangsun.com/frozen-frog/>
Burger Order | Experimental Animation | 22mins | 2024
<https://yiyangsun.com/burger-order/>
The Forever Elephant | 3D Animation | 8 mins | 2025
<https://yiyangsun.com/sontosun-2/>

Music Video HEY LADY !
U GOING DANCING AT PARAMOUNT ? | Music Video | 2mins15seconds | 2021
<https://yiyangsun.com/hey-lady-u-going-dancing-at-paramount/>
Emily | Music Video | 5mins23secs | 2021
<https://yiyangsun.com/emily/>
Breaking News | Music Video | 4mins11secs | 2024
<https://yiyangsun.com/breaking-news/>

Game Tick Tack | AR Game| 2024
<https://yiyangsun.com/ticktack/>
The Forever Elephant | 3D Game | 2025
<https://yiyangsun.com/sontosun-2/>

Work The Elephant Treatment Bed | 2025 | Living Sculpture
My Braids | 2025 | Sculpture
The Blind People and the Elephant | 2025 | Performance
The Trunk | 2025 | Sculpture
The Forever Elephant | 2025 | Video Installation
The Forever Elephant | 2025 | Video Game
Frozen Frog | 2024 | Sculpture
Son | 2025 | living Sculpture
<https://yiyangsun.com/work/>

Draw <https://yiyangsun.com/painting/>

Puppet <https://yiyangsun.com/puppet-2/>

Film Festival

2020 The 2rd TOPUIAW&CIAFF Animation Week-China
The 13th Xiamen International Animation Festival-Xiamen-China
New Chitose Airport International Animation Festival-Japan
Prime the Animation Festival-Spain
Big Cartoon Festival -St. Petersburg-Russia
Dubrovnik Film Festival-Croatia

2021 Animafest Zagreb-Zagreb-Croatia
Academy Award @ Qualifying
Animst Tallinn -Tallinn-Estonia
Linoleum international animation festival- Ukraine
Rising of Lusitania - Animadoc Film Festival-Poland
The 15th Animart Festival -Greece
Roshd International scientific and educational film festival-Iran
PÖFF Shorts-Tallinn-Estonia
Academy Award @ Qualifying
Beijing International Short film Festival-UCCA Art Museum-China
TaiWan Mirror TV Inc Documentary Animation Field-Taiwan
[mnewstv · News & media Tv Programme Preview](https://mnewstv.com/news-media-tv-programme-preview/)
Non-syntax Experimental Image Festival-Calm PUNK Gallery-
BnA Alter Museum-Japan
Future Vision Festival - Tokyo & Amsterdam
Feinaki Beijing Animation Festival-Beijing-China

2022 Pan-Cinema Experimental - Curitiba Int`l Exp. Film Festival-
Curitiba
Zebra Poetry Film Festival-Berlin-Germany
ANIMANIMA International Animation Festival-Serbia
Lugano Animation Festival-Switzerland
The 4th TOPUIAW&CIAFF Animation Week-China
Feinaki Beijing Animation Festival-Beijing-China
HiShorts Film Festival-XiaMeng-China

2023 First Film Festival-Xining-China
Cinemancia Film Festival-Santiago-America
Supertoon international animation and comic festival-Croatia
Turku Animated Film Festival-Finland
PÖFF Shorts-Tallinn-Estonia
Academy Award @ Qualifying
ANIMATEKA International Animated Film Festival-Ljubljana-
Slovenia
Animist Tallinn-Tallinn-Estonia
Viborg Animation Festival-Viborg-Denmark
36th Huading Awards World Youth Short Film Competition-
America
The 5th TOPUIAW&CIAFF Animation Week-China

2024 PIAFF Paris International Animation Film Festival -French
Kaboom Animation Festival-Amsterdam-Netherlands
Academy Award @ Qualifying
Commute Festival-Tallinn-Estonia
Tirana Film Festival-Albania
Academy Award @ Qualifying
Feinaki Beijing Animation Festival-Beijing-China
HiShorts Film Festival-XiaMeng-China
PÖFF Shorts-Tallinn-Estonia
Academy Award @ Qualifying
ANIMATEKA International Animated Film Festival-Ljubljana-
Slovenia

First Film Festival-Xining-China
New Chitose Airport International Animation Festival-Japan
Vita Shorts Film Festival - Shanghia-China
Beijing International Short film Festival-UCCA Art Museum-China
Bilbao ANIMAKOM FEST 2024 - Bilbao -Spain
China Contemporary Animation Art Archive - China / Deutschland

2025 Tricky Women Tricky Realities International Animated Film Festival - Vienna - Austria
Animac International Animation Film Festival-Lleida-Spain
Go Short international Short Film Festival Nijmegen- Netherlands
AniFilm Festival - Czech Republic
Athens Animfest - Geek
Animator Film Festival - Poland
Animist Tallinn - Estonia
Animafest Cyprus - Cyprus
PÖFF Shorts-Tallinn-Estonia
Academy Award @ Qualifying
Beijing International Short film Festival-UCCA Art Museum-China

Exhibition

2021 Nanjing Contemporary Animation Art Documentary Exhibition- Jiangsu Provincial Art Museum-China
ColorBox Animation Factory-Yiyang's Animation exhibition-workshop -Gravity Art Space -Shanghai-China.
<https://yiyangsun.com/dunhuang-animation-workshop/>
Behind Screen Exhibition-Animafest Zagreb-Croatia

2022 Before Light in Motion Exhibition Of Film Art-PowerLong Art Center-Hangzhou-China
Double Pupil Printing Plate's expressions-Artron Art Centre-ARBRE-ShenZhen-China
<https://yiyangsun.com/breed/>
[The loss and derivation of print language](#)
[360 degree panoramic exhibition](#)
[Exhibition interview](#)

2023 DongDongDong "Anima Maze" -Gravity Art Space-Shanghai China

2024 Hishorts - Spacetime Dialogue Animation Art Exhibition -Shanghai-China
The Ten Moments Closest to the Moon - Xiantao Gallery at 798-Beijing- China
"Plato's Tent" - ARS Art Factory - Tallinn - Estonia

2025 Walking through - Kuressaare Castle - Estonia
Systems of Unrest - Ars Electronica - Linz Austria

Awards

2021 Shanghai Government Scholarship-Shanghai-China
(Issued by Shanghai Government)
Xiamen International AnimationFestival-Gold Award-Xiamen-China
(Issued by Xiamen Government and ASIFA-CHINA)
Prime the Animation Festival-Winner-Spain
(Issued by Universitat Politècnica de València and the group of Animación UPV)
Dubrovnik Film Festival -Winner of best open experimental competition-Croatia
(Issued by The Dubrovnik Cinemas Luža – Media Culture Promoting Association)

2022 Warm water prize-The Pond Gallery-ChengDu-China
[The interview of Warm water prize](#)
[The review of Warm water prize](#)
Excellent Graduate Student in Shanghai
(Issued by Shanghai Government)

2023 Best Micro Short- 36th Huading Awards World Youth Short Film Competition - America-Macao
(Issued by Organizing Committee of Huading Award)
Best Animated Short Film - Golden Lotus Award - Hangzhou Youth Image Project - China
(Issued by : Hangzhou Federation of Literary and Art Circles, Hangzhou Film Artists Association)

2024 Best Experimental Film-PIAFF 24 Paris International Animation Film Festival 2024-French
Best Short Film-TASE Film 2024-Estonia
Rise and Shine Audience Award - Cee Animation
(Issued by Creative Europe; Animafest Zagreb; Animateka; Cee animation lab)
Suprise Short of the year - Vita Short Film Festival - China

2024

Residency

2021 Nature&Raw Countryside Art Residency -Tonglu-China

2022 WuZhen LangYuan Art Residency-Wuzhen-China
Nature+ Art Residency-Thousands Lake Island-China
Double Pupil Printing plate's expressions Art Residency-Artron Art Centre-ARBRE-ShenZhen-China
[Resident summary](#)
[Residency Diary](#)

2023 Schliemann Residency Provence -Frence

Director

2021 Director-TaTaTa-Documentary Animation-China

2022 Director- Hey Lady U going Dancing at paramount?- Music Video-China
Director- Emily-Music Video-China

2023 Director-Frozen Frog-Experimental Animation-China
Director-Breaking news-Music video-China

2024 Director-Breed-Handmade Film-China / Estonia
Director-Burger order-Animated film-China
Director-Burger order-Animated film-China

2025 Director-The Forever Elephant- Animated Film-China / Estonia

Curator

2023 Curator-DongDongDong "Anima Maze" -Gravity Art Space-Shanghai China
<https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/4wDuvrnXZ7ZSkgZgkibUbw>
Curator-Animation for People Special Exhibition-From Tale to Tale--Topu International Animation Festival-Nantong China
<https://yiyangsun.com/from-tale-to-tale/>
An.I Bunny Animation Screening-Shanghai-China
<https://yiyangsun.com/an-i-bunny/>

2024 Curator-Dong Chao Screening-The Shape of Animation - China
https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/9LL3QMX_Zlcfbz60tiYFSg

Theater

2023 New Media design-The play "Blossoms"-Shanghai Grand Theatre-China

Conference

2025 The fourth Conference of the European Association for Asian Art and Archaeology Conference - University of Lisbon, Portugal
<https://ea-aaa.eu/4th-conference-lisbon/>

Speaker

2024 Salon des jeunes cresteurs - Speaker as Film Director-School of Art and Design, XiHua University- Sichuan -China

The 5th TOPU Animation Week (The 12th China Independent Animation Film Forum) - Nantong - China

Yiyang Sun Art Work- Beijing institute of fashion Technology - Beijing China

2025 The 13rd international Art and design Symposium 2025 - keynote speaker-BANI-Rangsit University-Thailand

Jury

2025 Go Short International Short Film Festival Nijmegen - jury in Music Video Competition

Teaching

2021 Workshop Tutor-Animated Book Workshop-JIAZAZHI BOOKS SEP-China
[workshop review](#)

2022 Workshop Tutor-DunHuang Animation Workshop--Gravity Art Space-China
<https://yiyangsun.com/dunhuang-animation-workshop/>
Workshop Tutor-Animation Workshop-West Bund Art Center-China

2023 New Media Study Workshop Tutor-East China Normal University-China

Foolish Fish Fable

Film | 2026-

A stop-motion animation with 3D digital puppetry about a foolish fish trying to eat a kid to gain immortality.

In Production

Film Website:

<https://yiyangsun.com/foolish-fish-fable-2/>

Produced by: Loqidorprod

<https://loqidorprod.com/>



Foolish Fish Fable , 2025
4K Experimental Animation , 8 mins
China , Estonia, French



CEE
ANIMATION



CEE ANIMATION PITCH
RISE AND SHINE
2024
BEST AUDIENCE AWARD



NORDIC
ANIMATION
PITCH

Foolish Fish Fable , 2025
4K Experimental Animation , 8 mins
China , Estonia, French

Son

Living Sculpture | 2025

The life-size puppet in Sun's ongoing film Foolish Fish Fable, functioning as a living sculpture and as Sun's avatar in daily life.



Son , 2025

Linen fabric, acrylic, watered-down PVA, sponge

600mm x 500mm x 550mm



Son , 2025

Linen fabric, acrylic, watered-down PVA, sponge

600mm x 500mm x 550mm

The Foolish Fish

Living Sculpture | 2025

An 8-meter fish kite in Sun's ongoing film Foolish Fish Fable, functioning as a living sculpture in Sun's daily life.



The Foolish Fish, 2025
Non-woven fabric, Bamboo sticks, Kite string, Acrylic paint
800 cm



The Foolish Fish, 2025
Non-woven fabric, Bamboo sticks, Kite string, Acrylic paint
800 cm

The Forever Elephant

Film | 2025

“You are going to experience the funeral of an elephant and witness the ritual of the Image’s rebirth.”

Situated between (象) Imagery and (像) Image, between the fables of assembling bones to form an elephant and the blind men touching the elephant, the project draws from the theoretical frameworks of new materialism to pose a central question: What does it mean for an image to live, die, and be reborn?

Film Website: <https://yiyangsun.com/sontosun-2/>
Private Film Link:
<https://vimeo.com/1087699635/571e69ec21?share=copy>



The Forever Elephant , 2025
4K Experimental Animation , 8 mins
China , Estonia



The Forever Elephant , 2025
4K Experimental Animation , 8 mins
China , Estonia



The Forever Elephant , 2025
4K Experimental Animation , 8 mins
China , Estonia

The Forever Elephant Video Installation | 2025

Based on Yiyang Sun's 8-minute Animation work *Son to Sun: The Forever Elephant*, this installation creates an immersive image-space in an abandoned basement at Rävåla puiestee 8 in Tallinn. Sun reconstructed the interior space of the film on site and covered the back wall of the animation with 360 A4 prints of elephant toys from her personal collection. Through this gesture, Sun seeks to stage a funeral for the image of the future.



The Forever Elephant , 2025
4K video with sound,Curtains; Projector; Photographs of 200 elephant toys; A negative space
600cm x 320cm x 120cm



The Forever Elephant , 2025

4K video with sound,Curtains; Projector; Photographs of 200 elephant toys; A negative space

600cm x 320cm x 120cm

The Forever Elephant Embodied Video Game | 2025

This video game art project is developed in Unity using 3D scanning and motion capture. Players inhabit a dead elephant, moving through a screensaver-like space of reincarnation to explore what it might become next. The work functions as an interactive digital puppetry game that stages a funeral rite not only for the elephant, but also for the ontology of the image itself.

Set within a liminal space, the elephant appears not as a representation but as an unstable presence—suspended between *xiang 象* (imagery) and *xiang 像* (image), memory and prototype ancient matter and digital skin. Drawing on new materialism and media materiality, the project proposes an embodied and speculative process of image-becoming, asking what it means for images to live, die, and be reborn in a post-representational world.

Watch the documentary of the video game.
<https://youtu.be/rly5qJlbwMk>

Exhibition:
Kuressaare Castle-Walking through-Saaremaa
Island-Estonia (2025)
Ars-Electronica-Austria-Linz (2025)



The Forever Elephant , 2025
Embodied Video Game
Dimensions variable



The Forever Elephant , 2025
Embodied Video Game
Dimensions variable



The Forever Elephant , 2025
Embodied Video Game
Dimensions variable

The Elephant Treatment Bed

Living Sculpture | 2025

This work is an Elephant Treatment Bed designed for the project *"Puppet and Puppetreat"*. On this bed, Sun adopts the fable of *The blind people and the elephant* as the structural framework for her first puppet-based practice, investigating how puppets and personal puppet images participate in shaping the visual and psychological representations of one's own body. Through this process, she introduces the question of the "imagined body."

Since 2025, Sun has been trained in the Talmi working method®. Drawing on five years of experience in animation and puppet-making, she has gradually shifted toward a renewed inquiry into puppet ontology: How can bodywork oriented toward consciousness be carried out through play? What form might an embodied, **living sculpture** take?

For Sun, the body she shapes with her hands departs immediately after each therapeutic session. As a form of immaterial sculpture, the body exists in a continual state of emergence and dissolution. What, then, is the final condition left behind by such an **immaterial sculpture**?

Guided by this reflection on the "Immaterial Image", Sun sewed this "elephant skin" and conceived the treatment bed as a site where the human being's body functions as a living sculpture. Through the fabric as a mediating surface, viewers can sense the traces left by touch and, in the act of looking, imagine the presence of an elephant.



The Elephant Treatment Bed, 2025

Wood, leather, sewing thread, foam rollers, gray velvet fabric, a foldable therapy table

185cm x 60cm x 65cm

“Once upon a time

There was a king.

She had an elephant.

*But the king did not believe that it was an elephant,
So she found five blind people*

The first blind person touched the elephant’s ears.

*The second blind person touched the elephant’s
trunk.*

The third blind person touched the elephant’s eyes.

The fourth blind person touched the elephant’s feet.

The fifth blind person touched the elephant’s tail.

After each of the them had touched the elephant.

Together, They told the king

The truth of the world.”

Project Webpage: <https://yiyangsun.com/animated-somatic-treatment/>



The Elephant Treatment Bed, 2025

Wood, leather, sewing thread, foam rollers, gray velvet fabric, a foldable therapy table

185cm x 60cm x 65cm



The Elephant Treatment Bed, 2025

Wood, leather, sewing thread, foam rollers, gray velvet fabric, a foldable therapy table

185cm x 60cm x 65cm

The Blind People and the Elephant Performance | 2025

You are going to experience the old folk tale The Blind Men and the Elephant through a 90-minute Puppetreat (embodied treatment) with an elephant object Playing .

“Once upon a time
There was a king.
She had an elephant.
But the king did not believe that it was an elephant,
So she found five blind people
The first blind person touched the elephant’s ears.
The second blind person touched the elephant’s trunk.
The third blind person touched the elephant’s eyes.
The fourth blind person touched the elephant’s feet.
The fifth blind person touched the elephant’s tail.
After each of the them had touched the elephant.
Together, They told the king
The truth of the world.”

Project Webpage: <https://yiyangsun.com/animated-somatic-treatment/>



The Blind People and the Elephant , 2025
Talmi Method-based one-on-one embodied theater [Puppetreat]
Dimensions variable

Documentary of the performance
Webpage of the artistic research
<https://yiyangsun.com/animated-somatic-treatment/>



The Blind People and the Elephant , 2025
Talmi Method-based one-on-one embodied theater [Puppetreat]
Dimensions variable

This one-one treatment explores the body as both sculpture and puppet through the lens of the “Talmi Method” — a holistic body training approach that integrates multiple traditions. Situated in the fragile threshold between half-sleep and half-wake, participants will be guided into embodied puppetry, where muscular release, skeletal alignment, and perhaps endogenous image-making intertwine.

By combining somatic treatment with performative experimentation, the sessions of Puppertreat propose a living map of the body that animated between therapy and art, between physical care and immaterial image-creation.



The Blind People and the Elephant , 2025
Talmi Method-based one-on-one embodied theater [Puppertreat]
Dimensions variable



The Blind People and the Elephant , 2025
Talmi Method-based one-on-one embodied theater [Puppetreat]
Dimensions variable



The Blind People and the Elephant , 2025
Talmi Method-based one-on-one embodied theater [Puppetreat]
Dimensions variable

My Braids Sculpture | 2025

As a form of ritual boundary within the PUPPETREAT , I experienced a lucid dream in which the dreamcatcher above my bed continuously extended, seemingly without end, like my own braided hair. After waking, I dismantled it, searched for and gathered 100 meters of hemp rope, and re-braided it into two plaits, each 6 meters long—they became the elephant's tails.



My braids, 2025
Rope, Banana leaf, Tribal folk dolls
600cm x 600cm



My braids, 2025
Rope, Banana leaf, Tribal folk dolls
600cm x 600cm



My braids, 2025
Rope, Banana leaf, Tribal folk dolls
600cm x 600cm

The Trunk Sound Sculpture | 2025

The prop in the “Blind Men and the Elephant”.
Sometimes activated as a sound installation.
Exhibition:
Kuressaare Castle-Walking through-Saaremaa
Island-Estonia (2025)



The Trunk , 2025
Recycled egg cartons, PVA glue
140cm x 40cm x35cm



The Trunk , 2025
Recycled egg cartons, PVA glue
140cm x 40cm x35cm

Frozen Frog

Film | 2023

Because of the lack of common language, a frog chooses to be silent.

“I made these ceramic frogs during the 106-day lockdown.

The crystals of frog spawn in the green glaze are sourced from the dust in the air, and time is frozen in this moment.”

On January 8th, 2023, Shanghai officially abolished antigen tests and quarantines for arrivals.

On January 29th, 2023, the 8th day of the first lunar month, we free captive animals to pray for luck.

To shoot this footage, I placed the ceramic frogs onto the water, but startling ones in hibernation.”

Film Website: <https://yiyangsun.com/frozen-frog/>

Private Film Link:

<https://youtu.be/HW8KONvd7-0>



Frozen Frog , 2023
4K Experimental Animation , 3 mins 21secs
China



Frozen Frog , 2023
4K Experimental Animation , 3 mins 21secs
China

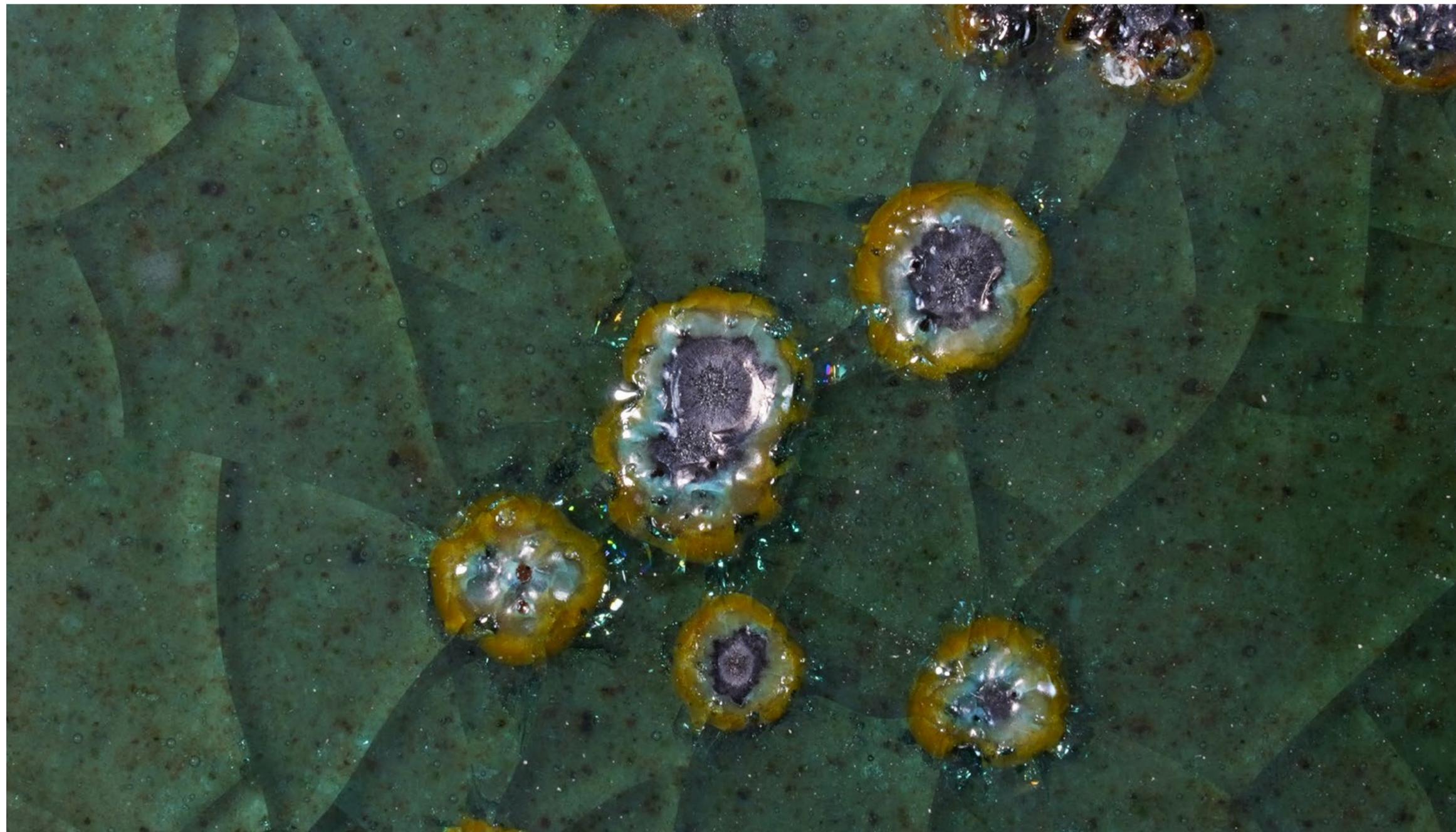
Frozen Frog

Sculpture | 2025

Ceramic Still frames from the Film I made in 2023
Frozen Frog in 3 mins 21 secs



Frozen Frog , 2025
Ceamic
18cm x 12cm x2cm



Frozen Frog , 2025
Ceamic
18cm x 12cm x2cm



Frozen Frog , 2025

Ceamic

18cm x 12cm x2cm

Exhibition:

Frogs are originally natural predators of mosquitoes, a part of the ecological chain. However, in the present context, they become frozen frogs, symbolizing the absence of specific one in the system cycle. The act of using the water spray bottle to repel mosquitoes can be associated with the experience of “disinfect.” Now the process of the handmade film are being expended, and its comprehensive media nature relies on the space and the audience.

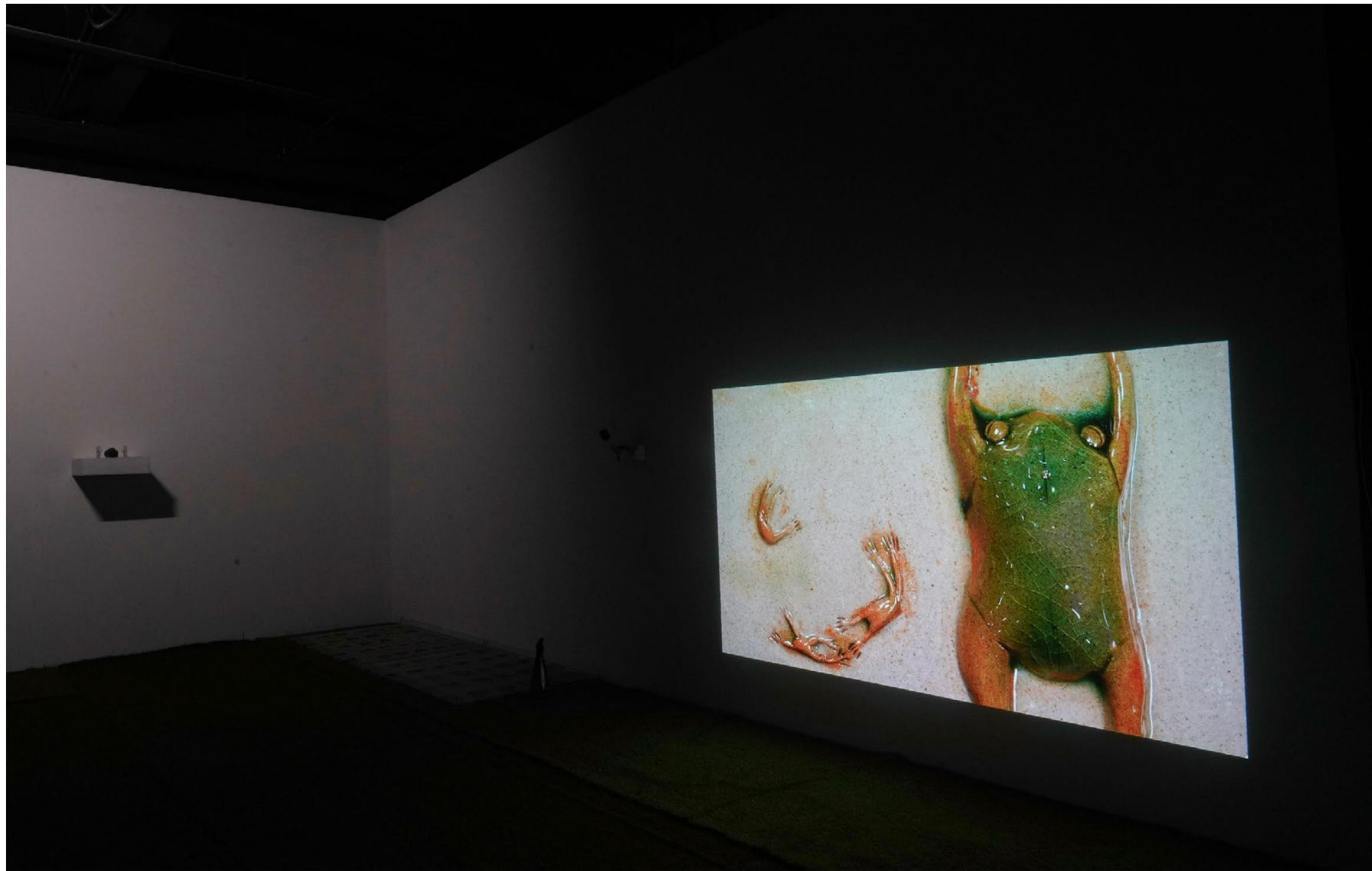
Shanghai officially abolished antigen tests and quarantines for arrivals.

On January 29th, 2023, the 8th day of the first lunar month, we free captive animals to pray for luck.

To shoot this footage, I placed the ceramic frogs onto the water, but startling ones in hibernation.”



Frozen Frog , 2025
Ceamic, Water, Acrylic
320cm x 100cm x10cm



Frozen Frog , 2025
Video Installation
180cm x 100cm



Frozen Frog , 2025
Ceamic, Water, Acrylic
320cm x 100cm x10cm

Frozen Frog Snow Sculpture | 2025

An immaterial animated sculpture. Drawing from Sun Yiyang's ceramic animation *Frozen Frog*, the work portrays a giant Alaska wood frog hibernating in a state of deep winter freeze. It was created between December 2023 and early January 2024, and the sculptural form remained until April 2024.

The material of the work was falling snow, which gradually melted and returned to the earth as water. At 100 tons, it is the heaviest sculpture Sun has ever made, yet paradoxically the most free. For Sun, it represents an ideal state of animation—one that does not require a museum or gallery, nor a permanent architectural space to ensure longevity, unlike refined materials such as ceramics that can endure for centuries. The work also metaphorically reflects the atmosphere of thawing and reopening in the post-pandemic era.

At the opening, I projected the ceramic animation *Frozen Frog* onto the snow sculpture, transforming it into a video installation.



Frozen Frog , 2025
100 tons of snow
600cm x 500cm x450cm

“Snow sculptures inspired by the Alaskan wildlife have been created at Kadaka Stadium in Tallinn's Mustamäe district. The sculptures were finally built after collecting almost 100 tonnes of snow and battling constant changes in the weather.

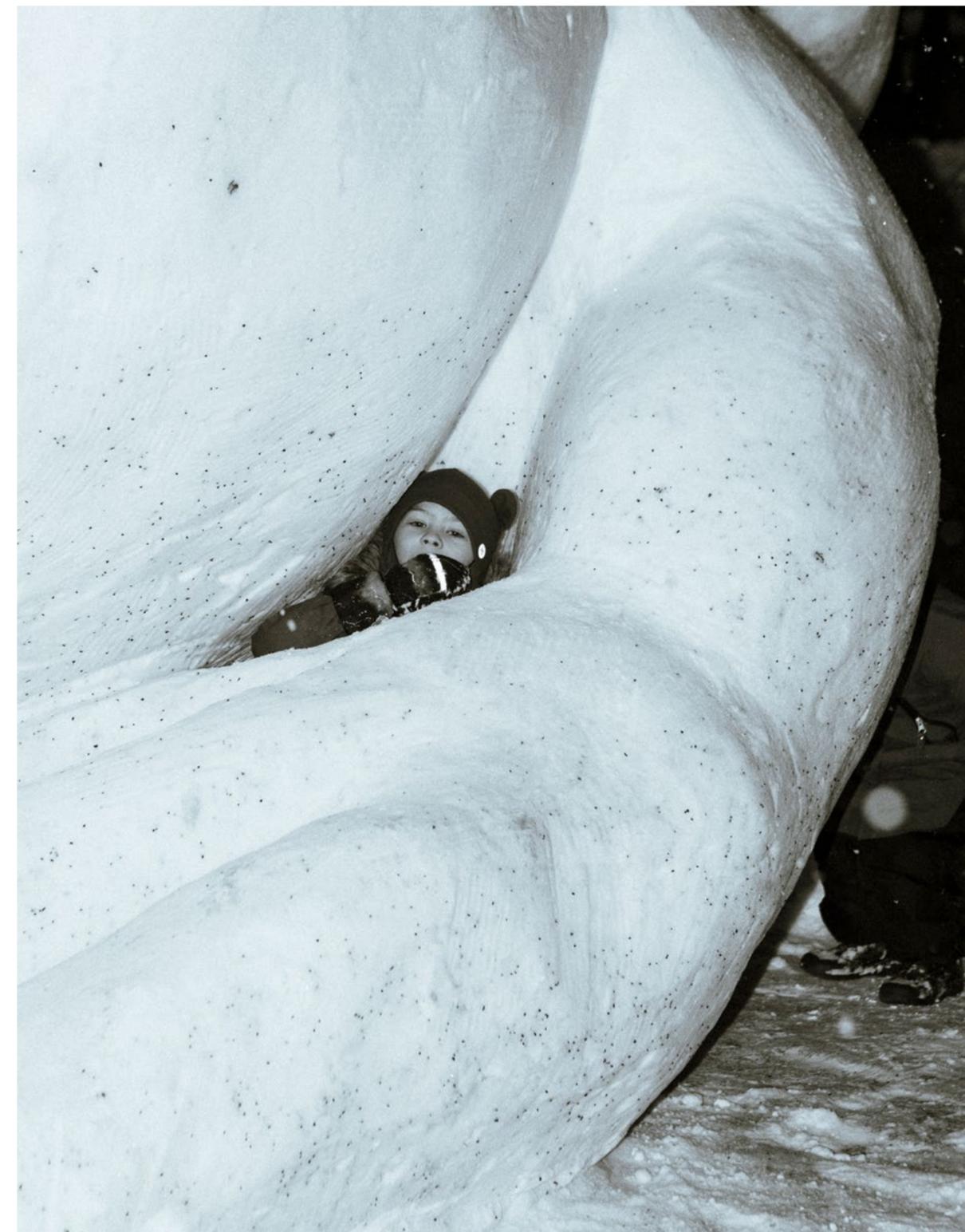
Kadaka Stadium accumulates a lot of snow during the winter, which needs to be removed from the football pitch and running track. In order to avoid having boring snow piles, a decision was made to turn to the students of the Estonian Academy of Arts (EKA) and ask them to create something special for the people of Mustamäe.

Work to create the snow sculptures began before the holidays, when around 100 tonnes of snow were pounded into two huge blocks.”

<https://news.err.ee/1609228071/snow-sculptures-inspired-by-alaskan-wildlife-built-in-mustamae>
Estonia ERR News



Frozen Frog , 2025
100 tons of snow
600cm x 500cm x450cm



Frozen Frog , 2025
100 tons of snow
600cm x 500cm x450cm

Breed

Film | 2025

“It’s a story about butterfly Mom fall in love with a water bubble and give birth to babies.”

*The sky is vast, the wilderness is boundless
While the lonely maple tree stands at the corner of
the world
It bears thousands of seeds, Transforming into
butterflies
Flirting and dancing over the water bubbles
They fall in love*

*Bird hatches eggs and give birth to twelve
Dragons, snakes, tigers, frogs, and Jiangyang (the
ancestor of humanbeing)*

Film Website: <https://yiyangsun.com/breed/>

Private Film Link:

[https://vimeo.com/933187779/
ec964524e4?fl=pl&fe=ti](https://vimeo.com/933187779/ec964524e4?fl=pl&fe=ti)



Breed , 2025

4K Experimental Animation, 8 mins 39secs

China , Estonia



Frozen Frog , 2025
100 tons of snow
600cm x 500cm x 450cm

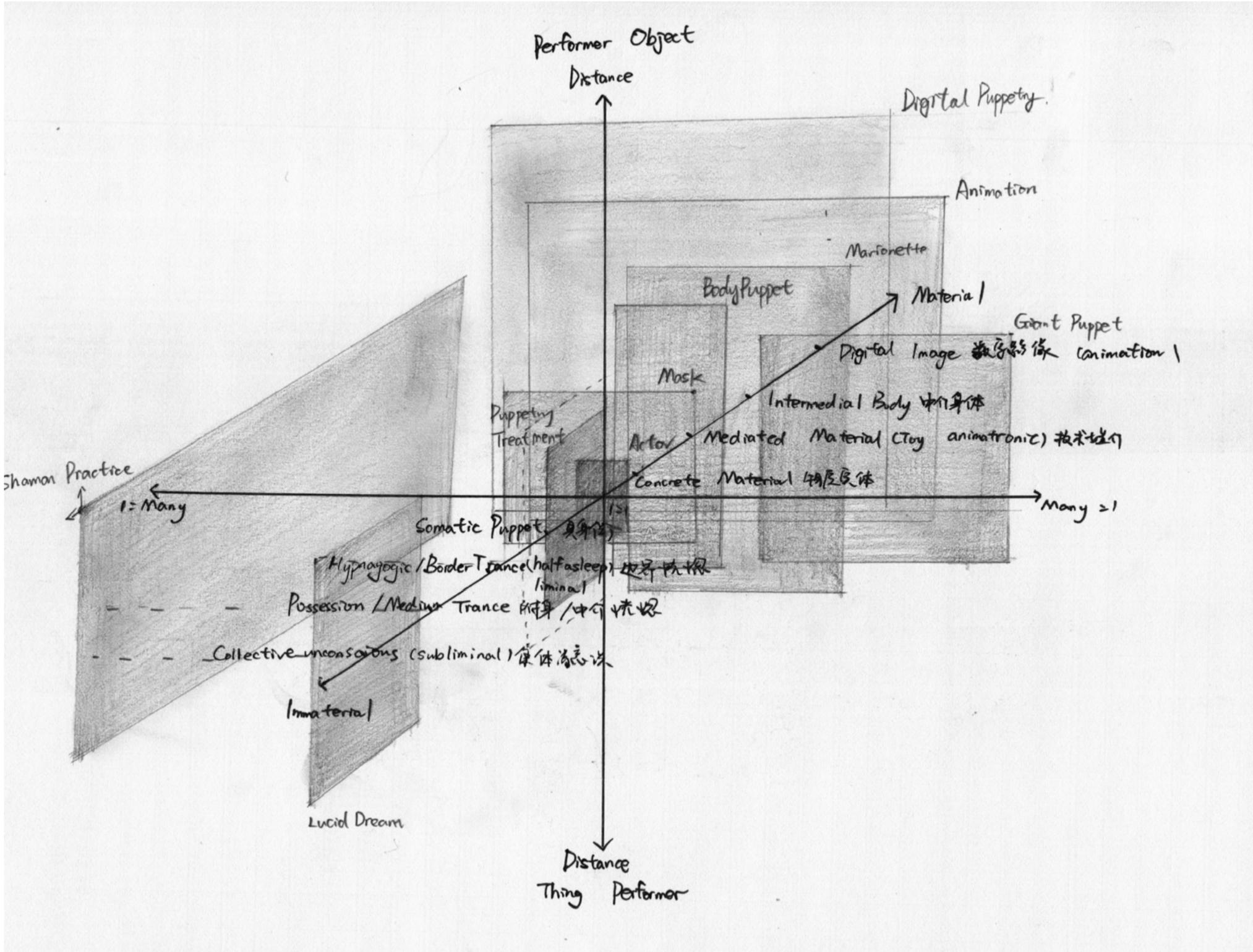
The handle of Puppet Ontology

Artistic Research | 2025

Based on John Bell's taxonomy of puppets, I introduced material and immaterial dimensions as a Z-axis, and use this coordinate system as a conceptual handle for navigating my research on puppets.

In a state of rational analysis, I frame my practice within this diagram; in a state of sensorial and intuitive analysis, I treat the diagram as an animation sheet, onto which I project various models.

Project Webpage: <https://yiyangsun.com/the-puppet-handle/>



The handle of Puppet Ontology , 2025
Draw on animation frame
30cm x 20cm

Conference Speech | 2025

Experimental Animation (BREED) through Media Archaeology

This research analyzes the experimental animated film BREED through the lenses of media archaeology and new materialism. Employing indirect animation techniques informed by structural materialism and stop-motion, the film merges material and immaterial elements to create “new material” from an “endogenous image,” specifically a dream of pregnancy. Inspired by Chinese and Miao creation myths, including those of Nüwa and Butterfly Mom, BREED uses self-referential imagery and symbolic representation to explore creation, transformation, and the humannon-human relationship.

The Estonian animation context allowed the artist, acting as an image revolutionary, to investigate the temporal and spatial dimensions of animation, conducting a counterfactual exploration of image generation. This led to the development of a method for creating new cultural practices. The Chinese Miao people, historically lacking a written language, are represented in the film through images as a medium. Animation installations and imaginative play are used to generate a resonant “butterfly effect” , resulting in a transformation of folk aesthetics.

The film utilizes the “Heaven-Mending Stone” as a symbol of repair and regeneration. The 64 hexagrams of Daoism are reinterpreted using a Western mathematical model, creating a resonance between Lacan’s “mirror stage” and the Eastern myth of Nüwa.

This folkloric, surrealist experimental film’s four-dimensional model of image creation, incorporating time as a key element, highlights the transformative potential of art in mediating conflict and fostering cross-cultural understanding and dialogue. It underscores art’s transformative potential in addressing contemporary social and environmental concerns, contributing significantly to the study of handmade craft film and the global significance of Asian art.



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ACN-Asia Collections Network

Personal Statement

I have two alter egos: Sun and Son. Son is Sun's digital Avator. Recently, Sun and Son have been jointly exploring two central questions:

1. What is the puppet of the future?

What is the puppet of the past?

What is the contemporary puppet ontology ?

2. What are the rules of the rules of games?

What is the controller of controller?

What is the cybernetics of cybernetics?

Sun's practice centers on the ontology of the contemporary puppet, approaching human medical imaging and folk puppet-making through artistic research in contemporary art, and drawing on endogenous image–imagination theory, Xiang (象) theory, and the production of body–mind knowledge.

In her work, she employs a **Matryoshka structural** approach to construct **giant puppets** and **ritualistic experiences**. Through artistic research on the surface and interior of the human body, and using **puppetreat** and **puppet making** as her working method, she examines how the puppet and the puppet-image shape visual and psychological representations of the body, proposing the notion of the “**Imagined body**.” Using processes of dematerialization, rematerialization, and animation of “childish things,” she develops folk-surreal narratives based on her own unconsciously produced animal fables. Within liminal spaces, she creates giant puppets and gamified ritual experiences, exploring new relationships among animation, puppet figuration, and embodied knowledge.

“I am exploring the interactive possibilities between the immaterial body and the material body that are unique to human being. This is something that future robots, as puppets, will never possess—the true human body.”



Self-portrait, 2025

<https://yiyangsun.com/bio/>

Son's core concern lies in the evolution of ritual in the age of digital images and artificial intelligence consciousness. She asks whether moving images—especially animation grounded in handcrafted and material practices—can function as a new vessel to carry, translate, and intensify contemporary rituals.

These rituals take the form of digital puppetry, utilizing motion capture and AI-generated imagery, and manifest as **games without rules** as well as **animations played by rules**.

She believes that ritual is the language of all things; and that images, when treated with reverence, can be transmitted and even resurrected. In an era in which artificial intelligence continuously reshapes our perceptions of reality, identity, and belief, she raises the questions: **What forms will new rituals take?** And how can we maintain **balance** within processes of transformation that cross media, species, and ontologies?

For her, the romance of ritual lies in its practice of human transcendence. Ritual is also a power of suspension. In an age of endless cycles, ritual offers a pause—a moment in which illusion is transformed into reality through **the performative act of creating monumental puppet-images**.

Recently, the collaborative works of Sun and Son have primarily revolved around two narrative frameworks:

The Blind People and the Elephant and The Foolish Fish Fable.

— — Yiyang Sun
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