

Varvara Shavrova 'Untouched'

沙妩若 《逝》

China and Ireland: multi-media art project exhibition at the Ireland Week Culture Festival Shanghai 2009

March 14th – April 3rd 2009

Central Plaza, People's Square, Shanghai, P.R.China

中国与爱尔兰：多媒体艺术项目-2009 上海爱尔兰文化节

展期：2009年3月14日—2009年4月3日

地址：中国上海人民广场中区广场

Official opening by visiting Irish government dignitary on Friday March 13th at 16.30pm

开幕式将于3月13日（周五）下午16时30分在中区广场二楼218-37举行（黄陂北路227号）。爱尔兰政府贵宾代表将任开幕嘉宾。

Press release

新闻稿

First ever solo exhibition of Russian-born and Ireland and China-based visual artist's Varvara Shavrova's works in Shanghai, UNTOUCHED is a photographic and multimedia artwork that identifies common strands of experience in China's capital Beijing and a rural community in Ireland.

这是沙妩若，生于俄罗斯而目前生活在爱尔兰和中国的视觉艺术家，在上海的首次个人展，《逝》是一个摄影与多媒体艺术作品，它探讨中国北京都市与爱尔兰乡村生活的区别和多元化。

The artist, Varvara Shavrova, brings an unusual perspective to this seemingly paradoxical quest. Russian-born, she now divides her time between her two homes, one in a rural area of Ireland's west coast, the other in a traditional 'hutong' in Beijing. Using both visual and audiovisual frameworks, she juxtaposes and compares the lives of these two local communities, and highlights the fascinating similarities in what determines how lives are led in two very different cultural and social environments.

艺术家沙妮若从独特的视角出发来观察这个看起来矛盾的探索过程。她出生与俄罗斯，现在的她把时间分配在两个家乡：一边是位于爱尔兰西海岸的乡村，另一边是传统的北京胡同。此系列作品将北京当地社区和爱尔兰乡村生活进行罗列和比较，着重表现了两种不同文化和社会环境下人们生活中令人惊奇的相似之处。

It is rare for any artist to have the opportunity to carry out a project of this nature in such depth and breadth in China. Shavrova started working on the project when she first came to China nearly 4 years ago. Since then she has had opportunity to study the lives of the Beijing hutongs, and compare them to her experience of living in rural Ireland.

迄今为止，有机会在中国深入研究并提出这样一个计划的艺术家屈指可数。沙妮若女士从近4年前刚刚踏上中国这片热土的时候就开始其研究。从那时起，她便获得了很多机会去学习和体验北京的胡同生活，并把这些经验和她在爱尔兰度过的乡村生活做罗列比较。

The project is presented as large-scale photographic installation, where the stark black and white images of old hutong neighborhoods are set against photographs of abandoned cottages in rural County Mayo in Ireland.

此系列作品由大型摄影装置组成，其中刻画胡同邻里生活的是图像犀利的黑白摄影作品，它们与荒弃在爱尔兰 Mayo 县乡村里的民居景象遥相呼应。

In UNTOUCHED project Shavrova juxtaposes the small farming community of Ballycastle with one particular Beijing neighborhood that is currently undergoing major redevelopment. Thus she indirectly reflects on the nature of Ireland's "Celtic Tiger" phenomenon, and the dramatic expansion of the world's fastest growing economy.

这个系列作品把 Ballycastle 这个小城镇和北京胡同里正在面临整体改造的邻里生活做了罗列比较。沙妮若的作品间接地影射爱尔兰本土的 'Celtic Tiger' 现象¹，和迅速扩张和飞速发展地世界经济。

¹'Celtic Tiger' 现象：'Celtic' 是爱尔兰本土的一种语言，古语里曾用来形容爱尔兰人民。英文中于'tiger(老虎)'并置, 常用来形容逐渐壮大的一种趋势。'Celtic Tiger' 可理解为使爱尔兰逐渐壮大，拥有强大经济实力。

The current economic downturn experienced all over the world is poignantly echoed in places as different and as distant as small farming villages in rural Ireland like Ballycastle and giant urban metropolises like Beijing and Shanghai.

现下席卷全球的经济危机尖锐的从各方面反映出像爱尔兰乡村小镇 Ballycastle 这样的农业村镇和北京、上海这样超大规模、地位重要的大都市之间的不同和差距。

These changes seem to affect the socio-economic structures of China and Ireland in a very similar manner, and there are fascinating comparisons to be drawn between the ways in which drastic economic changes have had an impact on the lives of ordinary people around the world today. The viewer is thus invited to make a connection between the two seemingly very different cultures and experiences, in order to understand and sympathize with the scale of changes on a human rather than a political level.

这些变化都对中国和爱尔兰社会经济结构产生相似的触动和影响。这其中引发出非常有意思的比较，即在猛烈的经济变动下影响的普通老百姓的生活状态。观众被邀请到展览中来同时设身处地地感受不同的文化和经验。从而从人性而非政治性的角度去理解和体谅这些社会变化。

Installed as a spatial interference in the empty office space of the City Plaza complex in the heart of Shanghai's People's Square, an unusual location for the art exhibition also points to different dynamics in the art world today, where both artists and curators have to be flexible and inventive and explore unconventional avenues for exposure in order to stay afloat.

展览有如空间性的干涉设置在中区广场空旷办公区域，正坐落于上海市中心地带人民广场，一个非典型性的艺术展览空间也同时意味着现今艺术世界的不同动力因素。在这里，艺术家和展览管理者都必须具有灵活性，创造性，探索在非会展空间里的展现作品。

the exhibition combines digital and slide spatial projections, with imagery constantly flicking in and out of focus, and the sounds of the video pieces filling the space. UNTOUCHED becomes a kind of an obstacle course that the viewer has to negotiate, in order to share the artist's experiences.

这些作品将被特别呈现在拥有双层高度的北京皇城艺术馆空间里，此展览同时穿插数码和幻灯投影，使作品循环地同时重复和还原对焦，同时伴有声音装置充斥整个展厅。‘逝’仿佛是一个挑战项目，观众在与之较量之中，方能体会作者之用意及感受。

Although Shavrova's photographs are devoid of people's presence, the absence of their presence becomes poignant through the scribbling on a semi-demolished wall of an old house in Beijing, or an abandoned bible sitting on an old fire place in a derelict farmer's cottage in Ballycastle.

尽管沙妮若的摄影作品中缺少人物的存在感，一方面这种由人物缺失形成的伤感被破旧不堪、即将被推倒的北京旧民居墙体上的划痕诉说着；另一方面也从搁置在 Ballycastle 的一间农场小屋里的一本被丢弃的圣经这一情景中表现出来。

In contrast to the still photography, Shavrova's video work concentrates on the people and their stories. Shot in a documentary style, the video conjures up a compelling story of personal experiences and creates vivid portraits of local neighborhoods and its people, both on the brink of extinction.

与平面作品相比，沙妮若把影像作品的拍摄聚焦在人物和发生在他们之间的故事上。她运用短纪录片的形式，纪录并塑造生活中人与人之间竞争地生活状态，由此刻画出栩栩如生的地方邻里生活和人物写真。两种状态都是城市中濒临消亡的状态。

Ireland's ambassador to China, Declan Kelleher, said in a foreword to the project that it revealed "intriguing similarities". "I am greatly impressed with the depth and innovativeness of Varvara's Untouched project, which is the culmination of over two years of painstaking work," he said.

爱尔兰驻中国大使戴可澜先生曾在此项目致辞中写到，这个系列作品揭开“令人叹为观止的相似之处”。“我本人深深的为沙妩若这次展出的《逝》这个系列作品所体现的深度和创新而感慨。这些作品达到了艺术家经过两年努力创作地极至。”

After exhibitions in Beijing in 2008 and Shanghai in 2009, it is planned that UNTOUCHED will travel to prestigious Galway Arts Festival in Ireland, providing a unique opportunity for Irish people to draw interesting comparisons between their culture and that of far away China.

在 2008 北京站和 2009 的上海站展出过后，《逝》将会参加在爱尔兰举行的 极有声望的 Galway 艺术节，这将成为一个绝好的机会让爱尔兰的观众有幸接触并比较自己和来自异乡的中国文化。

Varvara Shavrova: 'UNTOUCHED' - a fully illustrated 170-page catalogue is published by Timezone8 editions, Beijing. Foreword by His Excellency Mr Declan Kelleher, Ambassador of Ireland to the People's Republic of China. Introduction by Dr Xun Zhou, Research Fellow at SOAS, University of London, Research Assistant Professor at University of Hong Kong, Research Associate at The Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at UCL, University of London. Essay by Dr. Katie Hill, Senior Lecturer, Contemporary Chinese Art, University of Westminster, London.

沙妩若：‘逝’——一本 170 页的精致画册将由北京东八时区 (Timezone8) 出版。尊敬的爱尔兰驻华大使戴可澜先生为本书致序言。Xun Zhou 博士为本书撰写前言，他是伦敦大学亚非学院 (SOAS) 研究员，香港大学助理研究教授，驻伦敦学院大学 Wellcome 信托基金机构中心、医学历史研究员。本书论文由何凯特 (Katie Hill) 博士撰写，她是伦敦威斯敏斯特大学 (University of Westminster) 中国当代艺术方面的资深讲师。

VARVARA SHAVROVA

沙妩若

Varvara Shavrova was born in Moscow, Russia. She moved to London in 1989 to pursue her career as an artist. She lived and worked in London's East End for over 15 years, with intensive periods of work also spent in Ireland. In 2005 she moved to Beijing, China, where now lives and works with her Irish engineer husband and their two young sons.

沙妩若生于莫斯科，俄罗斯。她于 1989 年移居伦敦，从此开创其艺术事业。她工作和生活在东伦敦达 15 年，在爱尔兰的日子也曾是她创作地高峰期。2005 年她携先生及两个年幼的儿子移居北京，同时继续艺术创作。

www.varvarashavrova.com

PRESS INFORMATION

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Exhibition March 14th – April 3rd 2009

展期：2009年3月14日—2009年4月3日

Central Plaza, 2nd Floor, Unit 218-37, 227 North Huangpi Road, Shanghai 200003, P.R.China tel +86 (21) 63758000*810; mobile +86 13564322517

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Hours: Daily, Monday-Sundays 12:00-18:00

每周一至周日 下午 12 点—下午 6 点

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Opening:

开幕式：

Official opening by visiting Irish government dignitary on Friday March 13th at 16.30pm at Central Plaza, 2nd Floor, Unit 218-37, 227 North Huangpi Road, Shanghai 200003, P.R.China

开幕式将于 3 月 13 日（周五）下午 16 时 30 分在中区广场二楼 218-37 举行（黄陂北路 227 号）。爱尔兰到访政府贵宾将任开幕嘉宾。

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Support:

支持机构：

Culture Ireland 爱尔兰文化署

Consulate General of Ireland, Shanghai. 爱尔兰驻上海总领事馆

People's Government of Luwan District, Shanghai 上海市卢湾区人民政府

Tourism Ireland 爱尔兰旅游局

Ireland Week Shanghai 2009 2009 上海爱尔兰周

Creo China 中国房地产机会公司

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Elizabeth de Brabant Contemporary Art 博雅珊艺术中心

Beijing Cultural Heritage Protection Center 北京文化遗产保护中

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