

**'UNTOUCHED'**  
**Varvara Shavrova**  
《逝》  
沙妩若



***China and Ireland: multi-media art project exhibition***  
***March 16th – March 30th 2008, Beijing***

***中国与爱尔兰：多媒体艺术项目***  
***展期：2008年3月16日 – 2008年3月30***

## Press release

### 新闻稿

UNTOUCHED is a photographic and multimedia artwork that identifies common strands of experience in China's capital Beijing and a rural community in Ireland.

《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.

艺术家沙妩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。

The project focuses on the physical and social changes that Beijing and its population are experiencing in preparation for the coming Olympic Games. This exhibition will touch a chord for many Chinese people, and for those living in Beijing in particular.

这个系列作品着重表现北京城和生活在的人们准备迎接奥运这一过程中的亲身体验、以及社会变化。此展览将触动很多中国观众，尤其是生活在这里的北京人。

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 3 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。沙妩若女士从3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 and 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。沙妩若的作品间接地影射爱尔兰本土的‘Celtic Tiger’现象<sup>1</sup>，和迅速扩张和飞速发展地世界经济。

<sup>1</sup>‘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。

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 double height space of the new Beijing Imperial City Art Museum, 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 Beijing it is planned that UNTOUCHED will tour other cities in China, and then travel to a venue in Ireland, providing a unique opportunity for Irish people to draw interesting comparisons between their culture and that of far away China.

北京这一站过后，《逝》将会到其他城市巡展，之后还会展转到爱尔兰。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

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](http://www.varvarashavrova.com)

2008年北京爱尔兰文化节：  
视觉艺术系列

**Irish Cultural Festival Beijing 2008:  
Visual Arts Programme**

**Through the Lens: 来自爱尔兰的媒体艺术**  
沙妩若：逝  
马尔科姆·麦克林：迷失的一年

**Through the Lens: New Media Art from Ireland**  
**Varvara Shavrova: Untouched**  
**Malcolm McClay: The Lost Year**

展期：2008年3月16日－3月30日  
**Exhibition March 16 - March 30 2008**  
每周二至周日 上午10点－下午5点30分 [周一休息]  
**Hours: 10:00am-5:30pm, closed on Mondays**

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开幕式：  
**Opening:**

开幕式将于**3月16日（周日）下午5时**在北京皇城艺术馆隆重召开。尊敬的爱尔兰驻中华人民共和国大使戴克澜先生将担当此展开幕嘉宾。

**Official opening** by His Excellency **Mr Declan Kelleher**, Ambassador of Ireland to the People's Republic of China on Sunday **March 16th at 5.00pm** at **BAMOIC** [Beijing Art Museum of Imperial City].

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主办：  
**Organizer:**

盛世今来（北京）国际文化艺术有限公司  
Zenith Culture International  
皇城艺术馆  
BAMOIC [Beijing Art Museum of Imperial City]  
爱尔兰驻华大使馆（北京）  
Embassy of Ireland, Beijing.

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**支持机构：**

**Support:**

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爱尔兰驻华大使馆（北京）

The Embassy of Ireland in Beijing

北京东城区人民政府

People's Government of Dongcheng District, Beijing

北京文化遗产保护中心

CHP [Centre for Heritage Protection, Beijing]

财富控股中国有限公司

Treasury Holdings

爱尔兰食品委员会

Bord Bia

金凯利

Kerrygold

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**策展人：**

**Curator:**

沙妮若

Varvara Shavrova

李诗（北京）

Shi Li-Sanderson (Beijing)

**Varvara Shavrova: 'UNTOUCHED'** - a fully illustrated 170-page catalogue is published on occasion of this exhibition, 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.

**沙妮若：‘逝’**——一本170页的精致画册将随此展览一同出版。尊敬的爱尔兰驻华大使戴可澜先生为本书致序言。XunZhou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。

**媒体联络：**

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