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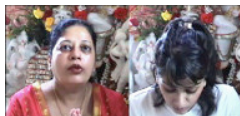
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Young at Art

Three to See

Don't miss these highlights from the Beijing 798 Biennale

Jeff Gompertz

No one ever knows what to expect from a Jeff Gompertz work. A veteran artist from New York, he recently appeared in the harrowing film *We Live in Public*, which took the Grand Jury Prize for documentary at this year's Sundance Film Festival. The performance and installation artist also produced a stunning piece of work here in Beijing back in 2007: entitled *Illumination*, the massive warehouse-sized piece featured 60 glowing barbershop poles accompanied by massage parlours and their workers. Last year in Beijing, along with sizzling Japanese performance artist Yoko Taketani, Gompertz exhibited a sadomasochistic indictment of internet censorship in a light installation-cum-performance piece called 'The Connection To The Server Has Been Reset'.

Here with 'Firewall', a series of drawings will be painted in large scale directly on the wall with texts taken from firewall alerts, such as 'This Video is No Longer Available'. Some of the texts mutate into Orwellian announcements like 'Your Future is No Longer Available'.

At Yan Club Arts Center

Transitional Aesthetics

This show features art by Middle Eastern and South Asian women – though a few local artists have been thrown into the mix, including photographer/conceptual artist, Zhang O, who previously stunned viewers with her photographic series called *Daddy*, which consisted of unsettling portraits of American fathers and their adopted Chinese daughters. Here she blends the Chinglish found on T-shirts with Cultural Revolution slogans – underscoring the generation gap between Chinese youth and their parents.

Look out for a single-channel video from Divya Mehra depicting a mother and daughter as the daughter struggles to perform a Hindu ritual.

At Beijing Tokyo Art Projects and Yan Club Arts Center

Annexe/Infex

This abstractly titled show focuses on German conceptual painting. Chinese artists still receive criticism for their lack of conceptual ingenuity, but that's not true across the board – three Chinese conceptual painters join their German and North European colleagues here.

Mao Xuhui, one of China's earliest pioneering conceptual painters, will exhibit alongside younger artists such as Sven Drühl, whose paintings are immersed in the club and music scenes (not to mention industrial car paint), and Guangzhou's own Su Yuhuan, only 27, whose sensually rendered minimalistic canvases are turning collectors' heads.

At SZ Art Center

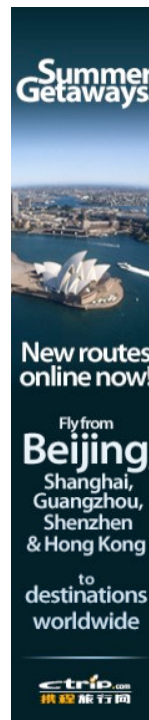
For more information, see www.beijing798biennale.com.cn.image: *Mother and Daughter Together*, Divya Mehra

Stacey Duff

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