

Zhiyun Lei

Born in 1996 in China

Artist, curator, researcher

PERSONAL INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

- 2022–present PhD in Digital Media, Macau University of Science and Technology, Macao, China
Supervisor: Wen Zhou, Professor in School of Arts and Communication, Beijing Normal University
- 2020–2022 MA (Merit) in Photography, Royal College of Art (RCA), London, UK
Supervisor: Rut Blees Luxemburg, Professor in Urban Aesthetics, RCA
- 2015–2019 BFA in Photography, 1st Class, Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts (TAFA), Tianjin, China
- 2017–2018 Exchange Student in Fine Arts, China Scholarship Council Scholarship, École supérieure d'Art du Nord-Pas-de Calais, Dunkerque/Tourcoing (ESÄ) (Nord-Pas-de-Calais Art School), Tourcoing, France

EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2023 *L.A.P. Gallery 6th Anniversary Special Exhibition*, L.A.P. Gallery, Wuhan, China
Through Different Lenses, Xiaoshan International Talent Club, Hangzhou, China
*Thermidorien * Cactus in Paris*, Paris, Tree Gallery, France
Wild Voice, TNT Contemporary Art Space, Shenzhen, China
Cactus by the Sea, Dalian City Museum, Dalian, China
8th China VR/AR Creation Contest, Beijing Normal University Virtual Studio, Beijing, China
- 2021 *The Condensation of A Clouds*, Hoxton Gallery, London, UK
- 2019 *Lishui International Photography Festival*, Lishui Art Museum, Lishui, China
- 2018 *FLEA Art Exhibition*, ESÄ Gallery, Tourcoing
- 2016 *Experimental Art Committee, China Artist Association: Experimental Art Exhibition of Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts*, TAFA Gallery, Tianjin, China

CURATING | ACTIVITIES

- 2024 Curator, *From End to Origin*, EKA·Tianwu, Shanghai, China
Academic Moderator, Contemporary Art Sub-forum, RCF China Forum, EKA·Tianwu, Shanghai
Co-curator, *The Condensation of A Cloud 2.0*, Three Shadows Photography Art Centre, Beijing
- 2023 Artist-in-residence, Wuhan Photography Art Center and L.A.P. Gallery, Wuhan

PRIZES (SELECTION)

- 2024 Top 50 Creators, Beijing Yingjun Culture Co., Ltd., Beijing
- 2023 L.A.P. International Artist Residency Award, L.A.P. Gallery, Wuhan
Cactus Project 3.0, Post Flamand Art Space, Paris, France
New Photography Prize, RCA, London
MA degree show work was featured as the cover of the RCA online Photography programme degree show and acquired by a British collector
- 2019 Academy Award, TAFA, Tianjin
'New College, New Image' Excellent Work Award, Lishui International Photography Festival, China
1839 Photography Award, Beijing
- 2017 National Scholarship, China Scholarship Council (CSC), Beijing

PAPERS

- Lei, Z., & Zhou, W*. (2023). Reinterpretation of the autonomy of art in the contemporary environment. *International Communication of Chinese Culture*, 10(2), 203-221.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s40636-023-00277-5>
- Lei, Z, Zhou, W*, Yang, X., & Zhou, J. (2023). Enhancing the Chinese identity of young people in Hong Kong and Macao based on the creation of cinematic virtual reality art, taking the cinematic virtual reality work *I love being me: in my place, my home* as an example. *International Communication of Chinese Culture*, 10(2), 181-201. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40636-023-00276-6>
- Lei, Z. (2023, June). *Enhancing the Chinese Identity of Young People in Hong Kong and Macao Based on the Creation of Cinematic Virtual Reality Art, Taking the Cinematic Virtual Reality Work I Love Being Me: in my Place, my Home as an Example*. Paper presented at the conference for the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR), Lyon, France.
- Lei, Z. (2023, May). *Virtual Reality Art: An Extension of Site-Specific Art*. Paper presented at the conferences for the 2nd Development and Innovation of Virtual Reality Art, Beijing, China.
- Lei, Z. (2024, September). *Monster Images in Artificial Intelligence Generated Film: Evolution from Myth to Cyberspace*. Paper presented at the conferences for the 26th Annual Convention of the China Association of Higher Education Film TV and Media Professional Committee, Shenzhen, China.

WORK EXPERIENCE

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| 24/02/2025–present | Part Time Lecturer, Animation Programme, Zhuhai College of Science and Technology, Zhuhai, China |
| 30/01/2023–14/05/2023 | Senior Teaching Assistant, Journalism and Communication Programme, Macau University of Science and Technology, Macao |
| 04/03/2022–29/03/2023 | Part Time Lecturer, Digital Media Art Programme, Communication University of Zhejiang, China |
| 11/09/2022–25/09/2022 | Part Time Lecturer, New Media Art Programme, Jinan University, China |
| 25/05/2022–26/05/2022 | Part Time Lecturer, Photography Programme, Art University Bournemouth, UK |
| 28/09/2020–01/07/2021 | Student Representative, Photography Programme, Royal College of Art, UK |
| 01/03/2018–28/07/2018 | Intern Journalist, Web of Sino-French Arts Exchange, France |

PUBLIC COMMISSION

- 2023–2024 Director of the Department of Academic Supervision, RCF China Forum