

游 艺 M o b A r t

Presents

PROPHEAD

a photography exhibition by Thomas Lee

@ Art Gallery at UA Cityplaza

5/F, Cityplaza, 18 Taikoo Shing Road, Taikoo Shing, Hong Kong

Gallery opening hours: 11am – 10pm | Duration: 17 May - 12 July 2010

(Art Gallery at UA Cityplaza opens for all moviegoers with eligible movie tickets of UA Cityplaza)

MobArt is proud to present its first photography exhibition "Prophead" by Thomas Lee, in collaboration with UA Cinemas. We are particularly honoured to be invited to curate the opening exhibition of the brand new "Art Gallery at UA Cityplaza". In addition, part of our sale proceeds from the art works of this exhibition will be donated to the Hong Kong Red Cross Wong Fuk-wing Memorial Fund.

Prophead

We make things. Then things make us.

Today we use them. Tomorrow we lose them. Later they reappear in our lives, at a flea market, on a film set, and lure us into a distinct time and place and its embedded emotions. They become *props*. Soon we realize they have the upper hand, forever holding an intimate, irreplaceable part of us hostage. And we learn, in time, *all things are props*, we have long been outnumbered. At least we own them, we think, until one day we glimpse ourselves through their eyes and catch an opposite picture: we are things in a world they shape; we are *their* props.

As a photographer and filmmaker I frequent prop shops. Manifested dearly in those kingdoms, the epic yet delicate love story between humans and things always intrigues me. Through *Prophead* I aim to reflect on the odd cycles and dynamics of that relationship. In each portrait I asked a prop shop patron to be photographed with a self-picked item replacing his or her head. When I raise my camera -- a prop in essence, replacing my head -- I see, via a prop's gaze, an all-props world.

About Thomas Lee

Born in Taipei, raised in Hong Kong, educated in Chicago, and now based in Hong Kong and New York, Thomas meanders between East and West working as a journalist-artist, filmmaker-photographer. He aspires to distill the abstract and the sublime from reality, to create works that blur the line between reportage and fiction.

He has completed multiple award-winning projects from China, Afghanistan, Uganda, Cuba, Ghana, the Philippines, and the United States. They have been widely published in international media such as Time Magazine, The New York Times, Rolling Stone Magazine, The Wall Street Journal, The Guardian, Asia Weekly, Modern Weekly, The Huffington Post, and CNNGo among others.

His works have participated in group exhibitions in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Paris, Cologne, and London, and are currently represented by MobArt gallery in Hong Kong and Atlas Press photo agency in New York. He was nominated Discovery of the Year at the 2006 Lucie Awards, dubbed the Oscars of photography.

Prophead was one of Thomas' first projects to merge his film, photography and journalism practices, spearheading a body of work that is both documentary and cinematic fiction. The plate *Prophead 01* was sold for HK\$25,000 at The Ambassadors' Ball Charity Auction in 2009.

About MobArt Gallery

MobArt is an art gallery with a twist. Unlike the traditional art galleries, we don't have a physical space, we are *mobile*. We "pop up" everywhere in the city and may one day appear just round the corner of where you live or work.

Our *Concept* is simple – we utilise alternative urban spaces like restaurants, coffee shops, lounges etc. to curate Art shows.

Our *Goal* is clear – to make Hong Kong a better place for Art. Elevating people's interest and appreciation for Art by making Art an integral part of our everyday life would in turn foster an environment that supports and nurtures young, talented artists.

Join us and become part of the MobArt movement!

www.MobArtGallery.com