

The Printer
The Paper
The Layer
The Thing's Right(s)
The Little Fat Flesh

Inga Svala Thorsdottir & Wu Shanzhuan
19 April – 17 May 2014

Urinating into Duchamp's *Fountain* replicas to restore the 'rights' of urinals back to its original purpose, shopping naked in a supermarket for 'forbidden' fruit impersonating Dürer's *Adam & Eve*, an obsessive pursuit of Mono-Sex Butterfrogs, arctic foxes and 'Little Fat Flesh'.

Welcome to the bizarre world of Inga Svala Thorsdottir (Iceland) and Wu Shanzhuan (China), a maze of strange ideas and peculiar language that can become powerful concepts that challenge our accustomed beliefs and relationship with the environment.

During the four-week residency at STPI last year, both artists worked like scientists in a laboratory, investigating how base units such as a line, shape or pattern from which all physical forms in the universe acquire their meaning. This exhibition of over 30 new works presents the artists' evolving humanist ideology in print and paper.

Starting with the artists' foundational symbol, the 'Perfect Bracket' is defined by the overlap of both arcs of a bracket and subversion of common thought for brackets to include or exclude anything. This central motif is the basis of their work that continues to evolve into complex geometrical formations and new philosophical insights, as evident in the polygonal shapes of *Seven Circles Little Fat Flesh*, *What A Form*, *Little Fat Flesh* and infinite tessellations in the *Perimeter of Little Fat Flesh* series.

The enigmatic arctic fox is recognised for its adaptation to changing arctic conditions and embodies the artists' concern of human impact on nature. *World Map-Arctic Fox Arc-Temperature War 2013* presents the possibility of Earth's recovery through the artists' symbolic illustrations on maps that make counterpoints on the 'temperature war' and ecological threats today, just as Joseph Beuys was stamping crosses on things to heal.

Wu Shanzhuan is one of the leading figures of the 1980's pre-Tiananmen Square generation of Chinese Conceptualists, and Inga Svala Thorsdottir started Thor's Daughter Pulverizing Service in 1993 reducing all things back to its powder form. In 1991, Thorsdottir documented Wu urinating into a replica of Marcel Duchamp's *Fountain* to restore the urinal back to its original purpose and hence the establishment of the constitution *Thing's Right(s)* in 1994.

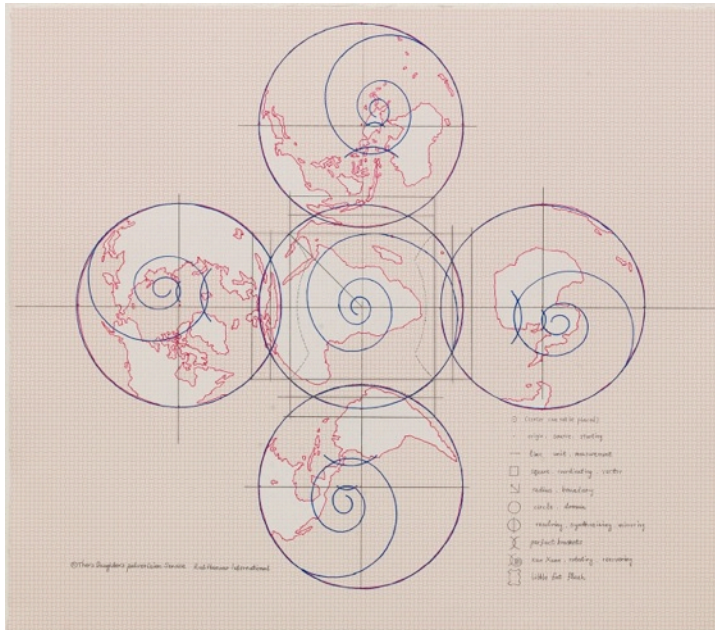
Thorsdottir and Wu have exhibited widely with solo exhibitions: *What a Form: A Reportage*, OCT Contemporary Art Terminal, Shenzhen, 2013; *kuo xuan*, Long March Space, Beijing, 2011; *Thing's Right(s) 09 The More*, Wu Shanzhuan, *Red Humour International & Inga Svala Thorsdottir, Thor's Daughter's Pulverization Service*, Shanghai Gallery of Art, Three on the Bund, Shanghai, 2009 and *Thing's Right(s) – New York 2001, Making Your Own Nationality*, Ethan Cohen Fine Arts, New York. They live and work in Hamburg, Shanghai and Reykjavík.

Exhibition Tour, Saturday 19 April, 2:30pm

Art Basel Hong Kong, 15-18 May 2014, Booth 3C15

Artist-in-residence Entang Wiharso (7-25 Apr)

IMAGES



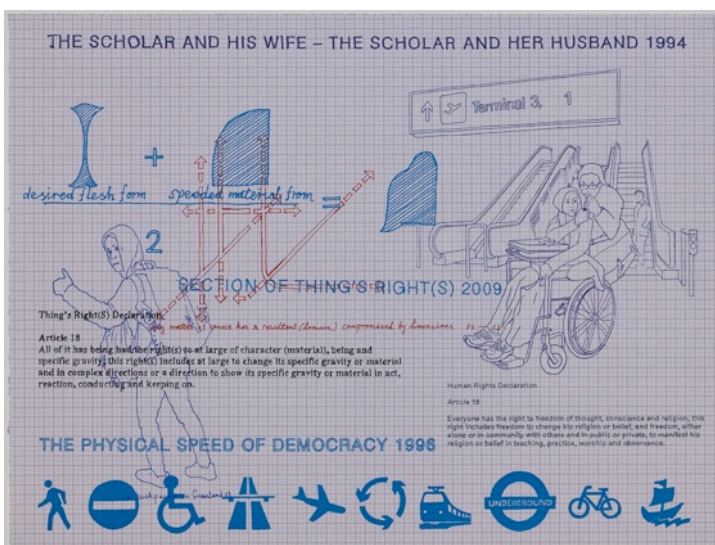
**World Map - Arctic Fox Arc –
Temperature War 2013**

2013

Edition

Screen print and relief print on STPI
handmade cotton paper

71.5 x 81 cm / 28 x 31.75 in



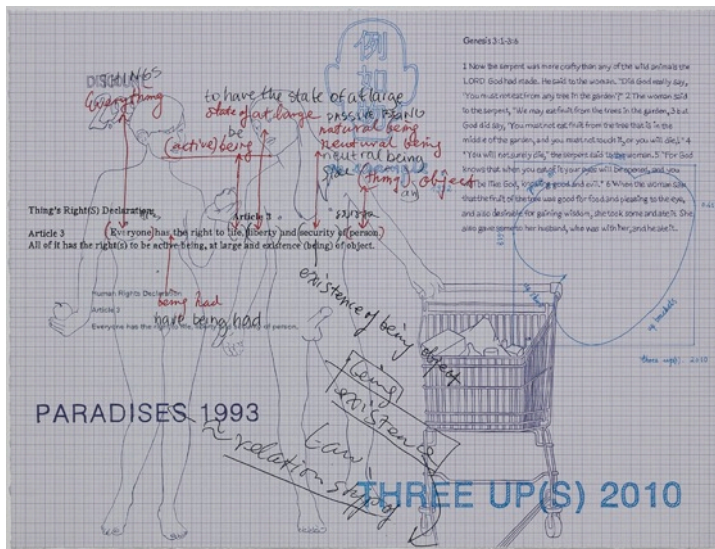
Thing's Right(s) Printed 2013

2013

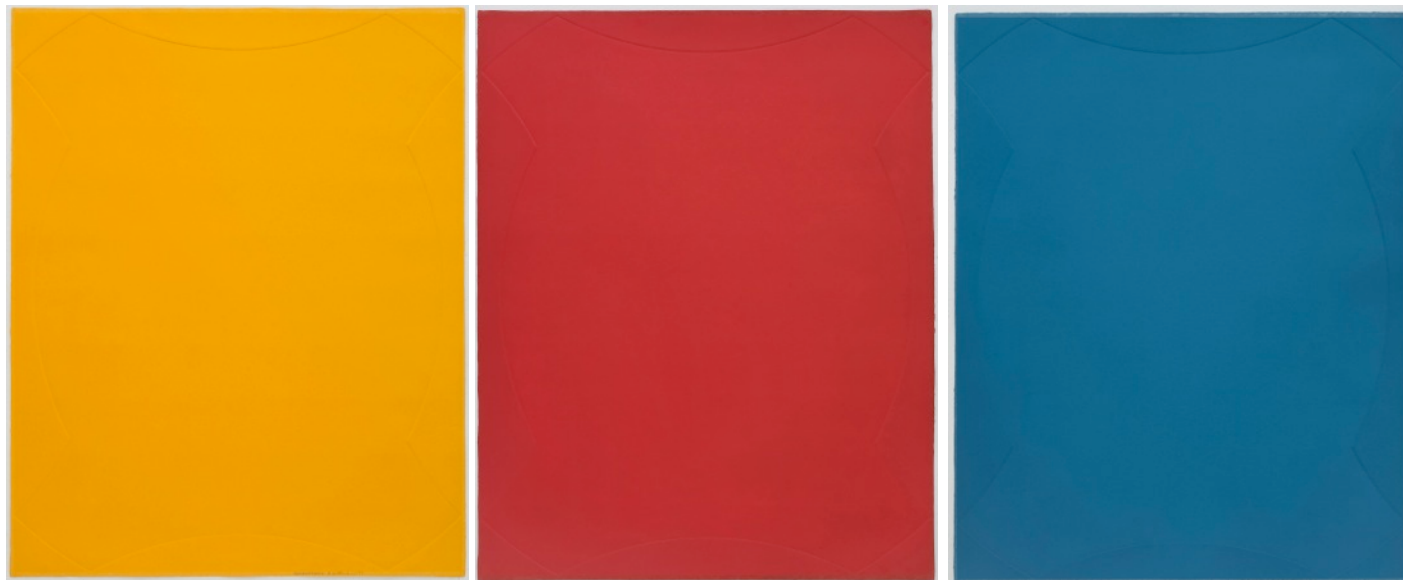
Suite of 30, Edition

Lithography, screen print on
Stonehenge paper

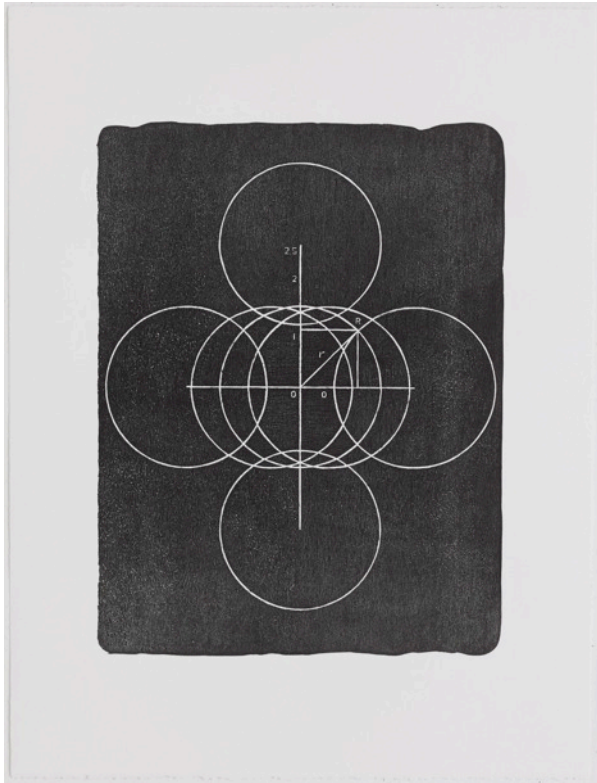
55.5 X 73 cm / 22 X 28.75 in. each



Thing's Right(s) Printed 2013
2013
Suite of 30, Edition
Lithography, screen print on
Stonehenge paper
55.5 X 73 cm / 22 X 28.75 in. each



**A Perimeter of Little Fat Flesh –
Yellow, Red, Blue**
2013
Unique
Relief print on STPI handmade yellow, red, blue paper
166.5 x 133 cm / 65.5 x 52.25 in



***Seven Circles Little Fat Flesh
(Stone Plate)***

2013
Edition
Lithography on Stonehenge cotton paper
73 x 55.5 cm / 28.75 x 22 in

What A Form, Little Fat Flesh

2013
Edition
Relief print, embossing on STPI handmade
cotton paper
129 x 103 cm / 51 x 40.75 in

Artists at Work



Inga Svala Thorsdottir & Wu Shanzhuan with
STPI Chief Printer Eitaro Ogawa
in the STPI Artist Studio



Wu Shanzhuan & Inga Svala Thorsdottir
Little Fat Flesh series

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Photos courtesy of the Artist and Singapore Tyler Print Institute

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