

# 高铭研：演习生活

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上个世纪六、七十年代之交的西方社会，在年轻学生反战、反权威的造反运动从校园扩展到社会的发展进程中，艺术从来没有如此紧密地同政治辩论和社会问题联在一起，成为参与社会和点评时事的利剑。1968年意大利学生把学潮闹到了威尼斯双年展的场地，迫使部分展览活动终止。学生们打出的口号，“让梦想走近现实！”“你是消费者还是参与者？”“艺术不存在，艺术就是你！”这些激进的宣言，可以被视为日后席卷整个艺术世界的观念艺术的前身主张。在这里，艺术和艺术家的角色终于超越了以往所有时代对艺术的定义，不再是宗教膜拜的信物的制造者，不再是中产阶级良心的寄托，即使在资本主义商业社会，当艺术家在成为自由的创造者的同时，不可避免地将艺术的浪漫美梦折扣给商品社会的法则法规的现实里，当代艺术已经从陈设变为提问，艺术家已从工匠变为社会的观察者、讨论者和发问者了。相信每一位艺术家在自己生活和创作的某个时刻也都会被这样的问题撞击到心灵：我还能为此做些什么？

高铭研最初提出这个问题的时候其实有些被逼无奈。父亲工厂里一间免费使用的工作室突然有一天要被拆迁了，面对工作室里熟悉的物件被各种彪形大汉一点一点地搬出去，露出房子的白墙和地板，艺术家的心情也如赤裸的墙壁一样空白受伤。“我还能做些什么”是高铭研2012年开始的一个艺术项目，面对失去工作室的命运，艺术家开始重新定位自己的艺术，“我为了生活，我妥协了多少。我为了生存，我制造了多少的垃圾。”

高铭研真地去参加各种工作的面试，从地产中介到红酒经销商，他认真地向这些显然是远离艺术圈子的人推介自己，自己是谁呢？一个能画点画，拍点照，有独立想法能把自己说得清楚的艺术家的，这样的一个人才能给公司企业带来什么呢？艺术家和一个地产中介的距离到底有多远呢？高铭研在面试中被问到话无不散发着现实的冷酷性，“你靠这些东西能吃得上一什么呢？”“我要的就是收入很现实！“这里没有自由，更不用谈理想了。”高铭研选择了用艺术家的身体力行去回答这些提问，他重复着面试官的评论坚持6分钟的仰卧起坐的影像让我们感受到了一个倔强的大男生勇敢的态度和不可避免的身体的痛。当高铭研筋疲力尽终于瘫倒下去的时候，空镜头对着的依然是拔地而起的城市的高楼大厦。城市造就你，城市也可以吞噬你，卡尔维诺通过马可波罗向忽必烈汗描述幻想中的城市里日夜切割玛瑙的奴仆，美丽的形态影射着生产者的欲望，在你以为拥有这些美丽的时刻，你依旧不过只是她的奴隶。这个寓言放在今天社会里涉及到的也是这种劳作者和当权者之间的关系。

当艺术家决定做劳作者的时候，他改造世界的理想首先是从自己身边可以掌控的事物开始的。Vanguard画廊最近展出的高铭研《生活演习》的个展是延续了他自2011年底开始的《生活角色》系列。在《生活角色》中，高铭研再次使自己性格中倔强坚持之本性，对自己生活中出现的21件物品以科学家的严谨态度和艺术家的浪漫情调认真地做了一番求证，让物品的角色在起源功能和再创造的功能中得到延续，高铭研穿着白大褂探究垃圾筒新用途的憨厚态度让人忍俊不禁，而对生活的改造也就是从这里起步的。《生活演习》仿佛打开了充满历史疑点的诺亚方舟，慢吞吞从船舱里走出来的长着大象腿的方桌、张着河

马大口的马桶，自带秋千的长颈鹿...与其说高铭研在戏说动物演义，不如说他在数点家珍，他给我们另外一个角度去看世界，换一种方法去想象生活。在柏拉图的理想国里，诗人和画家是被驱逐的，因为他们不赋予这个世界真理；艺术和文学在打破现实的同时，其实是在寻找另外一种现实，这是一种建立在思想意识上的现实，充满矛盾，色彩缤纷，它联系着我们的记忆和回忆，它带我们去未知的将来。驱动这种进步的，不再只是当权者的指令，资产者的欲望，艺术的必要性在今天这个物质极大丰富，权利高度膨胀的社会里从未显得如此重要过。

**Robbe-Grillet** 把世界定义为既无意义，也不荒诞，如此而已，独立与我们身边的事物同我们平行着，互不搭界。显然，在高铭研这里，这不是两个平行的世界，他们彼此交错，相互对话，走进各自的角落巡查一番后发现其实生活本身就是这样，演习或实战，艺术不存在，艺术就是你的生活。

## Gao Mingyan: Exercises of Living

Wang Kaimei

In the 1960s and 70s of western world, the anti-war and anti-authority movement of young students develop from the campus extension to the society, art had never been so closely connected with political debate and social problems, art became a sword to participate in social and comment on current events. In 1968, the Italian students brought the campus upheaval to the Venice Biennale, forcing some exhibitions to be terminated. The students showed the slogans, "Let the dream into reality!" "Are you a consumer or participants?" "There is no art, art is you!" These radical manifesto were regarded as the predecessor of the concept art which across the art world in the future. Art and the role of the artist finally across the definition of art from past time. No longer is a maker of pledge of religious worship, no longer is the anchorage of middle class. Even in the commercial society of capitalism, when artist become the creator of freedom, they inevitably put the romantic dreams of art into the reality of the law of commodity society. Contemporary art have already changed from display to ask question, artists have already changed from craftsman to social observer, debater and questioner. Every artist will be impacted by such question in some point of their life and creation: What can I do for the society?

Gao Mingyan was compelled helpless when he proposed this question at first. A free charge studio in his father's factory had to be demolished, he saw his familiar stuffs in studio moved out by some burly chaps, showing white walls and floors, his feeling was injured just like the naked wall. "What else could I do?" is a Gao Mingyan's art project since 2012. Facing the fact of losing studio, Gao Mingyan started to reposition of his art, "How much I compromise for life? How much garbage I made for existence?"

Gao Mingyan started to attend many kinds of job interview, from estate agent to wine dealer, he introduced himself seriously to these people who away from art circle. Who you are? A person can drawing and take pictures, a artist who can Introduced himself clearly with Independent thinking. What Can such a person bring to company? How fear between a artist and a estate agent? When Gao Mingyan was asked in the interview, the words with the grim reality, "How can you support yourself depend on these things?" "All I need is money!" "There is no freedom here, not to mention your dream." Gao Mingyan chose to answer these questions by his action as a artist, the image of repeat the interviewer's comments and he insist on 6 minutes sit-ups make us feel about a stubborn boy's brave attitude and the inevitably pain of the body. When Gao Mingyan completely exhausted and collapsed down, the scenery shot still on the high rise buildings of city. City makes you, also can swallow you. Calvino described the scene of slaves cut agate in the city of fantasy day and night to Kublai Khan through Marco Polo, a beautiful form alluding to the producer's desire, when you think you can hold these beautiful moments, you still just her slave. This fable in nowadays also involves the relationship between the worker and the authorities.

When artists decided to be the worker, his idea in remolding the world started from things around him and he can control them. Vanguard Gallery recently presented Gao Mingyan's solo exhibition "Exercises of Living" continues the works in "Life Roles" project started from the end of 2011. In "Life Roles", Gao Mingyan still show his persistent personality, he proceeded from the most familiar daily materials, which were also the most interesting for him. He carried on a subversive exploration to minutiae of life itself, decomposing and re-arranging some familiar daily products with the rigorous attitude of scientists and the artist's romantic emotional appeal, made the roles of stuffs continued from origin and re-invention functions. Gao Mingyan wore a white coat and explored new use of a garbage can, the honest attitude will make you smile, to reform life just start from here. "Exercises of Living" seem to open the Noah's ark with history of suspects, the square table with elephant legs, the closestool with hippo's big mouth and the swing on giraffe's body, they walk out of the Noah's ark slowly. He counts his blessings, gives us another angle to see the world and imagine life in another way. In Plato's world, the poet and painter was ousted, because they don't give the world the truth. Art and literature break the reality, at the same time they are looking for a different kind of reality that is built on ideology, this reality is colourful and full of contradictions and, it relates our memories, it takes us to the unknown future. No longer just the authorities and the bourgeois desire that drives the progress, the necessity of art is so important in today's material wealth and high inflation society.

According to Robbe-Grillet, life is not overtly meaningful or absurd, it is rather simple, thing in itself is just parallel to us. Obviously, this is not two parallel worlds, they cross each other and talk to each other in Gao Mingyan's creation, have journeyed into each other's world then can find such is life, exercise or practical, there is no art, art is your life.