

# Packs of Land

Nomadic Art Project 遊牧藝術計畫

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Venue : Taiwan Contemporary Cultural Lab Art Space III, IF

Date : 26.08.2023 (Sat.) - 03.09.2023 (Sun.)

Online exhibition : 26.08.2023 (Sat.) - 30.09.2023 (Sat.)

策展人 Curator : 盧葦 (Lu Wei)

藝術家 Artists :

Shaarbek Amankul, Mary Sherman, Jorge Rojas, Weiting Zhang,  
Janarbek Saparbek Tegin, Vanessa Greene

展期：8.26.2023 (六) -09.03.2023 (日)  
Date: 26.08.2023(Sat.) - 03.09.2023(Sun.)

開幕：8.26.2023 (六) 15:00  
Opening: 26.08.2023(Sat.)15:00

線上展覽：8.26.2023 (六) -09.30.2023 (六)  
Online exhibition: 26.08.2023(Sat.)-30.09.2023(Sat.)

地點：臺灣當代文化實驗場 C-LAB 通信分隊展演空間 1F  
Venue: Taiwan Contemporary Cultural Lab Art Space III, 1F

「傳說中，當上帝在分配土地給地球上各個民族時，吉爾吉斯人正在睡覺。吉爾吉斯人醒來後發現沒有分得土地，便央求上帝至少給他們一點東西。上帝可憐不幸的吉爾吉斯人，於是給了他們原本要留給自己的一片土地……那是一片美麗大地，山脈呈十字形交錯其上。」

透過這則神話開始思考著人們和吉爾吉斯這片土地的特殊關連－這裡如同是人和天堂之間的橋樑。展覽由神話出發，到藝術家們逐漸意識著和自身土地的關聯：我們從何而來？即使我們並不總是站在同一個地方，人們仍然帶著來自不同土地的印記。

「遊牧」在本展中並不是一個固定不動的概念，除了回應當代遊牧的多樣意涵，也連結了藝術家過往遷移的路徑。展名「包裹起一片土地」的靈感由吉爾吉斯蒙古包的意象而來，這種遊牧的「包裹」並不是永久性的，而是由周圍的自然所製成，例如由樹木取得的枝條如同骨架，動物毛髮所包覆的毛氈像是皮層。因此，蒙古包被層層包裹著，如同一塊有著各種層次的土地，它們站立在大自然中，通過開放的穹頂 (Tjundjuk)，連接著天空和地面，和製造它們的人一起遷移著。

本次展覽的六位藝術家來自美國、墨西哥、吉爾吉斯……等地，於2023年在吉爾吉斯相遇，先是共同參與了由藝術家 Shaarbek Amankul 所策劃的「遊牧藝術計畫」(Nomadic Art Project)。經由和吉爾吉斯當地人學習傳統遊牧文化的過程中，進而思考「遊牧」之於當代的意義。藝術家透過多文化的背景和媒材回應展覽如何「包裹起一片土地」。

In the legends, it is told that the Kyrgyz were asleep while God was distributing land to the people on Earth. When the Kyrgyz woke up, they realized they hadn't been given any land, and begged God to give them something at least. Feeling pity for the unfortunate Kyrgyz, God gave them the piece of land he intended to keep as his own... It was a beautiful piece of land, with chains of mountains crisscrossing it.

After learning of this myth, we started to think about our connection to the land of Kyrgyz as something extraordinary — here the land is our bridge to the skies. Whether or not we know of this as a fact, or if it is merely a legend, the story compelled artists to think: where do we come from? Even if we don't always stay in the same place, people still carry reminders of their land wherever they go.

The term "Nomads" in this exhibition is discussed as a fluid concept, one linked with migration, and considers what "Nomadism" implies in a contemporary context. The inspiration behind "Packs of Land" came from Kyrgyzstan yurts. These "bundlings" aren't permanent, they are made from nature surrounding them - such as animal hair for the felt they make use of and pillars from tree rods - they are therefore like a layered piece of land, standing within nature; and through their open dome (Tjundjuk), they connect the sky to the ground, and can be moved as one with the people who made them.

Six artists in this exhibition, from the United States, Mexico and Kyrgyzstan participated together in the 2023 edition of the Nomadic Art Project, a program curated by artist Shaarbek Amankul. By learning about the tradition of nomadism together with local Kyrgyzstanis, artists began to reflect on the contemporary meaning of "Nomadism". Through their diverse multicultural background and media, the artists respond to these questions in this exhibition "Packs of Land".

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