

CFCCA Archive & Library Record Summary

Identifier: A.SSM.40

**Name: Shen Shaomin: Project No.1 - Bonsai / Agnes Lin (eds) /
Hong Kong : Osage : 2008**

Title and Statement of Responsibility

Shen Shaomin: Project No.1 / Bonsai / Wu Hung

Creator(s)

Access status: On site

Publication Statement

Hong Kong : Osage , 2008

Scope and Content

Monograph published on the occasion of Shen Shaomin solo show: *Activated Organism* held at Osage Gallery between 2008 May 15 - 2008 Jul 13.

In the exhibition, Shen Shaomin examined the Tiananmen (Gate of Heavenly Peace), Beijing, and the Chinese art of penjing, an ancient Chinese art form of creating landscape scenes on a miniature scale, also known as bonsai. The artist carried out a detailed inspection of the structure of the gate and the ground beneath it to create a different communal experience of a structure which is "integral to the psychological makeup of generations of Chinese people."

The Bonsai project examined the perversion behind deeply rooted systems of thought formed by tradition and culture that determine the value of things residing in the aesthetic and/or morals. Using the torture inflicted on the plants, Shen raised issues of "cultural control and distortion, as well as our involvement in allowing the systems that sustain such control to endure".

(80 pages)

Conditions on Access

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Related Content

Related People and Organisations

[Wu Hung, curator](#) (has creator)

[Osage Gallery \(2004-\)](#) (has publisher)

[Shen, Shaomin, artist](#) (has contributor)

[Wu Hung, curator](#) (has contributor)

[Lin, Agnes](#) (has contributor)

Related places

[Hong Kong](#) (is related to)

[Hong Kong](#) (has place of publication)

Related Events

Notes

Descriptive note:

Formerly S3.057

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