



Press Release

Leica Gallery Taipei Presents “In Conversation: A Photographic Dialogue Between Ralph Gibson and Jing Huang”

The exhibition is the seventh of 12 exhibitions taking place at Leica Galleries worldwide to mark the 100th anniversary of the Leica I.

Wetzlar, 10 July 2025. – From 10 July to 10 November 2025, Leica Gallery Taipei will be hosting the exhibition “In Conversation: A Photographic Dialogue Between Ralph Gibson and Jing Huang”. It is part of the international series of exhibitions celebrating the 100th anniversary of Leica photography, being held at 12 Leica Galleries worldwide, which will present outstanding photographs from the past and present engaged in a visual dialogue. 100 Years of Leica photography have produced a host of outstanding photographic moments, which now take centre stage in the growing network of 29 Leica Galleries. As mediators of culture, art, and knowledge, the galleries have taken on significant social responsibility. In the process, they are striking a balance between presenting contemporary photography and showcasing the great icons of yesteryear. On the occasion of this centenary, Leica is celebrating this heritage with a special concept that fosters a conversation between photography of the past and present. An exhibition will open in a selected Leica Gallery every month, linking a contemporary talent with one of the Leica Hall of Fame winners. The end result will be 12 captivating pairs whose works complement one another, reference each other, and spark inspiration for all.

This joint exhibition focuses on the continuity and evolution of still-life photography. From 1967 to 1968, photographer Ralph Gibson worked alongside Robert Frank. It was during this time that he developed his signature high-contrast black-and-white style—a visual approach often associated with artistic expression. Renowned for his abstract visual language and striking compositions, Gibson consistently challenges the conventions of representation, asserting that photography should transcend realism and transform reality.

In this visual dialogue, Chinese photographer Jing Huang pays special attention to the expressive potential of still life, echoing the traditional Chinese painting philosophy of "emotions infused into objects." He believes that still life carries traces of human existence, serving as vessels of emotion and meaning. Technically, his approach differs from Gibson's: Huang adopts a low-contrast aesthetic



reminiscent of Chinese ink painting, aiming to offer viewers a more contemplative and layered experience.

Ralph Gibson was born in Los Angeles in 1939. He learned photography in the US Navy and then studied at the San Francisco Art Institute from 1960 to 1962. He worked as an assistant to both Dorothea Lange and Robert Frank. Gibson also made photography history with Verlag Lustrum Press, which he founded in 1969. The company published 40 monographs, as well as numerous compendiums and important works by other photographers. Gibson is represented in the most important private and museum collections. His work has been published internationally, and he is the recipient of multiple awards, including the Leica Medal of Excellence in 1988 and the French National Order of the Legion of Honour. In 2021, Leica Camera awarded him the Leica Hall of Fame Award in recognition of his lifetime photographic achievements.

Jing Huang was born in Guangdong, China, in 1987. He currently lives in Guangzhou. He graduated from the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts and won the Leica Oskar Barnack Newcomer Award in 2011. His works have been exhibited in China, France, Germany, and around the world, such as the Van Gogh Museum in France and the Ernst Leitz Museum in Germany.

His works are full of poetry, integrating oriental painting philosophy with modern photography vocabulary. He is good at capturing emotions and philosophy in daily life from a quiet and poetic perspective.

"Ralph Gibson has had a profound influence on me. During my early years studying painting, I focused more on the formal qualities of photographic works. Gibson's photography is highly painterly—his use of shapes is perfectly balanced, and the gradation of greys is incredibly rich. The subtle variations in transitions and proportions, as well as the texture of grain, all bring me a sense of delight, far more compelling than the subject matter itself. In this visual dialogue, I've incorporated elements of traditional Chinese aesthetics, attempting to infuse them into my photographic practice. Being able to engage in this cross-generational dialogue with Master Gibson is an immense honor in my photographic journey. His interpretation of still life has inspired me to explore how I might find my visual language between tradition and contemporaneity," says Jing Huang.

Jing Huang further explains that the works presented in this exhibition do not follow a specific theme. Rather, he hopes to evoke a sense of "wandering strangeness" that rekindles a childlike curiosity and sense of observation—a renewed freshness in perceiving the world.

For this project, he used a nearly century-old Leica le camera. He shares, "Its manual nature draws my attention more deeply into an intuitive connection with the subject. It's a profoundly pure way of seeing."



With a strong background in art history, Jing Huang blends Eastern philosophical thinking with Western visual language to craft a unique photographic narrative. At the same time, becoming a father has deepened his understanding of the essence of seeing: “Children’s unfiltered perspectives move me deeply. Their way of seeing the world has become a vital source of inspiration in my creative work.”

The exhibition “In Conversation: A Photographic Dialogue Between Ralph Gibson and Jing Huang” will be open to the public from 10 July to 10 November 2025 at Leica Gallery Taipei. The opening hours are Monday to Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Admission is free.

The exhibition was made possible with the kind support of WhiteWall.



100 Years of Leica: Witness to a Century

In 2025, Leica Camera AG is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Leica I, which was first presented to the public at the Leipzig Spring Fair in 1925. As the first 35 mm still camera to be mass-produced, it exceeded all expectations. Because with its compact and handy format, it opened up a whole new range of new photographic applications. All around the globe, under the motto “100 Years of Leica: Witness to a Century”, Leica Camera AG will be celebrating this camera, which revolutionised the world of photography. Cultural projects and extraordinary special-edition products will be launched throughout the year at international events organised by the Leica national subsidiaries in the major cities of Dubai, Milan, New York, Shanghai and Tokyo. The anniversary week, taking place in Wetzlar, the company’s headquarters, in June, marks the high point of the celebrations. On top of that, visitors can look forward to top-class exhibitions in the worldwide network of Leica Galleries with works by outstanding photographers.

About Leica Camera

Leica Camera AG is a global premium manufacturer of cameras, lenses, and sports optics products, with a company history spanning over 150 years. As part of its growth strategy, Leica has expanded into mobile imaging (smartphones), high-quality eyeglass lenses and watch manufacturing, and is also present in the home cinema segment with its own projectors.

Headquartered in Wetzlar, Germany, with a second production facility in Vila Nova de Famalicão, Portugal, Leica Camera AG operates a global network of sales subsidiaries and more than 120 Leica Stores.



The Leica brand represents excellent quality, German craftsmanship, and industrial design, seamlessly combined with innovative technology. An integral part of the brand's culture is its commitment to fostering photographic culture, exemplified by approximately 30 Leica Galleries worldwide, Leica Academies, and prestigious international awards such as the Leica Hall of Fame Award and the Leica Oskar Barnack Award (LOBA).

Please find further information at:

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