



Angela SU

The Hartford Girl and Other Stories

9 – 31 March 2012

Opening Reception: Friday, 9 March 2012, 6 - 8 pm

Gallery EXIT, 1 Shin Hing Street, Central, Hong Kong

Hours: Tue - Sat, 1100 – 1900

Gallery EXIT Gallery EXIT is pleased to present *The Hartford Girl and Other Stories*, a solo exhibition by Hong Kong artist Angela Su.

Widely known for her series of drawings depicting intricate hybrid forms of humans, flora, and insects that stylistically reference classical medical sketches, Angela Su has been continually interested in exploring not only the perception and imagery of the body, but also, through her performance-based works such as *One-Woman-Apartment* (2008) and *Angela Su, 2010* (2010), the tension of the artist's dualistic state of being when under physical endangerment or distress.

In her latest work, *The Hartford Girl and Other Stories*, Su further explores this theme of the felt experience of the body. Stemming from a series of discussions with cultural historian Sander L. Gilman and curator Valerie C. Doran within the framework of the *Stigmatics* project, Su brings her focus to the spectrum of self-mutilation practices in contemporary culture, and the complexities of meaning that reside within the body and the psyche.

Comprised of a video and six photographic prints, *The Hartford Girl and Other Stories* is a multi-layered, allegorical narrative whose central image documents the intensive process of creation of a complex, inkless tattoo composed of 39 lines or 'slashes' of text

written freehand on the artist's back. The tattoo references the Biblical account of the number of lashes received by Jesus prior to his crucifixion. The literal narratives in both the tattoo and the video are collages created by the artist, one consisting of fragments of prayers and the other of juxtaposed 'clips' of real and fictional experiences, song lyrics, news reports and random facts. The visual and literal 'stories' of prayer, pain, self-expression, desperation, detachment (and other things) being told in Su's work exist on many levels of encounter, but reside ultimately in the question of whose voice is actually heard.

About *Stigmatics*

The Hartford Girl and Other Stories

video and photographs by Angela Su at Gallery Exit, 9 - 31 March 2012

A Tacit Knowledge

sound and image installation by Ah-Kok Wong at Experimenta Gallery, 9 - 31 March, 2012

The Boundary and the Paradox

discussion forum with Sander L. Gilman, Asia Art Archive, 22 March 2012. 6:30 - 8 pm

Stigmatics is a collaborative, cross-disciplinary project involving artist Angela Su, cultural historian Sander L. Gilman, musician and composer Ah-Kok Wong and curator Valerie C. Doran, exploring issues related to the phenomenon of self-mutilation practices in contemporary society, from tattooing to body modification to self-harm, and their implications in both general society and artistic practice.

徐世琪

《The Hartford Girl and Other Stories》

2012年3月9日至31日

開幕酒會： 2012年3月9日(星期五) 晚上6時至8時

地點： 香港中環善慶街1號 Gallery EXIT 安全口畫廊

辦公時間： 星期二至六 1100-1900

Gallery EXIT 安全口畫廊呈獻香港藝術家徐世琪的個人展覽《The Hartford Girl and Other Stories》。

以一系列描繪著不同人類，植物，和昆蟲混合形態，仿照著古典醫學草圖風格的精緻繪畫而知名的徐世琪，不但對肌體的知覺與圖像深感興趣，亦從她的行為藝術作品中，如《One Woman Apartment》(2008)與《Angela Su, 2010》(2010)，不斷探索著當身體受到危害或困擾下，藝術家雙重身份之中所存在的張力。

徐氏的最新作品《The Hartford Girl and Other Stories》亦繼續探索身體感官這個主題。作品源起自與策展人 Valerie C. Doran 及文化歷史學家 Sander L. Gilman 對《Stigmatics》計劃所帶出的討論，徐氏今次專注於當代文化中常見的自殘模式，和當中肉體與精神之間所沉澱著的種種意義。

《The Hartford Girl and Other Stories》是由一個錄像作品和六張照片所組成，並從一個多層次寓言型式來記錄著被刺青於藝術家背上的三十九條或字句的無墨紋身。這紋身正正參考著聖經記載裡耶穌被釘在十字架之前所遭受到的鞭數。紋身與錄像中的文字敘述亦可同時被視為是藝術家所創造的拼貼；紋身裡展示了一段段斷斷續續的禱文，而錄像中的「剪輯片段」則並列著不同真實與虛構經歷、歌詞、新聞報告、和隨機知識。徐氏作品中記敘了多個關於禱告、痛苦、自我表達、絕望、分離（和其它東西）的視覺與文字故事存在於不同層面的交接，但問題最終歸去我們在聽的，是屬於誰的聲音。

關於《Stigmatics》

《The Hartford Girl and Other Stories》

徐世琪錄像及照片，安全口畫廊，2012年3月9日至31日

《A Tacit Knowledge》

黃津珏錄像及聲音裝置作品，Experimenta，2012年3月9日至31日

《The Boundary and the Paradox》

與 Sander L. Gilman 談討會，亞洲藝術文獻庫，2012年3月22日，
下午6時30分至8時

《Stigmatics》為一個跨項目的協作計劃，涉及藝術家徐世琪，文化歷史學家 Sander L. Gilman，音樂與作曲家黃津珏和策展人 Valerie C. Doran，主要探索著關連於當代社會中所出現的自我傷害現象；從刺青，到整型和自殘的議題，和這些議題於普遍社會和藝術創作中所具有的含義。