

ENCI HUANG CURTAIN

opening Sunday 23 June, from 3 pm

with **Enci Huang**, artist

exhibition Monday 24 – Thursday 27 June, 11 – 19.30

Fondazione Sozzani presents Enci Huang.

CURTAIN is a photography series awarded with **ITS Special Mention powered by Fondazione Sozzani** during the 2024 edition of **ITS Contest** for its very natural depiction of sexuality and femininity. The images reflect women's bodies in an intimate way, respecting their shapes and movements. This is a photographic narrative on a cultural perspective of body, sexuality, beauty, seen through the eyes of the Chinese people. Flipping through the pages of Enci Huang's series one can connect with the feelings, desires, fears and loneliness of younger generations in China. By shooting nudes Enci is calling on her own society to face this topic, by showing them the beauty, the elegance, the fragility and the poetry of the female body.

The narrative-driven approach of Enchi Huang opens up new paths for the genre of fashion photography, intertwining visual storytelling with societal commentary. Enci's intention is to meticulously document the entire project through photography and video, delving into provocative themes and challenging societal norms surrounding sexuality. Initially, the veiled figures amidst curtains symbolize a sense of comfort and introspection, gradually giving way to a more revealing portrayal of the body, symbolizing a journey towards clarity and acceptance. The project is deeply rooted in the cultural context of China, where discussions on sexuality have long been shrouded in taboo and modesty. Through her work, the author seeks to confront and dismantle these societal barriers, urging for a more open dialogue on the subject.

The final presentation of the author's ready-to-wear collection boldly embraces nudity, with the author herself posing nude alongside three other Chinese women. Each participant adorned fashion garments, using them to selectively cover their bodies, symbolizing the interconnectedness of sexuality, body image, and poetry of nudity. Despite initial apprehensions, the workshop exceeded expectations, demonstrating the power of collective support in addressing taboo subjects. This collective effort culminated in the most comprehensive iteration of the photo album, embodying the author's vision of fostering open dialogue and societal acceptance of sexual diversity.

FONDAZIONE SOZZANI

via Tazzoli 3 – 20154 Milano, Italia t. +39 02 290041777 m. +39 338 7458427 galleria@fondazionesozzani.org fondazionesozzani.org @fondazionesozzani Wanqi (Enci) Huang was born in Changsha, Hunan, China in 1999. She is a Photographer, designer, and performance artist. She studied Fashion knitwear Design at the *Royal College of Art*, London. Her work primarily centers on photography and the theme of openness and vulnerability. After graduation, she founded her own fashion brand ENCIICNE - Categorised successively as nudity, minimalist, provocative. Offering a collection from ready-to-wear fashion to unique pieces (Artisanal collection). Use emotional creation and documentary photography to create Fashion collections.

ITS Contest (International Talent Support) Created in 2002 in Trieste by Barbara Franchin is one of the most important international platforms dedicated to the exploration and preservation of creativity. Throughout its journey, it has identified some of the most intriguing emerging talents in fashion design, accessories, and jewelry from around the world. Among these talents are Demna, Matthieu Blazy, Chopowa Lowena, Helen Kirkum, and Richard Quinn, names that have significantly contributed to the evolution of contemporary fashion.Examples of each ITS Contest finalist's creativity are part of the *ITS Arcademy - Museum of Art in Fashion*, Italy's first contemporary fashion museum Collection. This museum safeguards a rare creative heritage, comprising early works by these designers. The Collection includes radical and innovative projects, free from commercial constraints, amassed over more than twenty editions of the ITS Contest: 14,840 portfolios, 1,100 garments, 165 accessories, 120 pieces of jewelry, and over 700 photographic works.

Fondazione Sozzani was established in 2016 by Carla Sozzani and is dedicated to the promotion of culture through photography, fashion, the fine arts, and applied arts. The Foundation has assumed the patronage of *Galleria Carla Sozzani* and continues all relevant public functions that the Gallery has supported since 1990. The Foundation also focuses on creativity and awareness, promotes the circular economy in fashion, curates and coordinates projects dedicated to education, responsibility, and the next generation of creatives.

Cantina Puiatti has been a key player in the winemaking and vinegrowing world of Friuli, since 1967. It offers harmonious wines that manage to combine an extraordinary innovative spirit with consistency and respect for their terroir. Controlled ripening avoids excessive alcohol content. Reductive winemaking gives wines with great fragrance, finesse and elegance. Cantina Puiatti's wines have always fermented and matured without wood contact. Cantina Puiatti believes in method and creativity.

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