



Media information
Berlin

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The PalaisPopulaire is showing a comprehensive presentation devoted to LuYang – Deutsche Bank’s “Artist of the Year” 2022

Deutsche Bank has named LuYang “Artist of the Year” 2022 and is presenting the multimedia installation *DOKU Experience Center* from September 10, 2022, to February 13, 2023.

Born in Shanghai, LuYang is one of the most important contemporary Asian artists and Deutsche Bank’s “Artist of the Year” for 2022. LuYang belongs to a young art scene in China inspired by science fiction, manga, gaming, and techno culture that works with current technologies and engages with the ideas of post- or transhumanism.

In 2022, Deutsche Bank is also celebrating its 150th anniversary in the Asia Pacific region. This long and close relationship is reflected in the focus on contemporary art from this region in the company’s art program. In recent years, individual or group presentations have included works by Miwa Yanagi, Hiroshi Sugimoto, Cai Guo-Qiang, Koki Tanaka, and Zhang Xu Zhan. In addition, numerous other positions from Asia Pacific are represented in the Deutsche Bank Collection.

Completely new art experiences

LuYang’s works, which were produced in collaboration with experts from the fields of dance, music, philosophy, and science, create completely new art experiences that radically question concepts such as cultural identity, body, gender, as well as people’s perception of reality. With *DOKU Experience Center*, the PalaisPopulaire is presenting a multimedia, immersive installation focused entirely on the art figure DOKU.



DOKU is a gender-neutral avatar whose countenance is modeled on LuYang's face. The short form of the name is derived from Dokusho Dokushi, a Buddhist wisdom from Japanese, which can be translated as "We are born alone, and we will die alone." Facial expressions and movement patterns are performed by dancers and then digitized using motion capture technology—a process that generates 3D models on this basis.

Digital existence on the Internet

"LuYang contrasts the idea of a fixed identity with a digital existence on the Internet that knows no restrictions of time and space, no borders, nations or genders," says **Britta Färber**, head of Deutsche Bank's art program and curator of the current exhibition. "These posthuman thoughts are thereby placed in the context of Buddhist and Hindu worlds of ideas. *DOKU Experience Center* thus introduces a way of thinking that is shaped by new technologies and at the same time based on spiritual traditions."

This artistic approach of LuYang is personified by the avatar DOKU. Under the names Human, Heaven, Asura, Animal, Hungry Ghost, and Hell, each version of DOKU embodies one of the six realms of rebirth of the karmic wheel of life, which symbolizes the eternal cycle of birth, death, and reincarnation.

DOKU the Self, the first narrative film dedicated to the avatar, which premiered at the Venice Biennale, shows how DOKU lives and dies in each of these Buddhist worlds, eventually freeing itself from the concept of the self and the body. The exhibition acts as a high-tech laboratory that offers a behind-the-scenes look at technology and a video game experience of its own. Central to the show, in addition to *DOKU the Self*, is the music video *DOKU the Matrix*, produced expressly for the show, and the new series *Bardo #1*, which shows DOKU with the respective attributes in mandala compositions.

Information about LuYang

LuYang studied at the China Academy of Arts in Hangzhou and lives and works in Shanghai. Since 2015, LuYang has been involved in numerous group exhibitions worldwide, currently at The Milk of Dreams, 59th Venice Biennale. The artist has had solo



shows in Beijing, Moscow, most recently in Aarhus and Erlangen, and as of end of September at the Zabłudowicz Collection. In 2019, was awarded the BMW Art Journey.

Since 2010, Deutsche Bank has presented an annual award to an artist, offering a platform for new, global positions in contemporary art. Nominations for the award are proposed by Deutsche Bank's Global Art Advisory Council, consisting of curators Hou Hanru (MAXXI, Rome), Udo Kittelmann (Museum Burda, Baden-Baden), and Victoria Noorthoorn (Museo de Arte Moderno, Buenos Aires).

An exhibition catalog with texts by Song Bing, Britta Färber et al will be published by Kerber Verlag next February.

A comprehensive supporting program accompanies the show.

For more information, please visit www.db-palaispopulaire.com

On September 14, Britta Färber will lead a curatorial talk through the exhibition, after which the PalaisPopulaire invites you to an Open House, starting at 6 pm, as part of Berlin Art Week.

Press photos can be found at: www.photo-files.de/db-palaispopulaire.

#DOKU #LuYang #ArtistoftheYear2022 #PalaisPopulaire #DeutscheBankArt
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About Deutsche Bank's art activities

With its commitment to contemporary art, Deutsche Bank has set standards worldwide—whether with its art holdings, one of the world's most important collections of contemporary works on paper and photographs, with its international exhibition program, or with the PalaisPopulaire in the heart of Berlin. For many years the bank has been Global Lead Partner of Frieze, with its art fairs in London, New York, Los Angeles, and Seoul.