

Communiqué

The work “L’Art Brut” is appearing in Chinese in Shanghai

The Chinese language version of Ms Lucienne PEIRY’s work will be published and presented to the public on 21 September 2015 in Shanghai. This publication is part of the celebrations marking the 65th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Switzerland and China. A translation of the book written by Ms PEIRY in 1997 and reissued four times since then, this work bears witness to Chinese interest in outsider art and the international recognition accorded the Collection de l’Art Brut in Lausanne.

On 21 September 2015, the Chinese language version of the book “L’Art Brut” will be presented at the large book store *Shanghai Book Mall*. Under the aegis of the Shanghai University Press, which is the publisher, and the Shanghai People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (SPAFFC), the launch of this book is part of the celebrations marking the 65th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Switzerland and China.

Mr Jean-Jacques DE DARDEL, the Swiss Ambassador in China, Mr LI Shan, leading figure in the field of contemporary art in Shanghai, Mr GUO Chunsheng, President of Shanghai University Press, Mr YU Jianhao, Vice-President of the SPAFFC, and Ms Lucienne PEIRY, author of the work and former Director of the Collection de L’Art Brut in Lausanne, will honour the event with their presence.

This publication in Chinese is the translation of the book written by Lucienne PEIRY and published by Flammarion in Paris in 1997 then reprinted four times. With the English version published in 2001 (reprinted in 2006) and the German version published in 2005, both by Flammarion, 42,000 copies of the book have now been sold. The Chinese language version illustrates the interest generated by outsider art in China in recent years.

Incidentally, this is not the first contact between the country and the Collection. The first retrospective of the work of Ms GUO Fengyi 郭凤怡 (1942-2010), a creator of Xi’an discovered by Lucienne PEIRY, was presented at the Collection de l’Art Brut (www.artbrut.ch) in Lausanne during the winter of 2011-2012.

The work – a summary

The work “L’Art Brut” retraces the history of outsider art and the Collection de l’Art Brut in Lausanne, in particular the research (in Switzerland from 1945) of the French artist Jean DUBUFFET which would constitute the first collection of outsider art. Let us not forget that after numerous episodes, first in



Paris then in New York, the collection finally settled in Lausanne where the museum opened in 1976, quickly attracting international acclaim.

Meticulously documented, the book retraces the emergence of these spontaneously inventive works of art created in asylums, prisons or by isolated and marginal individuals all of whom are self-taught. It showcases numerous works through more than 200 colour reproductions which retain all their power of fascination and subversive freedom.

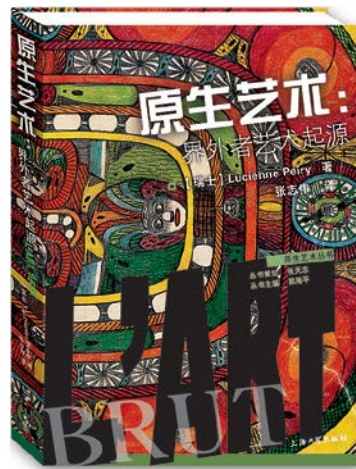
The book opens with a foreword by Michel THÉVOZ, the first curator of the Collection de l'Art Brut.

The Chinese language publication of "L'Art Brut" benefited from financial support from the City of Lausanne, Mr Uli SIGG, a renowned Swiss collector of contemporary Chinese art and the former Swiss Ambassador in China, SinOptic – Chinese World Services and Studies, Himalaya Bio and Pro Helvetia Shanghai. It also was supported by Air China.

The author

Ms Lucienne PEIRY holds a PhD in the history of art. The first woman to obtain a PhD in the history of art in Lausanne, she served as Director of the Collection de l'Art Brut in Lausanne from 2001 to 2011 and then as Director of Research and International Relations for the Collection from 2011 to 2014. She is currently an exhibition curator, writes publications relating to outsider art, gives conferences throughout Europe and teaches at EPFL.

<http://www.notesartbrut.ch/>



“原生艺术：界外者艺术起源 — Art Brut”, Shanghai University Press, September 2015, 284 pages, RMB 98 (~ CHF 15.--).

Lausanne – Shanghai, September 9, 2015

