

# 何翔宇

# 可乐计划

# HE XIANGYU

# COLA PROJECT

*16 MARCH - 5 MAY 2012*

## **4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, Sydney**

Cola Project is He Xiangyu's first solo exhibition in Australia. Born in 1986 in Dandong, Liaoning province, China, He graduated from Shenyang Normal University in 2008 and currently lives in Beijing.

Cola Project investigates material transformation, the products of global capitalism and the impact its images are having upon human culture. In 2008, the artist worked with factory workers to boil up thousands of litres of cola drink over a period of a year. This ubiquitous material was slowly transformed into a syrupy black sludge and finally into lumps of gleaming coal-like crystals. These crystals were later ground down and turned into ink, which the artist then used to create Song dynasty style ink paintings, in the age-old manner of artists reproducing the landscape and sentiment of master paintings.

The exhibition brings together a large quantity of black cola crystals, together with examples of the artist's paintings and a human-scale jade skeleton, which has had the corrosive properties of the black crystal material applied to its precious surface.

Although simple in form and material, Cola Project is weighed with both modern and ancient history. At once examining the colonising impact of global advertising and the foundational cultural history of Song Dynasty Painting, Cola Project represents a conception of history and time that is very different from a Western perspective, and a young artist making sense of our contemporary times within the context of a thousand years of cultural history.



### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Art Month Public Panel Forum: Asian Art Collectors in Focus**

The Public Life of a Private Collection

2pm Saturday 17 March

What role have collectors played in the formation of a contemporary Asian art discourse in Australia? This panel discussion brings together a number of collectors who have been broadly involved in the development of contemporary Asian art in Australia, from the 1980s through to the present.

**Booking essential - [www.4a.com.au](http://www.4a.com.au)**

Produced by 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art in partnership with Art Month.

# HE XIANGYU COLA PROJECT

## Ground Floor

Cola Project Resin (2009-2010)  
cola  
Courtesy of the artist and White Space, Beijing

## First Floor

Antique Series (2011)  
Chinese ink and coke resin on silk  
Courtesy of the artist and White Space, Beijing

Skeleton (2010)  
Jade  
Courtesy of Pearl Lam Gallery, Shanghai

## First Floor

Cola Project Tools  
Pots and induction cooker  
Courtesy of the artist and White Space, Beijing

Cola Project Tools  
Cover cloth, rectangle pot, cola-boiled small jade pieces  
Courtesy of the artist and White Space, Beijing

Cola Project Tools  
Shovels and gloves  
Courtesy of the artist and White Space, Beijing

Cola Project Production Photographs (2009-2010)  
C-print  
Courtesy of the artist and White Space, Beijing

Antique Series (2011)  
Chinese ink and coke resin on silk  
Private collection, Taiwan



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Open 11am-6pm, Tuesday - Saturday, closed public holidays



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