

Are You Still Moving Forward?
君はまだ前進していますか

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Credit:

Director, Composer, Audiovisual Programming: LIU Chen

Photograph: VHS Camera, Gopro

3D Model: MAX/MSP, Scaniverse

Music: Ableton Live 11

Introduction

"Are you still moving forward?" is an Audiovisual work for an elementary school ruins. The work is an attempt to respond to anthropologist Xiang Biao's concept of "*The disappearance of the nearby*". According to Xiang Biao's theory, "nearby" refers to the social relations and emotional connections established by people from different positions and backgrounds in a common living space. It contains two characteristics: fluidity and generativity, which means that the internal relations of the "nearby" are constantly changing and self-renewing.

項飄（シャン・ビヤオ）：1972年浙江省温州市生まれで、英国オックスフォード大学の社会人類学の元教授で、現在ドイツのマックス・プランク社会人類学研究所員

Primary School Ruins

This work uses VHS cameras and 3D scanning models to record and reproduce the ruins of an elementary school with real-time sound and video processing via Maxmsp. In modern society, the life of the elementary school campus is the first place to establish "nearby", and the nostalgia for this emotional memory also forms a reflection on "the disappearance of the nearby". VHS image represents a dream-like nostalgia feeling, while the 3D modeling effect represents an abstract sense of alienation, which build a "discontinuous memory" together and the process of this memory fading away.

アナログの映像と3Dモデリングを使って、人類学者が提唱した
「付近の消失」という概念を表現

Photo by VHS Camera

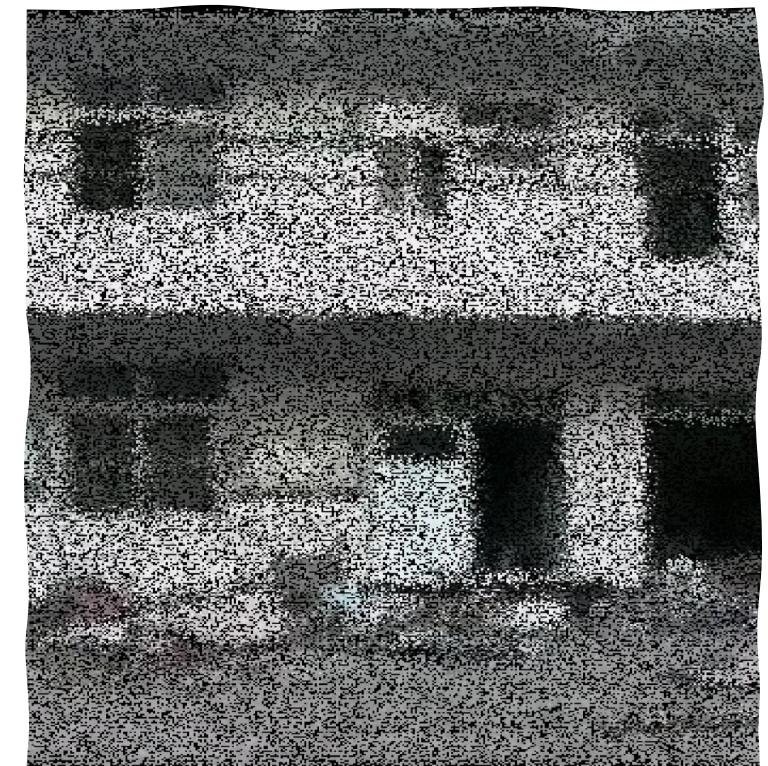
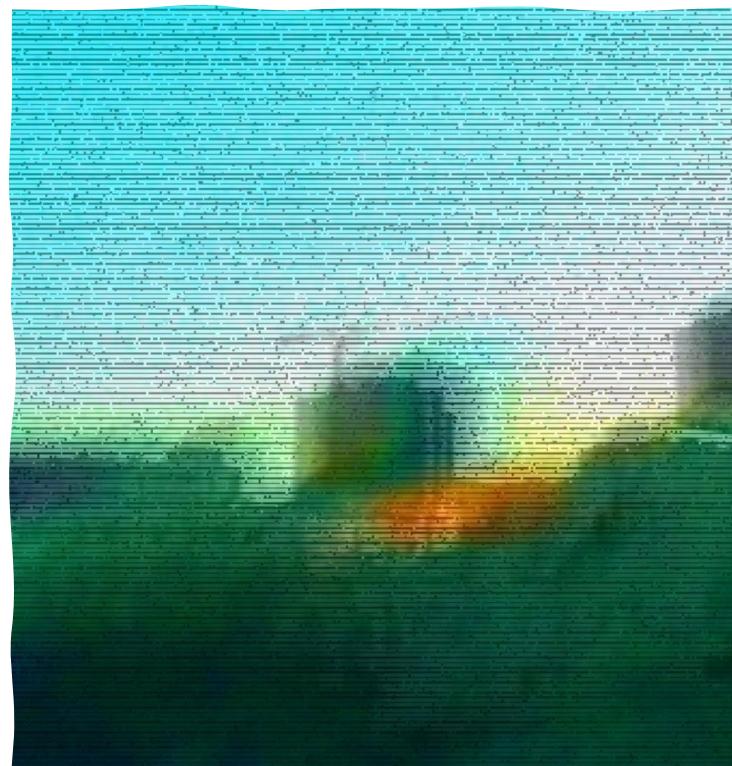
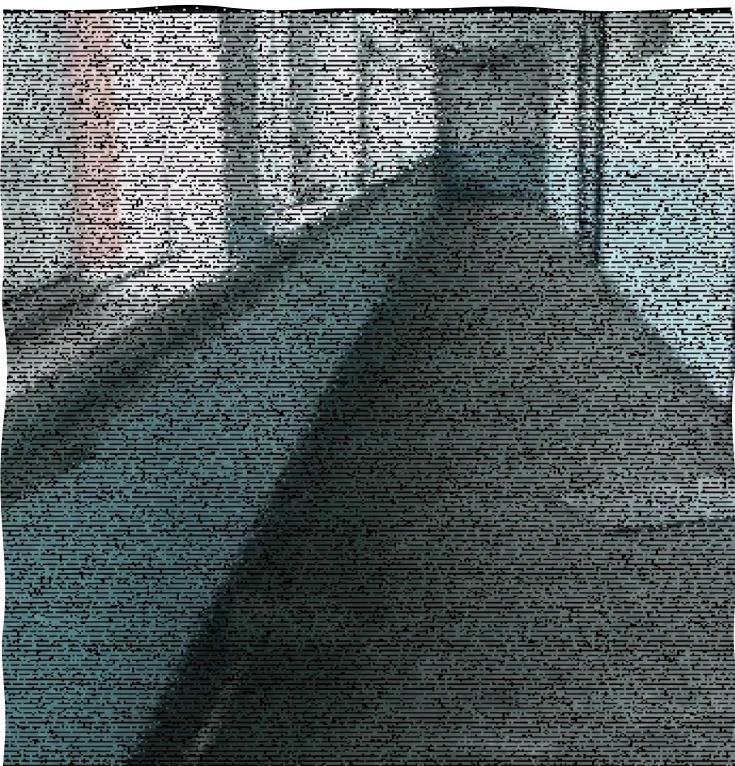


Photo by 3D Model Scan



教室から外に見たタワークレーンは、作品の冒頭と終了の段階で現す事によって、「廃墟」、「現実」、「他者」を合わせる物を象徴する



Slogan(Politic)

In China, slogans are not only a part of political propaganda, but also a way of education. Especially in schools, it is common to see slogans related to educational goals, as well as comments from national leaders on educational policies, or messages to young people.

中国における「スローガン」とは、政治宣伝でありながら、若者や大衆に対して道徳教育の役割が持っています



- School Motto: Learning, Health, Labor, Self-Reliance
- School Spirit: Love Life, Dedication, Civilization, Self-Improvement
- Slogan: Courage, Share(Moral Value)

让每个孩子都
有幸福的童年。

- Hu Jintao(Former President of China):Let every child ha(ve) a happy childhood.

——胡锦涛

国家指導者による言葉、ため書きなどをスローガンとして学校に貼り付けるのは中国普遍的な社会風景

Audio: Eye Exercise 「眼保健操」

The music of the eye exercise has a strong revolutionary ideological color, and before the 21st century, its prelude was composed of a trumpet melody and a revolutionary propaganda slogan. The slogan means “ Protect our eyesight for The revolution! Let's Start eye exercises!”

However, statistics show that despite being able to temporarily relax the eye muscles, the rate of myopia among Chinese teenagers, as well as their study pressure, is still increasing year by year.

「眼保健操」という、目経穴(ツボ)のマッサージ体操は、1970年代から広がれ、中国の学校文化としての代表。

音声の始まりの「合言葉」: 「为革命，保护视力，眼保健操，开始！」
(革命の為、視力を保護せよ！眼保健操、始めます)

Slogan and The Main Theme

Today, however, the discourse of the revolution has ceased to exist in Chinese society, so the ruins of the primary school themselves represent not only a strong nostalgia, but also a strong nothingness in which the "grand narrative" once believed has been shattered.

壮大な政治宣伝と現実の差、道徳教育のスローガンと現実生活のぶつかり、「革命物語の破滅」に対する強烈な虚無感を表現しています

Re-build the value of Moving Forward

The title of this work also responds to the situation that for Chinese students, their life choices are often driven, urged, and forced by external forces, including expectations and pressure from parents and schools, as well as competition among peers. When the school, a symbol of external power, is in ruins, can the individual assert himself from within while maintaining the momentum to move forward?

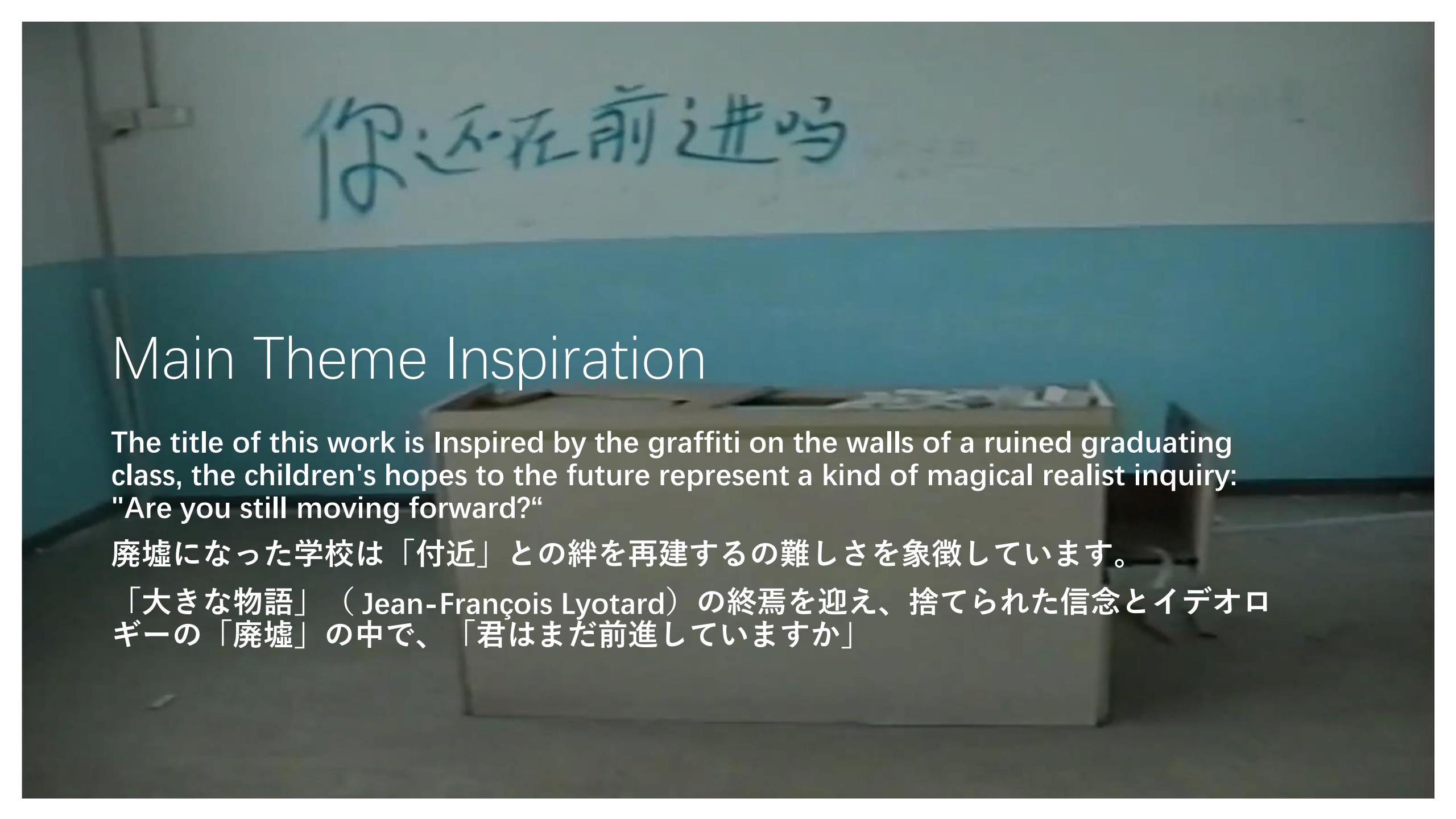
外側から押し付けたものを崩壊したあと、また内側から「前進」の価値観を再構築し、「付近」との繋がりを再建できますか？

Audio : Piano

Some notes and playing marks from Erik Satie's piano piece "Gymnopedies" are also borrowed to reinforce the mood.

The three chapters of "Gymnopedies" require being "painful" (douloureux), "sad" (triste) or "seriously" (grave)

サーティの名曲「ジムノペディ」のパターンの演奏記号を借りて、本作品における三つの視聴パートを代表する。

A photograph of a ruined school building. The upper part of the image shows a white wall with blue graffiti that reads '你还在前进吗' (Are you still moving forward?). The lower part shows the skeletal remains of a building with twisted metal and debris. The sky is overcast.

你还在前进吗

Main Theme Inspiration

The title of this work is Inspired by the graffiti on the walls of a ruined graduating class, the children's hopes to the future represent a kind of magical realist inquiry: "Are you still moving forward?"

廃墟になった学校は「付近」との絆を再建するの難しさを象徴しています。

「大きな物語」(Jean-François Lyotard)の終焉を迎え、捨てられた信念とイデオロギーの「廃墟」の中で、「君はまだ前進していますか」

