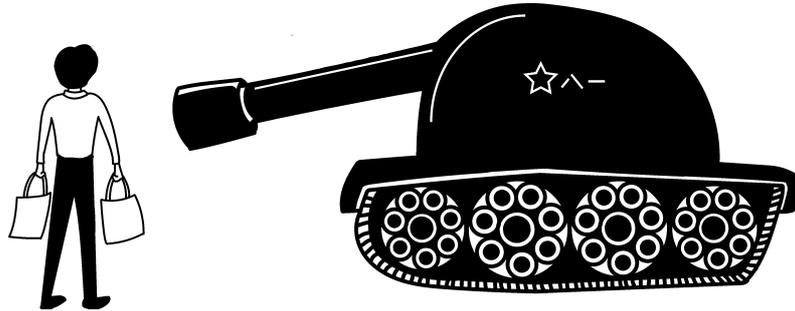


Project TankMen 2018



This is a global performance art for memorising the Tiananmen Massacre in 1989, China.

Tank Man is the nickname of an unidentified man who stood in front of a column of tanks on June 5, 1989, the morning after the Chinese military had suppressed the Tiananmen Square protests of 1989 by force. The incident was filmed and seen worldwide.

Since then, Tank Man becomes a visual totem for protests of China since 1989. But it is also fading away due to brutal censorship and sophisticated propaganda from the Chinese government. The only way to keep it alive is to represent it creatively and bring the figure relevant to what is happening contemporarily. Hence, for 2018, this performance not only just cosplaying the look of the tank man, but also bridging between the historic icon and current happening.

Firstly, there will be Tank Women joining the performance for this year in some of the cities. The tank man has been appeared as a male figure for most the time, but there are so many important female dissidents actively promoting and sacrificing for human rights campaigns in China. And in 2018, with the MeToo campaign developing all around the world, feminists in China also played a significant role. The protest from Yue Xin, student of Beijing University made the national attention focus on MeToo campaign in china. The wives of 709 lawyers are stilling fighting for their husbands releasing today. Liu Xia, the widow of Liu Xiaobo is still under house arrest with extreme limited freedom. Therefore, a Tank Woman in 2018 will present the new spirit of dissidents in China today.

Secondly, paying notice on tankmen's bags. Tank men are arming them with some most updated rebel memes from China's internet. The Great Fire Wall and censorship system dominated the internet in China, but there has been a constant battle between the wisdom of Chinese netizens and the wall. In order to express freely, various memes of political satire have been invented on internet of China such as Winnie the Pooh, Pepper Pig, Rice Bunny, Twitter Bird etc. And the performance this year will include a special designed bag which celebrate these brilliant memes.

Please help us to record and share this performance via hashtags #TankMen2018 #坦克人 2018
Scan the QR code to learn more about the performance.



坦克人 2018

这是为了纪念六四学潮和天安门屠杀死难者的而进行的行为艺术。

1989年6月4日，中国政府以屠杀的方式镇压了天安门民众运动。6月5日，一名男子在长安街只身阻挡政府镇压部队的坦克。而这一过程被记者 Jeff Widener 录下来，很快的相关照片和影像被国际媒体报道。而这位坦克人的形象逐渐成为 89 后中国本土抵抗的视觉符号。然而不可否认，29 年的岁月，健忘的历史，扭曲的宣传，乏味的重复也逐渐将它变成一个老去的符号。幸而有网民不断以新奇的方式将其演绎，令这个符号蜕变成网络模因 meme，才有持续的传播。因此，作为 2018 的坦克人表达，他的形象将和当代中国的抗争紧密相连。

首先，今年全世界各地坦克人将会邀请女性来扮演。这是为了表达中国当代的女权运动和女性抗争。从早先遭到逮捕的中国女权五人，MeToo 运动的北大岳昕事件，709 妻子的抗争，到刘霞的遭遇都是当代中国社会的标志性事件。

其次，这次表演会借用坦克人的手袋展现中国网络的网络审查和网民的抗争。从手袋上，你会看到被用来讽刺习近平的小熊维尼，被审查部门禁止的小猪佩奇，被用于女权运动 #metoo 的大米和兔子表情符号和翻越中国网络审查防火长城的推特小鸟的图案，他们都是在中國网络上热议的反抗符号。

请拿起相机，帮助我们记录并以 #坦克人 2018 和 #TankMen2018 的标签将照片放到社交网络，让更多人认识六四与当代中国。



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