



## PILLNITZ CHINOISERIE 21

Myriam Thyes, 2022. Animation, square video, 10:30, loop, silent.

The animation derives from the chinoiserie-style frescos on the Hillside Palace of Pillnitz Castle. Fragments of these appear on revolving globes, like heavenly spheres. Motifs from the frescos come adrift from the "planets" and morph into contemporary imagery from China, giving rise to a modern chinoiserie (21 stands for the 21st century). Thyes has never been to China so far and researches her knowledge about the country in literature, documentaries, news media and the www.

The following subjects appear:

Fireworks now and then.

Bridge now and then: the famous pedestrian bridge Ruyi, Shenxianju Valley, Taizhou, Zhejiang Province.

Woman with scroll – Chen Wei, virologist and major general. Chen Wei has been sent to the Wuhan Institute of Virology with her team in early 2020 to do a research about SARS-CoV-2 and to develop a vaccine. The specialist in biodefense was awarded the military order National Hero in return.

Execution now and then: For decades, Chinas government kills more humans than all the other countries en masse.

The removal and sale of organs to hospitals and laboratories is standard here.

High-rise then – three iconic skyscrapers in Pudong, Shanghai, today.

Grape Tree – Secretary-General Xi Jinping drinks a toast to the 70th anniversary of People's Republic of China.

Kneeling Muslim – Ablajan-Awut-Ayup: the well-known Uighurian popstar disappeared in 2018, most likely in a re-education camp.

Gardener then – Farmer of today: he fills a drone with pesticides (to fly over a field and let the pesticides rain over vegetables).

Standard-Bearer – Demonstration: 2011 the Jasmin Protests took place. All of the assemblies were quickly dissolved by a majority of policemen.

Water-Carrier then – Migrant Worker today, with the typical luggage.

Hunting a pig then – Pig's heads in a supermarket today.

