

JAIME LEVINAS  
PINPIN: LA GALERIA  
&  
LIVIA HUANG  
MORE HAPPINESS INSIDE  
03.06 - 03.07.2021

**Jaime Levinas** and **Livia Huang**'s work develops as two individual installations departing from their latest films and taking the idea of expanded cinema to the gallery floor. Both artists are selected for the Short & Mid-length section of the International Film Festival Rotterdam taking place between 2 - 6 June 2021. The selection celebrates the programme's focus on artists' moving image and experimental film that foreground storytelling to speak to the most urgent challenges, topics and opportunities of our times. Their presentation at the gallery focuses on different aspects of their themes and psychology of their characters and expands to spatial storytelling. The exhibition is part of Brussels Art Week and Art Rotterdam Week.

*Life is subtle. Sometimes.*

*If one listens to the hidden message, these works might whisper it to you. Their narratives derive from familial conversations. Where confidentiality and trust express a bond. What are we preserving when we keep secrets? What do we win when we tell others? Sometimes it can be a sense of selfhood in opposition to a society that does not see you as fully human. Opacity, elision and fragmentation can thus become strategies of resistance and protection.*

JOEY RAMONE

*These works rely upon the documentation of something that should have never been recorded or documented. Something that was meant to be ephemeral and passing yet has gotten the power of changing the lives they touch. It is precisely here, where it becomes hard to see what truly is important and what isn't. The drawings remind us of the pictures on our phone. The ones that we take in order to flip through them later but get buried among thousands of others. Or the moments that emerge as memories of places we have been so many times. These memory-images are singular flashes, like days in a week with no continuity or sequence between them. Still, they represent the cyclical nature of our longing to the times we cherish most.*

*Jaime Levinas & Livia Huang*

**JAIME LEVINAS**

PINPIN: La Galeria

La Galeria, can refer to both the predecessor of the shopping mall in the form of a hall with shops inside as well as the entrance space of multi-storey buildings. Sometimes combining both functions in one architectural structure. The urban wholesale district of Buenos Aires, El Once, is filled with these shops and galleries, its rhythms and its textures, people and backgrounds. With the material of the film PINPIN, stripped from its narrative, the work lives on in a raw state. A state of pure 'setting'. The viewer is invited to acquaint itself with an environment that has become the shore of multiple migratory waves throughout the decades. A place of cyclical narratives that repeat themselves over and over again. Day in and day out...

With sound design by sonic artist Noah Chevan.

## LIVIA HUANG

### More Happiness Inside

In a late night conversation, a woman asks her mother how to be a person. As they talk, the woman thinks of an old lover. Seasons change and memories accumulate without relief.

More Happiness Inside reconsiders film viewership at home as a nostalgic return instead of a forced circumstance. Although we miss seeing films in public, certain films such as the home movie were never meant to be shared that way. Showing the short film More Happiness on old-fashioned technology (a cathode ray TV with split headphones) creates a viewing experience that recalls watching forbidden tapes in secret, a peepshow, or any other stolen moment both shared and private.

On the drawings:

*The drawings remind me of the photos on your phone. I take a photo in order to flip through them later, even though the thousands I have stored make it difficult to see what was truly important. Instead these memory-images are singular flashes, like days in a week that I feel no continuity or sequence between.*

JOEY RAMONE

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