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Almanac 2015

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VOLUME X

Exhibitions

Once in a Lifetime

BY SIOBHAN BENT, JOO HAN, HANAE KO, HG MASTERS & SYLVIA TSAI



LEE UFAN, *Relatum - Four Sides of Messengers*, 2014, steel and four stones, 120 x 1050 x 1050 cm, at "Lee Ufan, Versailles," Château de Versailles, Paris, 2014. Copyright the artist. Photo by Tadzio. Courtesy the artist, Kamel Mennour, Paris, and Pace, New York.

"Did you see the (...) show at (...)? Or how about (...) at (...)? That was really good. Mostly new works, plus some early works I'd never seen before." *Oh, no, I missed that. It had just closed by the time I was in (...).* "I think it's going to travel to (...), if you're going to be there for (...)." *Oh, maybe, I might be in (...) the week before, but maybe I should try to go to (...) for (...) 's opening at (...).* "It's worth it, you have to see it. Don't bother going all the way to (...) for the (...) show. It's the same work (...) showed at (...). You can see it when it comes to (...). Really, you don't want to miss (...), even though it was probably better at (...)."

So our conversations go—with friends, colleagues and fellow followers of contemporary art throughout the year. We try to keep up, but we're always just behind. We're looking at pictures of the opening on Facebook trying to decide if we can make it before the closing. We had wanted to catch *that* show when it was showing in *that* city, but even if we had, it would have meant we'd missed that

other show somewhere else. Which would have been fine, if our most trusted friend hadn't just returned from there and told us it was the best show she'd seen in years...

ArtAsiaPacific's editors are as prone to bouts of FOMA (that is, "fear of missing art") as any globally minded art-enthusiast, but fortunately our team is spread around the globe and often finds itself on the road. So for this section of the *Almanac*, we've culled our collective memories of the year in exhibitions—both at commercial galleries and at institutions—for this selection of 20 shows that left lasting impressions on us.

But please don't think we're trying to make you, our loyal readers, feel as if you should have seen (...) at (...). Although, all of us at AAP did agree that (...) was the best thing we'd seen since the (...) show at (...). Sorry to say this, but seeing (...) at (...) really was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Don't feel bad, though: we're sure (...) will do another show of (...) in another decade or so. *HGM*