

REAL / UNREAL

THE DREAM CHAMBER

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ABSTRACT

The following is a composition of a series of keys to unlock the narrative of my fashion practise and MA collection.

The question posed is 'Where lies truth?' How can things be both real and unreal at the same time? There is a philosophical balance or imbalance that creates truth, the real and unreal as a whole.

Constructing the dream as sculptures of fluidity and shift towards a non-narrative way of seeing. The result is a paradoxical equation, formed around how two opposites coexist at once within the same space at the same time.

The context of this is to address the Eastern gaze of the duality of history versus the perception of what is considered as outstanding features of China's heritage. The shifting rooted aesthetic in classical Chinese literature is explained as 虚 Xu (the void, the illusion, emptiness) and 实 Shi (concreteness, reality, something having a physical existence) two interchangeable states.

The discussion ahead touches on cross-cultural translation (more specifically on visual translation), what is perceived as the Eastern gaze and the Western gaze and their use in analysing certain visual language points. A comparison between the Western and Eastern gazes, of looking, or what is the 'being-looked-at-ness' of the matter?