

# Art is Void

*by* LI LIAO



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*Art is Void* by Li Liao is presented as part of the publication "*Habits and customs of \_\_\_\_\_ are so different from ours so that we visit them with the same sentiment that we visit exhibitions*" edited by Biljana Ciric and Fayen d'Evie, and published by Kadist Art Foundation and 3-ply, featuring works by Lu Huanzhi, Ho Tzu Nyen, Irena Haiduk, Li Liao, Siniša Ilić, and Eva Barto. Rizograph cover + 5 booklets, BW digital print. Edition of 500 (500 cover, 5 x 100 booklets, variable content). Pdf edition available at [www.3ply.net](http://www.3ply.net).

*Art is Void* integrates three projects that were developed by Li Liao in conjunction with the exhibition "*Habits and customs of \_\_\_\_\_ are so different from ours so that we visit them with the same sentiment that we visit exhibitions*" curated by Biljana Ciric, featuring works by 3-ply, Irena Haiduk, Ho Tzu Nyen, Siniša ilić, Li Liao, Lu Huanzhi, and occurrences of works by Eva Barto. February 20 - April 30, 2016, Kadist Art Foundation, 19bis-21 rue des trois frères, 75018 PARIS.

The title of this booklet references a video work by Li Liao included within the exhibition, in which his daughter is shown learning to speak her first sentence: "Art is Void." Over the course of the exhibition, Li Liao and his family are living without artificial light, as all of the lights were removed from their apartment in Shenzhen, China, and shipped to Paris to illuminate the exhibition space and the works of the participating artists. This performative act, and the light deinstallation/reinstallation, comprise Li Liao's *Illumination* (2013/2016). Upon the invitation of Kadist Art Foundation, Li Liao undertook an instagram residency during the exhibition period. This invitation developed into a series of photographs *Rather Turn on a Cellphone, than Bore a Hole in the Wall to Get Some Light from a Neighbour's House*, referencing a Chinese folkloric tale of a young man who loved to read, but could not afford a lamp, so he would borrow light from a neighbour's house, through a thin crack on the wall.

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Exhibition view photos by Aurélien Mole

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