

FOTOSEPTIEMBRE USA

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DANIEL LEE

Animal Instinct

Guest Curator - David S. Rubin

Daniel Lee

Born 1945, Chongqing, China

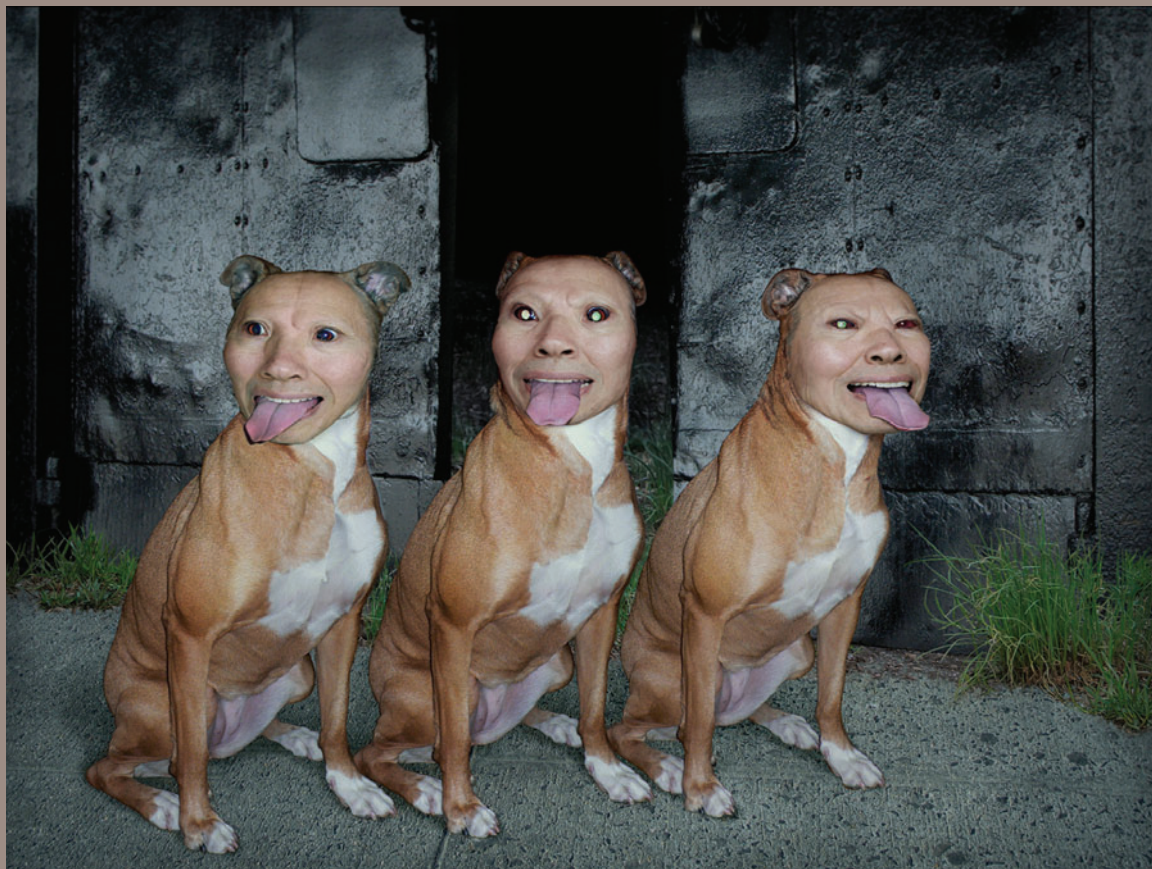
Daniel Lee was raised in Taiwan and moved to the United States after he received his BFA in painting in 1968 from the College of Chinese Culture. In 1972 he earned an MA in Photography and Film from the Philadelphia College of Art and, until the late 1970's, he worked as an Art Director in New York. By the end of the 1970's, he decided to become a full-time artist and explored a number of subjects, including fashion, still-life, and portraiture. Since 1993, computer technology has made it possible for him to combine his various drawing, photographic and fine art skills in one medium.

Lee has had solo exhibitions at O.K. Harris, New York, the East Gallery, Taipei, Nichido Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Belém Cultural Center, Lisbon, the Galerie du Chateau d'Eau, Toulouse, and the Fotofo Gallery, Bratislava. His work was also featured in the 2003 Venice Biennale. Lee's photographs are included in the collections of the Brooklyn Museum, the Shanghai Art Museum, the National Art Museum of Taiwan, the New Mexico Museum of Art, the Musée de la Mode de la Ville de Paris, the Landesmuseum, Linz, Austria, the Busan Museum of Art, Korea, Merck & Co., Seattle, and the Wellcome Collection, London.

Animal Instinct

Animal Instinct is a survey exhibition of Daniel Lee's photography from 1993-2010. In *Manimals* (1993), based on the ancient Chinese zodiac cycle of twelve animal signs associated with birth years, Lee creates digital hybrids of human beings and animals. This portrays the idea that a person is believed to exhibit behavioral and personality traits, sometimes even physical characteristics, relative to the animal year during which he or she was born. *Origin* (1999-2003) is a sequence of images in digital animation that illustrates the process of human evolution.

The mural *108 Windows* (1996-2003) contains 108 roundels, each with the face of a human/animal hybrid. The series is related to a Buddhist tradition of ringing 108 bells on special occasions. In the *Nightlife* mural (2001), Lee's characteristic hybrid figures are transformed into punk night clubbers, seated at their tables in a composition that mimics Leonardo da Vinci's *The Last Supper*. *Celebration* (2004), from the series *Harvest*, is an imaginative vision of a future world populated with a breed of livestock that supplies human eyes, hearts, livers and other harvested organs as a means of furthering the human race. Lee's latest mural, *Circus* (2010), reveals the symbiotic relationship between humans and animals at its most extreme: animals perform like people, people perform like animals, and audiences become like children.



Three Yellow Dogs



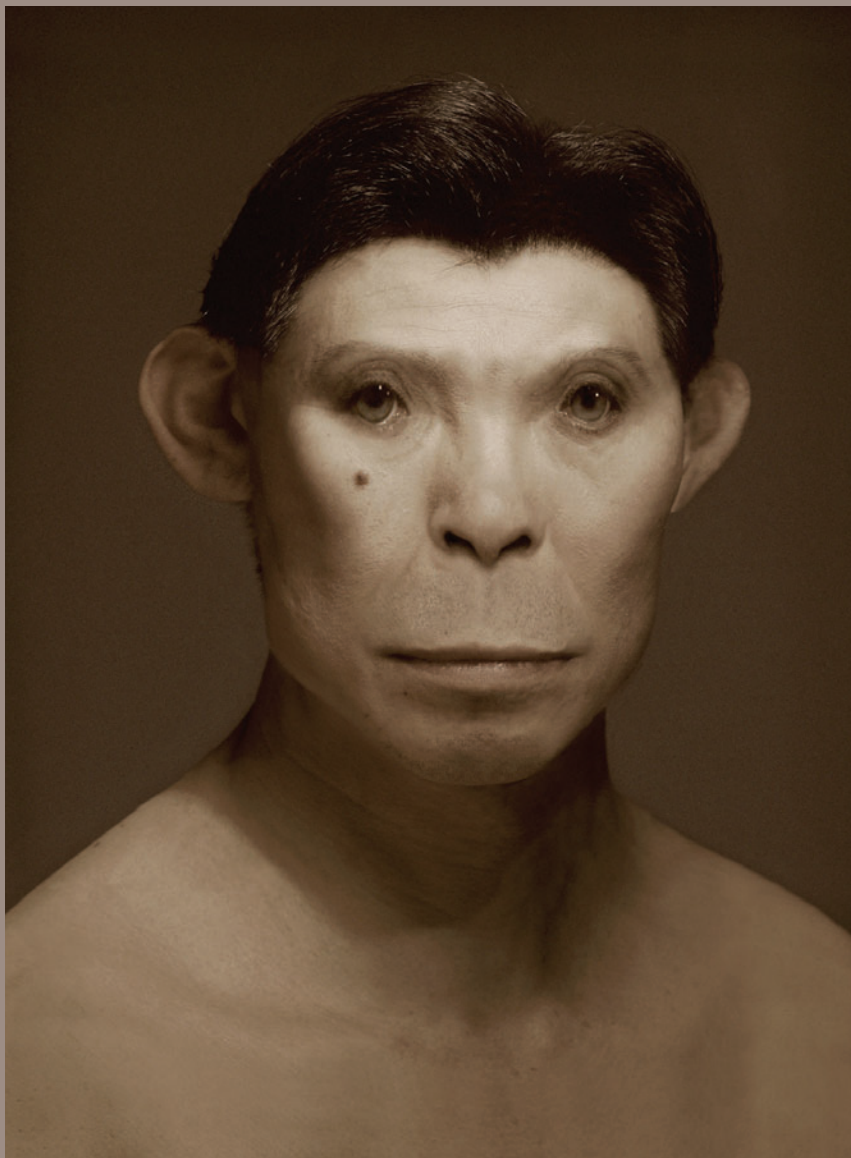
Goatman



Year Of The Boar



Year Of The Cock



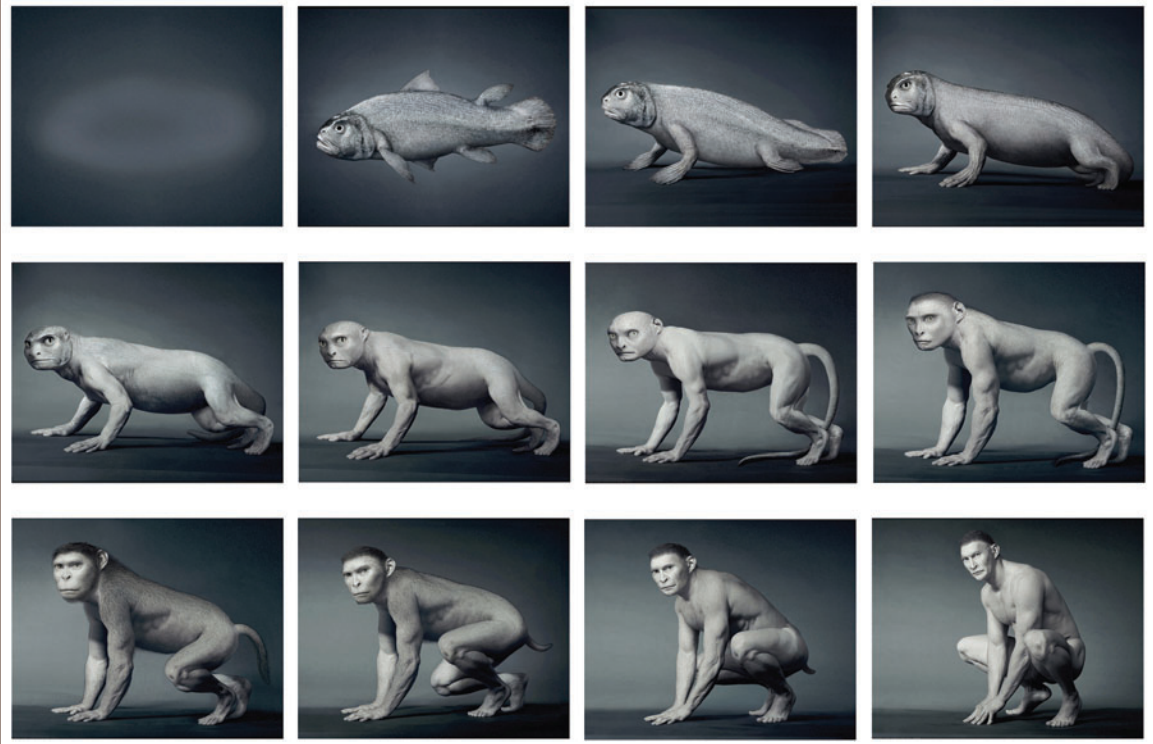
Year Of The Monkey



Year Of The Ox



Year Of The Tiger



Origin



108 Windows



Celebration



Nightlife



Circus