

**Taipei Fine Arts Museum Press Release**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Media Contact Ethan Yi-sheng Li ([ethan-tfam@gov.taipei](mailto:ethan-tfam@gov.taipei))  
Tzu-chin Kao ([tckao-tfam@gov.taipei](mailto:tckao-tfam@gov.taipei))

TFAM official website: <http://www.tfam.museum/>

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Media Kit

**Taiwan's Representation at the 60th Venice Biennale**

Date: April 20–November 24, 2024

Venue: Palazzo delle Prigioni, Venice, Italy



YUAN Goang-Ming, *Everyday War*, Expected in 2024. © YUAN Goang Ming. Courtesy of the artist and TFAM.

**Taiwan's Representation at the 60th Venice Biennale 2024: *Everyday War*  
To Spotlight Yuan Goang-Ming's Video Art Musing on the State of Existence**

December 15, 2023 – Taipei Fine Arts Museum, along with artist Yuan Goang-Ming and curator Abby Chen, have the pleasure to announce *Everyday War*, the new project representing Taiwan at the 60th Venice Biennale in 2024. Combining Yuan's signature video arts, the artist will create a space with an "everyday" domestic feel, contemplating the present-day realities of life, as well as the hidden threats that underlie "the difficulty of dwelling poetically."

Yuan Goang-Ming (1965–) grew up in Taiwan and studied media art in Germany. In the 1990s he established himself as one of Taiwan's leading new-media artists. His works include single-channel video, interactive installations, installation-based video projections, and digitally edited still photography. He pioneered a new form of motion picture somewhere in between video art and film, with a more theatrical presentation of daily life. Today, he continues to experiment the possibilities of blending new-media art and cinematic storytelling.

The exhibition titled *Everyday War* and is expected to include five video artworks and a kinetic installation—four previously released and two new works. It will continue Yuan’s past audio-visual vocabulary, with such themes as “home,” “dwelling” and “an uncanny tomorrow,” which can be seen in *Dwelling* from 2014, as well as *Tomorrowland* and *Everyday Maneuver* from 2018. Employing a view of small things with an air of warning to magnify the unanticipated outbreak of crises, these artworks project anxieties about the current political and social environment...a state of eerie suspense due to escalating tension geopolitically surrounding the Pacific island chain, across the straits and conflicts everywhere.

Yuan Goang-Ming says, “This solo exhibition will try to metaphorically explore the hidden fears and threats of Taiwan in its current state of existence, and by asking questions about the future, it will re-examine the realities of the present, considering ‘war as part of normal life’ and ‘war becoming the new normal.’”

The new piece, the exhibition’s eponymous work *Everyday War*, is a single-channel video presenting before-and-after scans of a domestic space. Glass shatters loudly, then warplanes fly in one after another, destroying the objects in the room. Finally all the aircraft annihilate one another, and the whole house is left a ruin in the aftermath of battle. As the camera keeps panning back and forth in a straight, steady line, whiling lights and shadows gradually bathe the entire interior, and the collapsed home slowly returns to its original unscathed appearance, announcing a surreal prophecy with profound tension.

The observations and portrayals of the state of affairs in Taiwan in Yuan Goang-Ming’s art highlight that war today has evolved from the actual firing of artillery to invisible expressions: “war as part of normal life,” entailing post-capitalist unequal distribution, contagion, cyber attacks, and the discrimination and oppression of different religious and ethnic groups...war has become the “new normal” within the dwelling.

“This intertwining multitude of home, encompasses host and guest, private and public spheres, physical and virtual realms, the imagined and lived experiences,” notes curator Abby Chen. “It reflects an artist’s competing reality of living in Taiwan, where fear coexists with courage. In an era of great uncertainty and division, Yuan’s declaration of one’s own vulnerability is the very fortitude and truth that transforms into empathy and shared connectedness.”

“The universal human condition of conflict perpetuates, so does the persistent search for the poetic essence.” “It is never settled in any dwelling. It lies in the moments of bravery, by those pursuing and acting.”