

相对我们“里程”栏目以往所表述被采访人的“忙”，舍不得给自己放假的崔岫闻可能更适合用“勤奋”来形容。一踏入费家村的五号工作室，崔岫闻便开始邀请我们观看她还未完成的新作，接下来不停追问我们的观后感，直到给出一个她满意的“意见”。两个小时的采访，我们就这样“被采访”了一个小时。

Whereas those we have previously interviewed for the “My Miles” column may be called “busy,” perhaps it’s more appropriate to describe Cui Xiuwen as “diligent”—she won’t even allow herself a vacation. As soon as we step foot into her Feijiacun studio, she immediately invites us to take a look at her latest work in progress. She persists in asking our impression of the work until we give a satisfactory answer. In the two hours we interviewed her, we ended up the interviewees for one.

LEAP: 您最近在忙什么？

崔岫闻: 最近一直在准备十月三十日今日美术馆的个展，这是我艺术创作这么多年来比较大的一个个展，也是对我来说在国内的一个比较大比较重要的个展。从今年三四月份就开始忙了，其实去年就有一定的准备。

LEAP: 相对于藏家或画廊家，艺术家给大家的印象好像应该驻留的时间比出行长，但现在艺术家也频繁出行，您怎么看？

崔岫闻: 对，其实艺术家有展览就会去。展览密集度高的时候，也可能一个月都不在北京，几个国家之间飞来飞去。也有段时间就一直待在北京，还有一种情况就是一个月出去一两次。

LEAP: 行程忙碌到最夸张的一次是什么情况？

崔岫闻: 那时候一个多月都在欧洲参加展览，四五天一个国家的飞。

LEAP: 一般出去除了参加展览还会干什么？

崔岫闻: 一般都是展览，这些国家展览的安排都连上了，四五天一个开幕。出去一般重要的都是展览，社交也是在展览的后续当中。大部分都是自己的展览，也有部分是去参加其他艺术家的活动。

LEAP: What have you been up to recently?

CUI XIUWEN: Lately I’ve been preparing for my solo exhibition at Today Art Museum, which opens on the 30th of October. In all the years I’ve been making art, this show looms pretty large. It’s one of the bigger and more important shows I’ve had in China. I’ve been working on it since March or April of this year, but in fact, certain preparations had already begun last year.

LEAP: Compared to collectors and gallerists, prevailing opinion seems to hold that artists spend more time at home than out traveling. Yet nowadays artists get out and about quite a bit. Would you agree?

CUI XIUWEN: Yes, in fact, if an artist has an exhibition, they’ll definitely go. When there isn’t much time between shows, an artist might not be in Beijing for an entire month, running from one country to another. Other times, an artist might stay in Beijing for a while straight, or leave the studio just once or twice in a month.

LEAP: What was the craziest moment over the course of your travels?

CUI XIUWEN: At one point I was traveling around Europe for over a month participating in exhibitions. Every four or five days I’d fly to a different country.

LEAP: Besides participating in exhibitions, what sees you out traveling?

CUI XIUWEN: Normally it’s for exhibitions. These country-to-country shows have been arranged in such an order that there’s an opening every four or five days. If I’m traveling, it’s first and foremost for an exhibition; mingling is subsequent to that. Mostly it’s for my own shows, but at times it’ll be for other artists’ events too.

LEAP: How far ahead is your working schedule planned out to?

CUI XIUWEN: Through May of next year, it’s all exhibitions: my solo show at Today Art Museum will be at the end of October; at the end of November I’ll have another solo show in Zurich; there’s a solo show in Hong Kong from late December to early January; February will see another solo exhibition in New York; another in March at Tank Loft in Chongqing; in April, I’ll be able rest a bit; and in May, another solo show, in London. Basically, I’m busy with solo exhibitions all the way through. And solo exhibitions really sap the strength out of you. It’s tiring.

LEAP: What do you keep busy with on flights, especially given your long-distance travels?