

SALT

Press release

08.05.14

**SALT is proud to present Chinese artist  
Yang Fudong**



Yang Fudong  
Yejiang/The Nightman Cometh  
Still Photograph from 35 mm film  
installation  
2011  
Courtesy of Yang Fudong, ShanghART  
Gallery and Marian Goodman Gallery

Sandhornøya, Bodø, Northern Norway, Arctic Circle  
29 August 2014 – 1 September 2015  
[www.salted.no](http://www.salted.no)



**SALT is a unique opportunity to showcase cutting-edge art projects by world famous artists, framed by the breathtaking landscapes of the Arctic. On the island of Sandhornøy in northern Norway, where mountain and ocean meet, Chinese artist Yang Fudong will create an exceptional new and site specific outdoor film installation on a beach.**

For thousands of years people have followed the movement of animals and the seasonal rhythms in the Arctic landscape. Footprints are few. SALT is inspired by and moves in that same Arctic landscape with care and respect.

SALT is a unique cultural platform – creative, historical, environmental and communal – that brings together art, architecture, music and food in the Arctic landscape. SALT launches in August 2014, starting out in Norway, before spending the next few years travelling across the northernmost part of our planet, making stops in Greenland, Iceland, the Faroe Islands, Ireland, Scotland, Spitsbergen, and Alaska. SALT is an ambitious and inspiring concept designed to stir the imagination using the nature and history of the Arctic as the framework for strong arts and cultural experiences.

Yang Fudong, one of China's best-known contemporary artists and filmmakers, is producing an outdoor, site-specific film installation for the beautiful and ever-changing landscape. His films are mostly black and white, plotless and fragmented, but at the same time hypnotic and epic in expression. "I think about how to tell a narrative by using not people speaking so much, but how the wind tells a narrative, or how trees tell a narrative", he says. Silence is an important part of his work, inspired by an Eastern tradition where meaning cannot be spoken but is understood by the heart. The films bring together the old and the new, ancient wisdom and landscapes, and the idea of the collective with the more rootless and doubting approach of the urban individual. To describe it he says, "It's a feeling of yesterday, but it's actually tomorrow."

Yang Fudong shows a sensitive and responsive approach in his work; his films touch upon questions around identity connected to history and heritage and the existential challenges of contemporary life. His grand, slow and poetic cinematic language will counter the natural scenery on the Arctic island in an extraordinary way.

SALT begins its journey upon an Arctic beach on the mountainous island of Sandhornøy in Northern Norway, between 29 August 2014 and 1 September 2015. Here, visitors can discover a place to engage the mind, body and soul. Whether it's for a day trip, an overnight stay or a lengthier sojourn, SALT presents a continuous arts diary the year round, offering a series of cultural experiences, indoors and outdoors. From site-specific art installations to fireside storytelling, readings, lectures, conferences and debates. From music – including classical and contemporary concerts, club nights, gigs, theatre and experimental performances – to child-friendly events and mediation programmes.



## Editor's notes

### Further Press Information

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### SALT Philosophy

For thousands of years people have followed the movement of animals and the seasonal rhythms in the Arctic landscape. Footprints are few. SALT is inspired by and moves in that same Arctic landscape with care and respect.

### SALT History

SALT was conceived in 2010 by acclaimed curator Helga-Marie Nordby and cultural entrepreneur Erlend Mogård-Larsen (Vulkana/ByLarm/Trøena Festival) at the Lofoten International Art Festival (LIAF), a festival for contemporary art that has taken place every second year since 1999 in the Lofoten Islands, just above the Arctic Circle.

As curators for LIAF 2010, Nordby and Mogård-Larsen chose Kuba, a small island outside Svolvær, as the location for the festival. Set in the Norwegian Sea, Kuba provides the best location for drying fish in Norway. The fiskehjeller (fish racks) on the island were transformed into venues for art projects, performances, concerts and club nights. The success of LIAF 2010 provided the inspiration for SALT.

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