

## Searching for Keywords

## The chinese artist questions the meaning of contemporary art and the social consciousness about the lifestyle in China

# visible

Project author or developer:  
**Xu Tan**

Where:  
**CN / Chine / Chine**

Website:  
**[www.xutan-keywords.com/](http://www.xutan-keywords.com/)**

Xu Tan is sensitive to social transformations, and has never stopped questioning the boundary of art. Xu Tan experienced the Cultural Revolution, the economic reforms of the 1980s, and the commercial flurry of the 1990s. He constantly asks the question: What does "contemporary art" mean? And where is the relationship between "contemporary art practices" and the "Chinese living system"? Xu Tan constantly contrives his own answers. Western Conceptualism was once an important source of inspiration for Xu Tan (and for an entire generation of the first group of Chinese avant-garde artists), allowing this generation not only to free its hands, but also to free itself from certain definitions of art which were supposed to contain the truth of art.

