

LEO XU PROJECTS

# HE AN

*A portfolio, 2013*



LEO XU PROJECTS



Installation view, *SWEET DREAMS (ARE MADE OF THIS)*, Leo Xu Projects, Shanghai, 2011

LEO XU PROJECTS



Installation view, *SWEET DREAMS (ARE MADE OF THIS)*, Leo Xu Projects, Shanghai, 2011



Installation view, *THE GREAT PERFORMANCE*, Pace Gallery, Beijing, 2010



*I Hate Ownership And Being Owned.  
An Instant Of My Purity Is Worth A Lifetime Of Your Lies.*

2006

LED Light-box

270 x 650 cm

#### ARTIST STATEMENT

“There are lines from two movies; I removed the outer contours of their Chinese-character subtitles and formed a line of spasm. I light up the negative moulds of these characters along with the negative notion of the city. And people say they resemble the noodle restaurant by Bin Laden. Actually I simply took some parts of these negative Chinese-character moulds and parts of the outer contour and connected them in a line.

At that time, I was driven by my emotions. I felt I could not overcome these urban emotions. I thought I was associating with nature, and later I found I was wrong, I was much too fond of those lights, even though they were all man-made. The words themselves were not important, but it is enough that I knew them, such as a nonlinear reading. What you say in a city in your living place is actually not that important; what are important are the words that the light emits onto you.”

LEO XU PROJECTS



Installation view, 2006

*“I hate ownership and being owned”*  
— from *THE ENGLISH PATIENT*

*“An instant of my purity is worth a lifetime of your lies”*  
— from *NATURAL BORN KILLER*

LEO XU PROJECTS



Installation view, 2006





*Miss You, Please Contact Me*

2000

LED Light-box

600cm x 140cm

ARTIST STATEMENT

*“Miss You, Please Contact Me.* This is a sentence we frequently use to talk to girls on the Internet. I enlarged this sentence and my mobile number to a light box, and then installed it on the street of the Shenzhen, a city of immigration. I want the passer-by to call me, to talk and perhaps to meet. This is the phone call list of the first two days, I lost the others. This mobile number will be out of service in a month time, and the accumulated fee as of mid-night today is 6000.00 RMB.”



Installation view, *The Third Young Artist Sculpture Exhibition*,  
He Xiangning Art Museum, Shengzhen, 2000

LEO XU PROJECTS



Installation view, *The Third Young Artist Sculpture Exhibition*,  
He Xiangning Art Museum, Shengzhen, 2000



*What Makes Me Understand What I Know?*

2009

Neon light installation

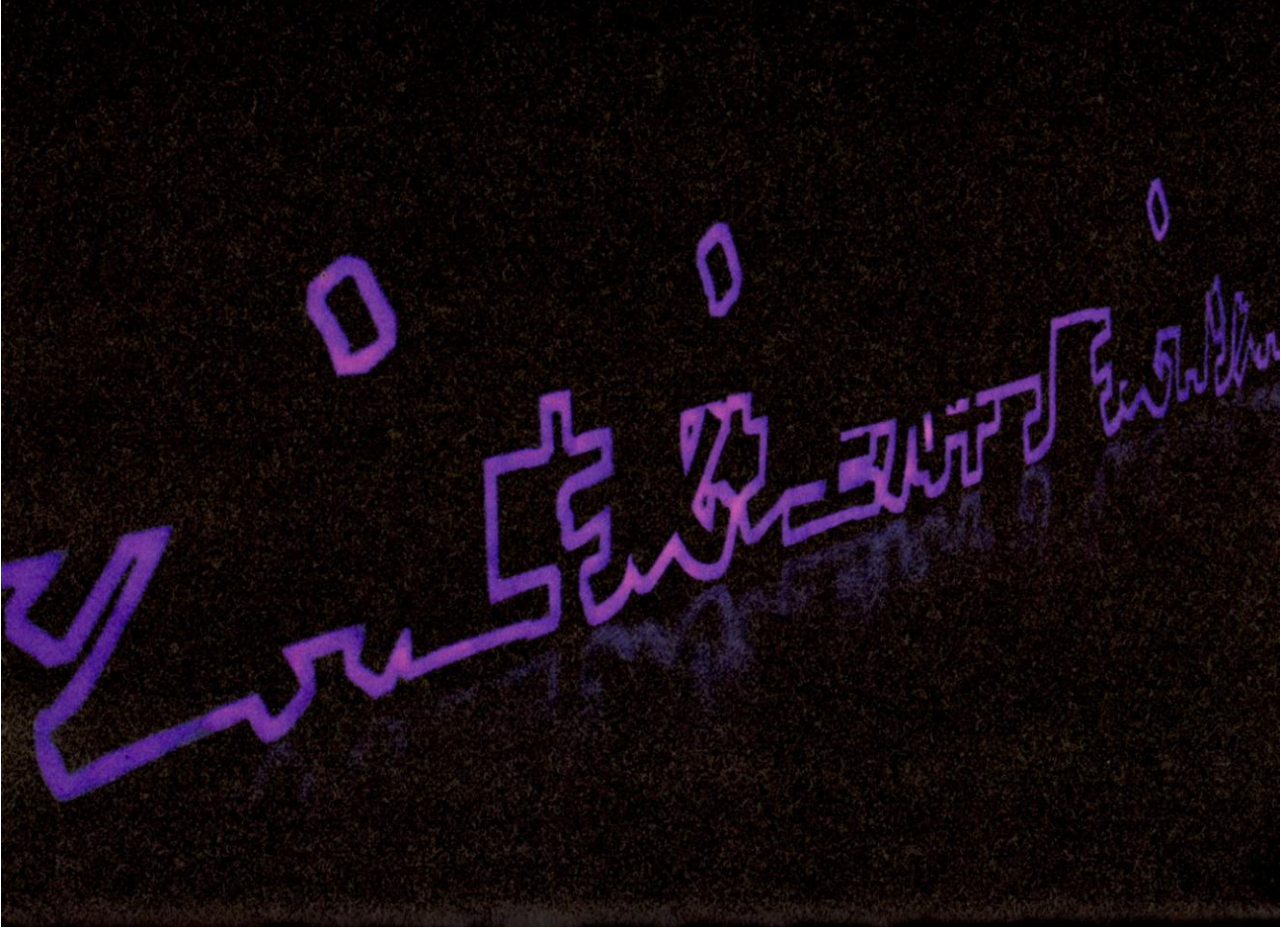
Dimensions variable

ARTIST STATEMENT

“In one year, I will constantly stealing the logos in my hometown to make my dad’s name: He Taoyuan (何桃源) and the name of my favorite Japanese actor Miho Yoshioka (吉冈美穗). The final presentation of the work will be seventy of the Chinese characters of their names. These broken light-bones, lightening or non-lightening, will be put in the exhibition hall, with a slide show of the stealing process and the original place that these words used to be situated. Besides, one slide will show a photo of my dad at work and a photo of the Japanese girl.”



Installation view, *What Makes Me Understand What I Know?*,  
Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, 2009



Installation view, *What Makes Me Understand What I Know?*,  
Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, 2009



*I Believe Someone Will Take Me There,  
But That's For Tomorrow*

2010

Installation, neon light

Dimension variable

The entire white room is designed with a 12-degree tilt, around the room are white LED lights. Low-frequency speakers placed below the floor are playing the sound of a lady been molested at a Karaoke, the sound that compressed into low frequency became to a constant vibrations.

LEO XU PROJECTS



Installation view, *I Believe Someone Will Take Me There, But That's For Tomorrow*, Magician Space, Beijing, 2010



LEO XU PROJECTS



Installation view, *I Believe Someone Will Take Me There, But That's For Tomorrow*, Magician Space, Beijing, 2010



*The Wind Light As A Thief*

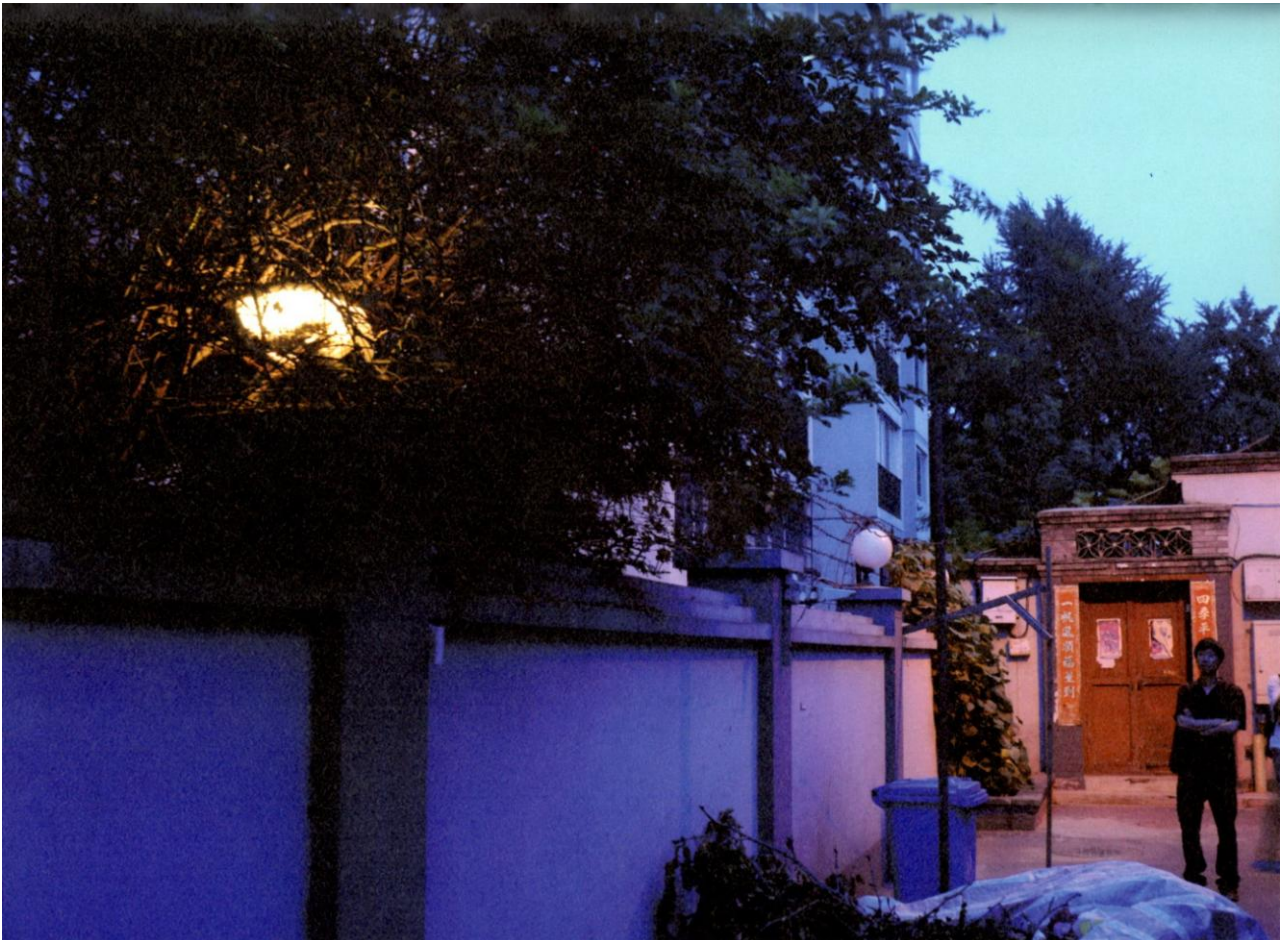
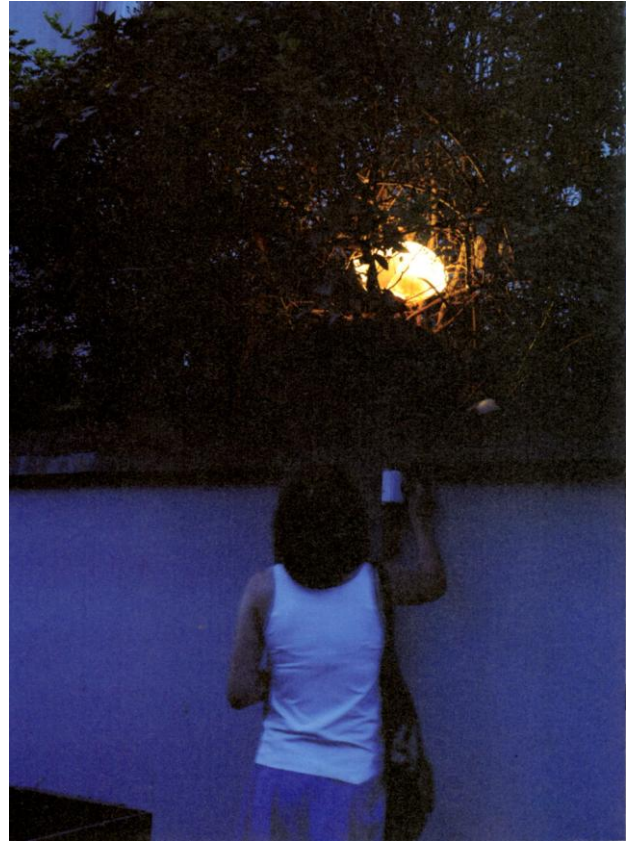
2011

Street lamp, cable, switch

Dimension variable

*The Wind Light As A Thief*, opens at Arrow Factory art space located in a narrow hutong alley near the Confucius Temple. He An has stuffed a real street lamp into its tiny 3x5x2.5m space by folding it up like a giant in a shoe box, with only its head sticking back out into the street where it belongs. The giant lamp has a switch that is accessible to anyone passing by, who can switch it on and off at will. This switch is connected not only to this lamp, but also to a light in a private home nearby, which means that whenever someone switches on or off the lamp, the light in a nearby home also switches on or off. However, the control to this lamp works both ways, meaning that someone in that private home switches on or off the light at their end, they control the street lamp as well. To complicate things further, a third switch has been placed on the street of a residential area nearby without any indication as to what it is. Passers by can flick it on or off, but they won't see anything happen there, instead both the street lamp at the Arrow Factory space and the light at the private home shall turn on or off as if controlled by a will of its own. A three-way conversation between strangers shall take place, without motive or meaning, in as inexistent language.

LEO XU PROJECTS



Installation view, *The Winde Light As A Thief*, Arrow Factory, Beijing, 2011

LEO XU PROJECTS



Installation view, *The Wind Light As A Thief*, Arrow Factory, Beijing, 2011



*A Mole On Each Breast And Another On The Shoulder*

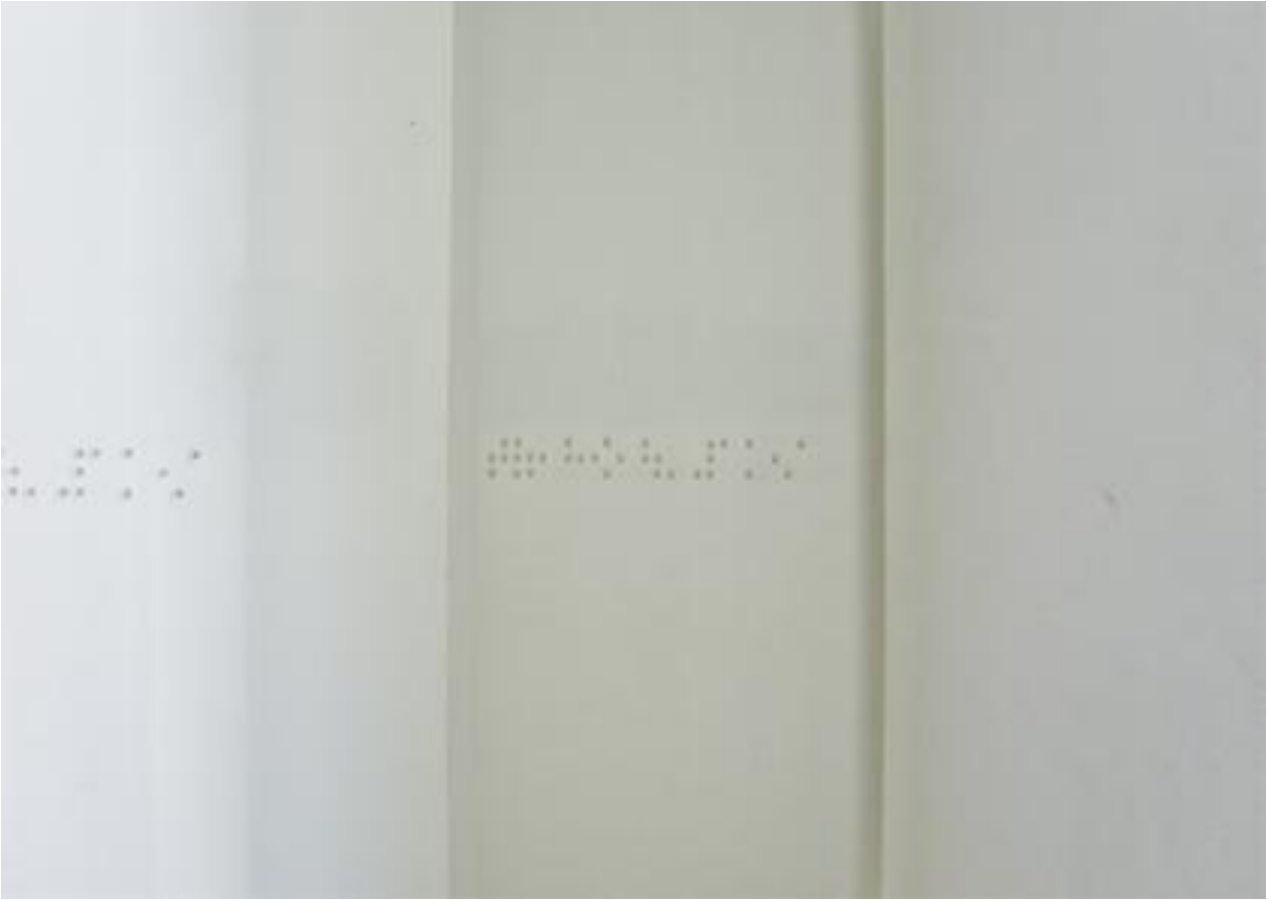
2011

Site-specific installation

Dimension variable

At Magician's Space in the 798 Art District, He An has constructed a wall blocking off the exhibition space. This wall has left just enough room for the two gallery assistants to go from their office to the toilet, but only if they squeeze past facing the wall. He An has made two grooves into the wall that correspond to the height and size of each assistant's breasts, allowing them and no-one else to get past. Inside each groove is the title of this work, A Mole on Each Breast and Another on the Shoulder, written in brail at a position corresponding to where each assistant's nipples will brush past.

LEO XU PROJECTS



Installation view, *A Mole On Each Breast And Another On The Shoulder*, Magician Space, Beijing, 2011



Installation view, *A Mole On Each Breast And Another On The Shoulder*, Magician Space, Beijing, 2011

# LEO XU PROJECTS

## HE AN

### Biography

1971 Born in Wuhan, Hubei Province

1996 Graduated from the Oil Painting Department of the Hubei Academy of Fine Arts, China  
Lives and works in Beijing.

### Solo Exhibitions

2012 *Who is alone now will stay alone forever*, TOP Contemporary Art Center, Shanghai, China

2011 *He An Solo Show*, Templon Gallery, Paris, France

*A Mole on Each Breast and Another on the Shoulder - An Exhibition of He An*, Magician Space, Beijing, China

*I Am Curious Yellow I Am Curious Blue - He An Solo Exhibition*, Tang Contemporary Art, Beijing, China

*Wind Light As a Thief - He An Works Exhibition*, Arrow Factory, Beijing, China

2010 *I Believe Some Will Take Me There, But That's for Tomorrow - He An Solo Exhibition*, Magician Space, Beijing, China

2009 *What makes me understand what I know?* UCCA, Beijing, China

*What makes me understand what I know?* Tang Contemporary Art, CIGE, Beijing, China

*Just Because I'm Superficial Doesn't Have to Mean you can't Love Me*, UCCA, CIGE, Beijing, China

2008 *Cheap Way of Loving Souls*, Biz Art Center, Shanghai, China

2003 *He An*, Chinese Arts Center, Manchester, UK

2000 *He An: Photography Exhibition*, Galerie Loft, Paris, France

### Selected Group Exhibitions

2013 *Writing Without Borders*, Lehmann Maupin Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China

*2013 Carnegie International*, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, U.S.A

2012 *Pulse Reaction—An Exchange Project on Art Practice*, Guangdong Times Museum, Guangzhou, China

Frieze Art Fair, New York City, U.S.A

*Edit: Image Fetish and Phobia*, ShanghART H-Space, Shanghai, China

*The Theme Exhibition of the Fourth Guangzhou Triennial—The Unseen*, Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangzhou, China

*COART Asian Youth Art Scene—2012 Autumn*, Shuhe Ancient Town, Lijiang, China



## LEO XU PROJECTS

- 2011 *Gallery Hotel Art Project*, Gallery Hotel, Beijing, China  
*Sweet Dreams (Are Made of This)*, Leo Xu Projects, Shanghai, China  
*Top Events" 3rd Session - Poster Exhibition*, TOP Contemporary Art Center, Shanghai, China  
*Remote Ten Years of White Rabbit—Contemporary Chinese Art Collection*, White Rabbit Museum, Sydney, Australia
- 2010 *Great Performances*, Pace Beijing, Beijing, China  
*Work in Spreading: Transmit and Translate the Images*, Iberia Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China  
*Erotic*, Hadrien de Montferrand Gallery, Beijing, China
- 2009 *Bourgeoisified Proletariat: Contemporary Art in Songjiang*, Songjiang Creative Studio, Shanghai, China
- 2008 *Homesickness—Memory and Virtual Reality*, T Space, Beijing, China  
*Off-Site Project*, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, UK  
*Rendez-vous 2008*, MAC-Lyon, Lyon, France
- 2007 *Art in Motion: Chinese Contemporary Art Meets The BMW Art Cars*, Long March Space, Beijing, China  
*The Real Thing: Contemporary Art from China*, Tate Liverpool, Liverpool, UK  
*NONO: Self-Curated Exhibition of Latest Artworks by 11 Individual Artists*, Long March Space, Beijing, China
- 2006 *Paining For Joy*, Beijing Tokyo Art Projects, Beijing, China  
*Sold Exhibition*, 2577 Creative Garden, Shanghai China  
*Art Game: An Experience of Agency in Contemporary Art*, He Xiangning Art Museum, Shenzhen, China  
*City in Progress: Live from Zhangjiang*, Zhangjiang Development Zone, Shanghai, China  
*It's All Right: Contemporary Art Exhibition*, Hu Qing Tang Museum of Traditional, Hangzhou, China
- 2005 *Something is Happening*, Maple-poplar Woods, Orioles Singing in the Willows Park (Liu Lang Wen Ying Gongyuan), China  
*Interval*, Creation Loft, HI-SHANGHAI (organized by Shanghai Industrial Development Co. and Shanghai Gallery of Art), Shanghai, China  
*True to Life*, Taikang Top Space, Beijing, China  
*The Other Shore of This Shore: The 5<sup>th</sup> Pingyao International Photograph Festival*, Pingyao, China

## LEO XU PROJECTS

- 2004 *Shanghai Duolun Exhibition of Young Artists*, Duolun Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai, China  
*DIAL 62761232 (Express Delivery Exhibition): Contemporary Art Exhibition*, Bizart Center, Shanghai China  
*China, The Body Everywhere?* Marseille Museum of Contemporary Art, Marseille, France
- 2003 *Ctrl-Z, Taikang Top Space*, Beijing, China  
*Distance: The Exhibition of Chinese Contemporary Art*, Guangdong Art Museum, Guangzhou, China
- 2002 *Run, Jump, Crawl, Walk*, The East Modern Art Centre, Beijing, China  
*Contesting Meaning in Public Space: Labor Community and Public Art*, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2001 *In Contradiction*, Finnish Museum of Photography, Helsinki, Finland  
*Next Generation*, Galerie Loft, Paris, France  
*Disorientation: Photography and Video in China Today*, Chambers Fine Art, New York, U.S.  
*Visibility*, China Art Archives & Warehouse, Beijing, China  
*Weightlessness*, Volker Diehl Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 2000 *Documentary Exhibition of Chinese Avant-Garde Art in the 1990s*, Fukuoka Art Museum, Fukuoka, Japan  
*The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Sculpture Exhibition*, He Xiangning Museum, Shenzhen, China  
*FUCK OFF*, Eastlink Gallery, Shanghai, China

*For further information, please contact the gallery [info@leoxuprojects.com](mailto:info@leoxuprojects.com), or phone +86-21-34611245.*