

## Exhibition

Start the New Year with Up-and-Coming Artist Lu Yang  
 New Video Work Inspired by Japanese Subcultures  
**Lu Yang: Electromagnetic Brainology**

Dates January 5th – January 22nd, 2018 / 11:00–20:00

Venue Spiral Garden (Spiral 1F)



Electromagnetic Brainology (2017)



Electromagnetic Brainology Brain Control Messenger (2017)

Spiral presents “Lu Yang: Electromagnetic Brainology,” an exhibition of the work of Chinese artist Lu Yang, at Spiral Garden (Spiral 1F) from January 5th to January 22nd, 2018. It is the first large-scale solo exhibition in Japan of the Shanghai-based new media artist.

Lu Yang is a leading figure in the millennial generation of artists who freely and innovatively use digital media in their practice. She employs such media as video, installations, animation, games, and 3D computer graphics to explore the link between science and spirituality. She was selected to represent her country in the Chinese pavilion at the 2015 Venice Biennale and recently exhibited at “Asia Corridor” at Kyoto Art Center in summer 2017.

Her unforgettable and compelling video work exudes a powerful presence. While her work has attracted attention for its striking and radical visuals, it is also permeated by the transience and fragility of life, and attempts to sensuously eliminate the various distortions rampant today. As society becomes increasingly estranged from religion, Lu Yang’s generation seems to turn instead to pop idols and animation characters for its objects of worship. Inventively expressing this trend, the exhibition features a new video work made in the style of a music video using the Japanese idol Chanmomo© from the group Band Ja Naimon! The didactic yet humorous work focuses on the brain and the senses while incorporating and visualizing aspects of entertainment, including famous video games and music videos, as well as the borders between science and consciousness, and reality and the imagination.

We look forward to welcoming press inquiries about this exhilarating and insightful exhibition.

## Profile



## Lu Yang

Born in 1984 in China. She graduated from the China Academy of Art in 2010 and is now based in Shanghai. Her practice combines video, installation, and digital painting in her explorations of such themes as science, biology, religion, mass culture, subculture, and music. Her recent major solo exhibitions include “Port Journey: Yokohama-Shanghai Lu Yang” (Zou-no-Hana Terrace, Yokohama, 2016) and “Lu Yang Screening Program” (3331 Arts Chiyoda, Tokyo, 2013). Her group exhibitions include the Venice Biennale 2015 (China Pavilion) and “A Shaded View on Fashion Film” (Centre Pompidou, Paris, 2013).

## Highlights

**Japan today and the global zeitgeist, as seen by a young Chinese artist**

Lu Yang’s work is suffused with techniques and elements borrowed from Japanese manga and animation, which she consumed avidly from a young age. Moreover, the new video work featured in this exhibition stars a genuine Japanese idol singer. The citation of Japanese animation, comic books, and music idols by a non-Japanese artist in this way reveals how certain aspects of recent Japanese culture may well be called subcultures, but nonetheless currently also inspire creativity on an international level.

**Modern faith rendered in radical and breathtaking videos**

“To understand the world, some people perhaps try to read a difficult philosophy book, but I learn deep things from animation and manga,” says Lu. “I want my work also to function like this.” In today’s society where many people identify with 2D worlds and attempt to find themselves there, Lu Yang’s videos perhaps present a new form of faith, or something to believe in that is fitting for the contemporary human condition.



Exhibition plan

## Exhibits

**Electromagnetic Brainology Brain Control Messenger**

This new video work features the music idol Chanmomo© from the group Band Ja Naimon! as well as original music by invisible manners, which is known for its music for the idol group Momirole Clover Z. Chanmomo© plays a female high school student who must fight evil.

Conception, Script, Direction: Lu Yang  
 Directed by: Satoru Ohno ( THINKR )  
 Line Producer, Assistant Director: Tomoki Uchida  
 Director of Photography: Hironori Ito  
 Cast: Chanmomo© (Band Ja Naimon!), Taiki Haraga  
 Music: Daisuke Hirayama, Sei Fukuyama ( invisible manners )  
 Theme Song: Electromagnetic brainology  
 Song: Chanmomo ©  
 Composer: Daisuke Hirayama, Sei Fukuyama ( invisible manners )  
 Lyrics: Tomoharu Matsuda



### Electromagnetic Brainology

This work is a follow-up to *Lu Yang Delusional Mandala* (2015) (<https://vimeo.com/141005910>). The four gods of Fire, Water, Earth, and Wind wear the brain-controlling Super DBS Crown, and perform a frenzied dance to music. The extraordinary dance scene is the highlight, featuring the quartet of gaudily colored deities within a world of overwhelming velocity.

The venue will feature *Electromagnetic Brainology Brain Control Messenger* and *Electromagnetic Brainology* displayed on large screens. In addition, in the atrium space will appear *power of will – final shooting*, a giant balloon sculpture of the artist's own head. In this way, Lu Yang's unique and dazzling vision will unfold all over the venue, thrilling and inspiring visitors.

#### Overview

#### Lu Yang: Electromagnetic Brainology

Dates January 5th – January 22nd, 2018 11:00–20:00  
 Venue Spiral Garden (Spiral 1F) 5-6-23 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku, Tokyo  
 Admission Free  
 Inquiries TEL 03-3498-1171

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Planned by Spiral

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#### Past Works



「LuYang Gong Tau Kite」 ( 2016 )  
<https://vimeo.com/157691840>



「子宮戰士」 ( 2014 )  
<https://vimeo.com/82164043>