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The three respective series *The Sanzhi UFO Houses*, *Shuinandong Smelting Refinery* and *Western style Buildings in Kinmen* are black-and-white photographs Yao Jui-chung took of derelict and abandoned sites in Taiwan over a period of two decades. Since the 1990s, he has been going on field trips, photographing the scenery of Taiwan, but he did not intend to turn the photographs into a series. When he started to organise his negatives after returning from San Francisco in 1998, he was intrigued to find that he had taken thousands of similar images, so he developed a selection of about a hundred photographs for publication. Together, the unique and common qualities of these images seem to be an alternative way to look at Taiwan. They seem to express an illusory, distant "cold reality" that is unique to Taiwan. In view of this world, the images try to describe a chilly, foreign place with a humorous outlook and a sense of the fleeting and the melancholy.

姚瑞中在是次展覽中展出了三組作品系列，包括《三芝飛碟屋》、《水湳洞十三層選煉廠》和《金門洋樓》，這些攝影作品是他過去二十年來在台灣民間各地所拍攝收集的黑白照片，都是些殘磚破瓦的廢墟景象。他從一九九零年以來就用田野調查方法拍攝台灣景觀，當時並沒有刻意要拍成系列作品，但一九九八年從舊金山回來後整理底片時，他發現自己已經累積了數千張這類影像，覺得很有趣，於是篩選出一百多張放大發表。這些影像之間的特性與相似性，似乎形成了某種觀看方式和某種對台灣的另類瞭解，意圖呈現台灣特有的一種虛假、疏離的「冷酷現實」；面對這個世界，描述轉瞬即逝的感覺以及莫名的悲哀。