



## Is Tony Scott Out of Control?

Tony Scott's body of work is daunting to categorise. He has a tremendous command of so many media and is seemingly fearless in his employment of them. When we look beyond the striking visual variety and the confident execution, we can see the common thread of the notion of control. This is not the personal and psychological control we would speak of in Freudian terms with a distasteful exploration of infantile stages but rather a more existentialist concept of control that involves questions of self-determination and external realities. In his prolific artist production, Scott asks himself (and therefore the viewer) how much control we have over ourselves and our environment.

We can view much of Scott's work as artistic explorations of harsh realities. Although he confronts them with his confident, meticulous style, he demonstrates immense courage by revealing his vulnerability. The Health Plan and Headache Series include found acupuncture models employed in traditional Chinese medicine. The timeworn wooden statues stand stoic, prone and nearly naked, their bodies riddled with the tiny pinholes that indicate the puncture and pressure points. These found objects alone can inspire pathos, but Scott underscores this emotion by attaching sinister-looking metal clamps to them. The cables lead to various clunky, unidentified machines adorned with dials and gauges. They surround the lonely figure ominously and remind us of Dr. Frankenstein's laboratory equipment. Is it being measured? Diagnosed? Tortured? We are not sure, but the presentation is discomfiting. While Scott asks us to empathise with the wooden patient he can neither read the copious Chinese labels on the acupuncture model nor decipher the gauges on the many electric meters to which it is attached. He, like most of us, is required to place his blind faith in medicine when he must consult physicians. Scott's stoic model stands proxy for him and us in this portentous composition and expresses the vulnerability, frustration and humiliation we can feel in the hands of the medical profession. Nevertheless, the model stands—

courageously enduring the procedure with as much human dignity as he can muster. And Scott lines up the elements of his composition meticulously. He refuses to give up control.

With similar conviction, Scott reorders geometric rigour in his Beijing Geometrics, Transparent Pages and Observe—Instruct series. The Beijing Geometrics consist of 16 wooden squares that he assembles, in this instance into one large square – at other times into different multiples of smaller squares. He paints, stains and lacquers the wood to form geometric patterns—experiments in the resolution of the horizontal and vertical. We are immediately reminded of Piet Mondrian's seemingly endless compositions that explore this same resolution, but Mondrian was more interested in employing primary colours to subvert notions of depth and spatial hierarchy. The sculptural quality of Scott's works tell us that he is not concerned with the former, and the texturing and palette choices tell us he is not concerned with the latter. When we view the entire set of paintings, we begin to see that Scott is testing both the limits of geometry and his control over it. While the assembled wooden squares provide a rigid, grid-like under-order, the linear elements Scott adds gently subvert this rigour. He maintains straight lines, but jolts the parallels and perpendiculars. The result of this careful organizing and reorganizing is a series of controlled, abstract compositions with intense visual interest. Scott takes a template of unimaginative order and imposes his own order on top of it, effectively revealing geometry to be not science but myth. The power of creation and the ability to reorder our reality can render accepted hierarchies meaningless.

Tally Beck  
Beijing June 2008



New Health Plan Installation 新健康计划装置, 2007  
Red Gate Gallery / 798, Beijing 北京798红门画廊  
acupuncture model, needles acupuncture charts, wax, pigment on board  
针灸模型, 针灸针图表, 板上蜡和色素, Size Variable



New Health Plan 新健康计划, 2007  
acupuncture charts, wax, oil on board  
针灸图表, 板上蜡和油画颜料  
52x20cm



New Health Plan 新健康计划, 2007  
acupuncture charts, wax, oil on board 针灸图表, 板上蜡和油画颜料  
66x33cm/each



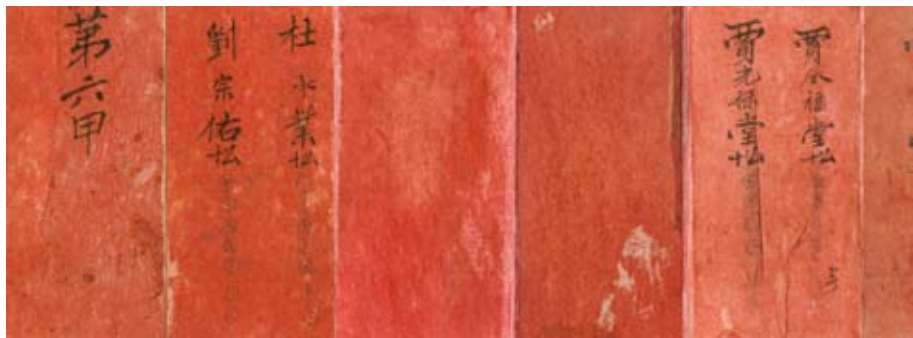
New Health Plan 新健康计划, 2007  
acupuncture charts, wax, oil on board 针灸图表, 板上蜡和油画颜料  
52x20cm/each



New Health Plan 新健康计划, 2007  
acupuncture charts, wax, oil on board 针灸图表, 板上蜡和油画颜料  
52x20cm/each



New Health Plan 新健康计划, 2007  
acupuncture charts, wax, oil on board 针灸图表, 板上蜡和油画颜料  
52x20cm/each

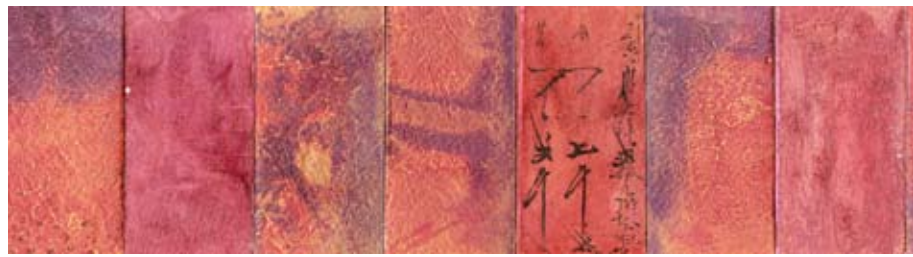


Beijing Transactions 北京交易, 2005-7  
book pages, wax, ink, pigment on paper 书页, 纸上蜡, 水墨, 颜料  
37x9cm/each approximately

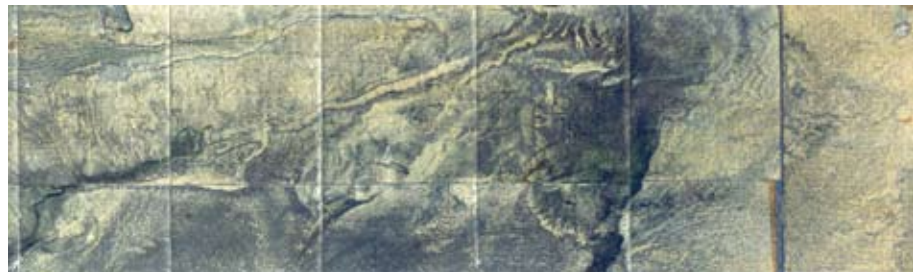
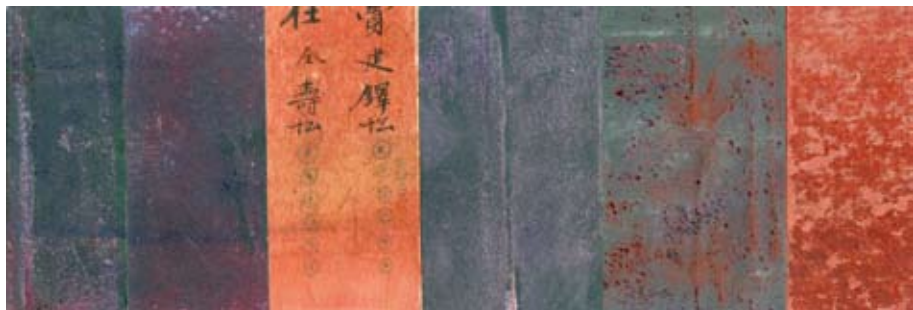
Beijing Transactions 北京交易, 2005-7  
book pages, wax, ink, pigment on paper 书页, 纸上蜡, 水墨, 颜料  
37x9cm/each approximately



Beijing Transactions 北京交易, 2005-7  
book pages, wax, ink, pigment on paper 书页, 纸上蜡, 水墨, 颜料  
37x9cm/each approximately



Beijing Transactions 北京交易, 2005-7  
book pages, wax, ink, pigment on paper 书页, 纸上蜡, 水墨, 颜料  
37x9cm/each approximately

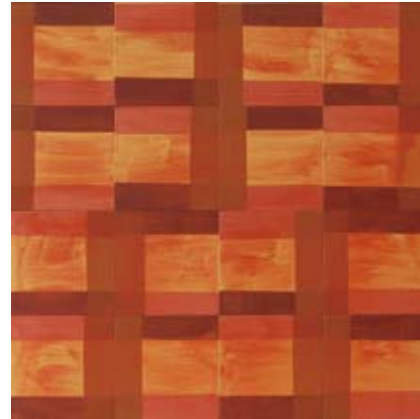


Beijing Transactions 北京交易, 2005-7  
book pages, wax, ink, pigment on paper 书页, 纸上蜡, 水墨, 颜料  
37x9cm/each approximately

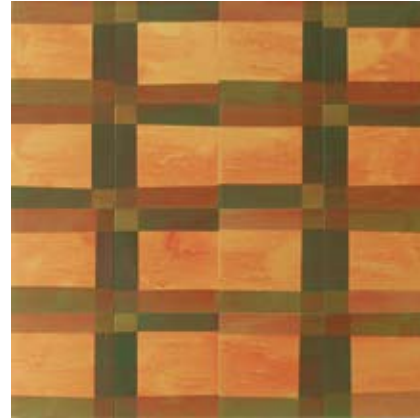
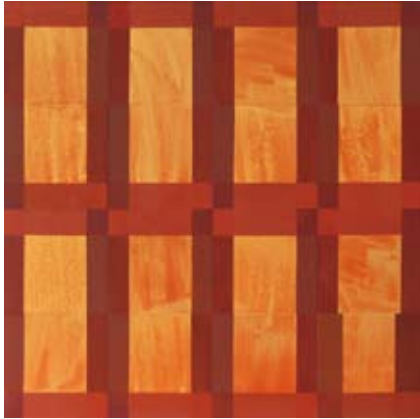
Beijing Transactions 北京交易, 2005-7  
book pages, wax, ink, pigment on paper 书页, 纸上蜡, 水墨, 颜料  
37x9cm/each approximately



Chinese Wooden Screens  
中国木窗户  
various size

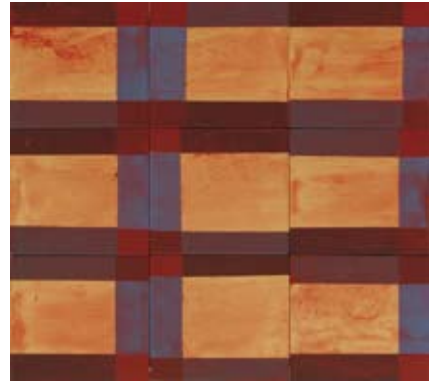
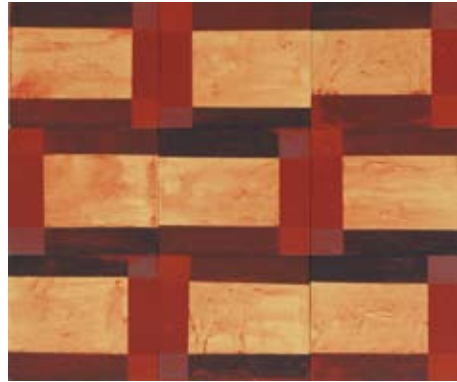


Beijing Geometrics 北京几何块, 2006  
acrylic, wax, pigment on board 板上丙烯, 蜡和色素  
80x80cm/each



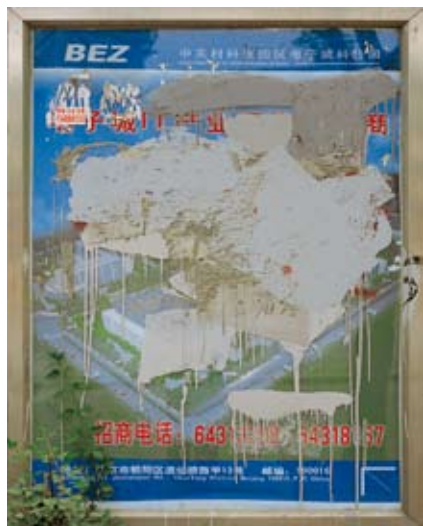
Beijing Geometrics 北京几何块, 2006  
acrylic, wax, pigment on board 板上丙烯, 蜡和色素  
80x80cm/each

Beijing Geometrics 北京几何块, 2006  
acrylic, wax, pigment on board 板上丙烯, 蜡和色素  
80x80cm/each



Beijing Geometrics 北京几何块, 2006  
acrylic, wax, pigment on board 板上丙烯, 蜡和色素  
80x80cm/each

Beijing Geometrics 北京几何块, 2006  
acrylic, wax, pigment on board 板上丙烯, 蜡和色素  
60x70cm/each



Tony Scott / Huang Xu 托尼·苏格特/黄旭  
Beijing Realestate 北京房地产, 2006  
digital image 电子图片, 100x80cm/each

Tony Scott / Huang Xu 托尼·苏格特/黄旭  
Beijing Realestate 北京房地产, 2006  
digital image 电子图片, 100x80cm/each



Tony Scott / Huang Xu 托尼·苏格特/黄旭  
Beijing Realestate 北京房地产, 2006  
digital image 电子图片, 100x80cm/each

Tony Scott / Huang Xu 托尼·苏格特/黄旭  
Beijing Realestate 北京房地产, 2006  
digital image 电子图片, 100x80cm/each



Tony Scott / Huang Xu 托尼·苏格特/黄旭  
Beijing Realestate 北京房地产, 2006  
digital image 电子图片, 100x80cm/each

Tony Scott / Huang Xu 托尼·苏格特/黄旭  
Beijing Realestate 北京房地产, 2006  
digital image 电子图片, 100x80cm/each

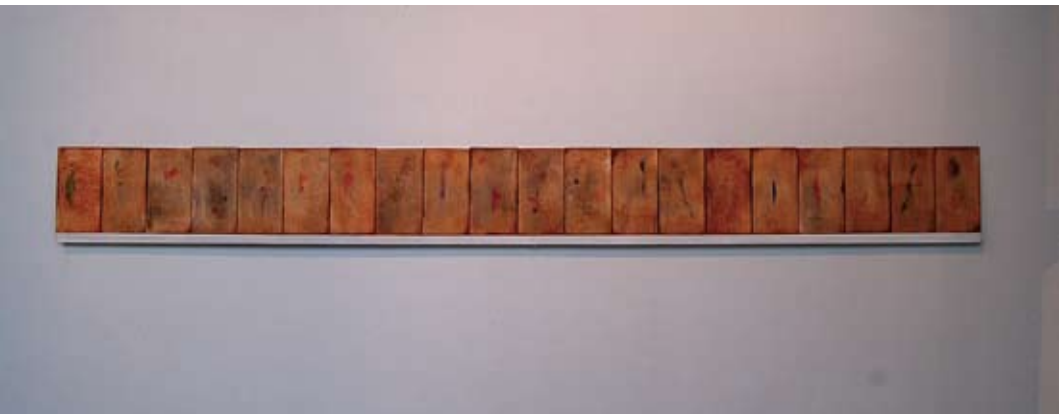


Translucent Pages半透明书页, 2007  
book pages, wax, pigment, oil on board  
书页, 纸上蜡, 油画颜料, 颜料  
180x48cm/each



Translucent Pages半透明书页, 2007  
book pages, wax, pigment, oil on board  
书页, 纸上蜡, 油画颜料, 颜料  
180x48cm/each





Translucent Pages半透明书页, 2007  
book pages, wax, pigment, oil on board 书页, 纸上蜡, 油画颜料, 颜料  
18x180cm



Translucent Pages半透明书页, 2007  
book pages, wax, pigment, oil on board  
书页, 纸上蜡, 油画颜料, 颜料  
18x9cm/each

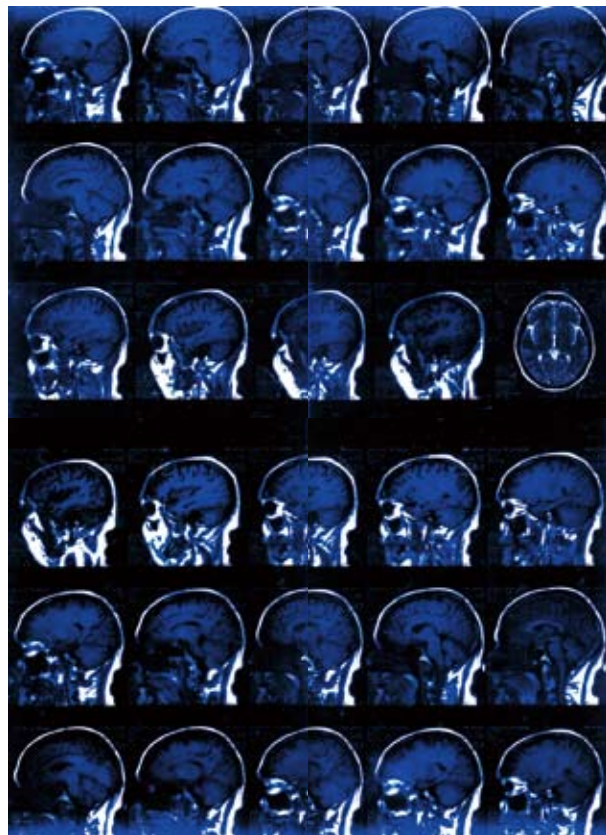


Translucent Pages半透明书页, 2007  
book pages, wax, pigment, oil on board 书页, 纸上蜡, 油画颜料, 颜料, 18x9cm/each

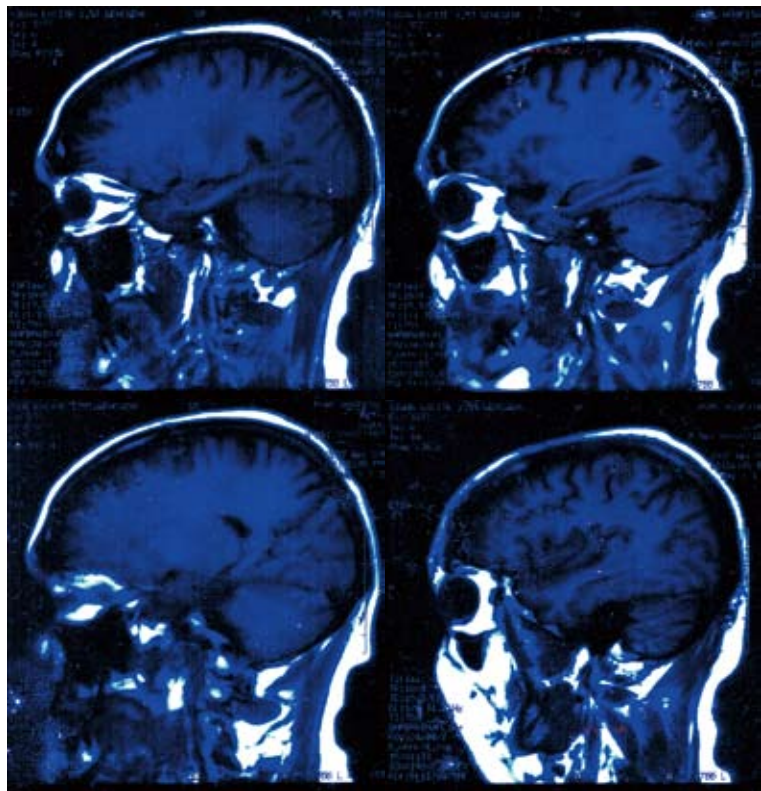
Translucent Pages半透明书页, 2007  
book pages, wax, pigment, oil on board 书页, 纸上蜡, 油画颜料, 颜料, 18x9cm/each



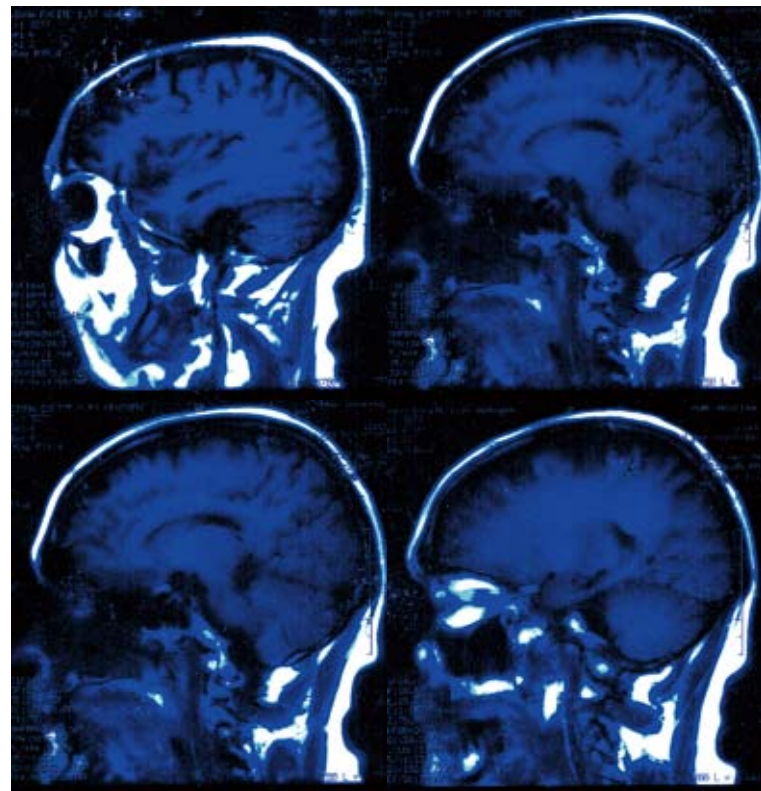
Headache Series 头疼系列, 2007  
MRI scans, light box, acupuncture  
statue 磁共振成像扫描, 灯箱,  
针灸雕像, size variable



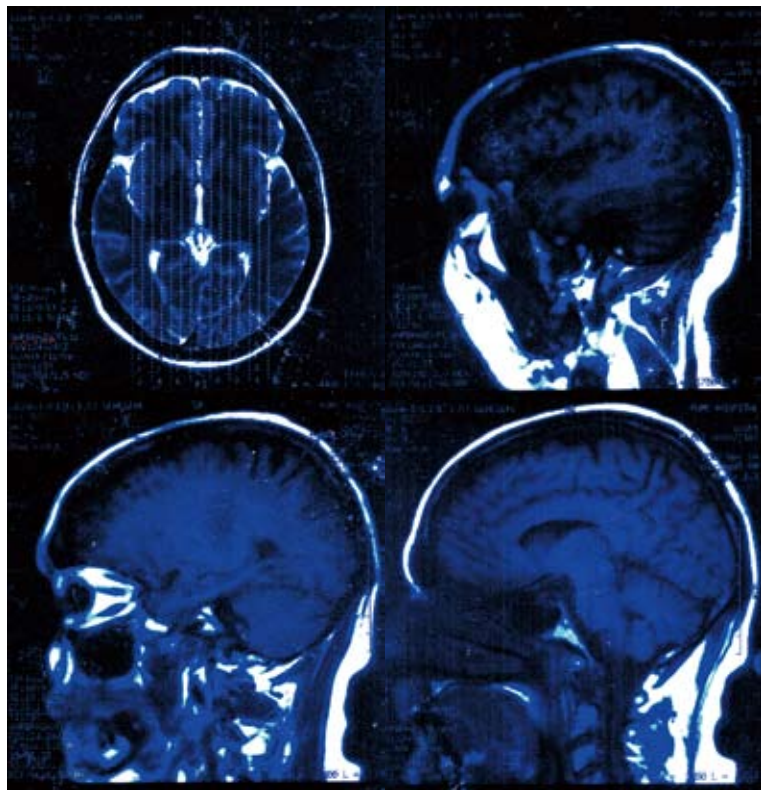
Headache Series 头疼系列, 2007  
MRI scan 磁共振成像扫描, 44x36cm



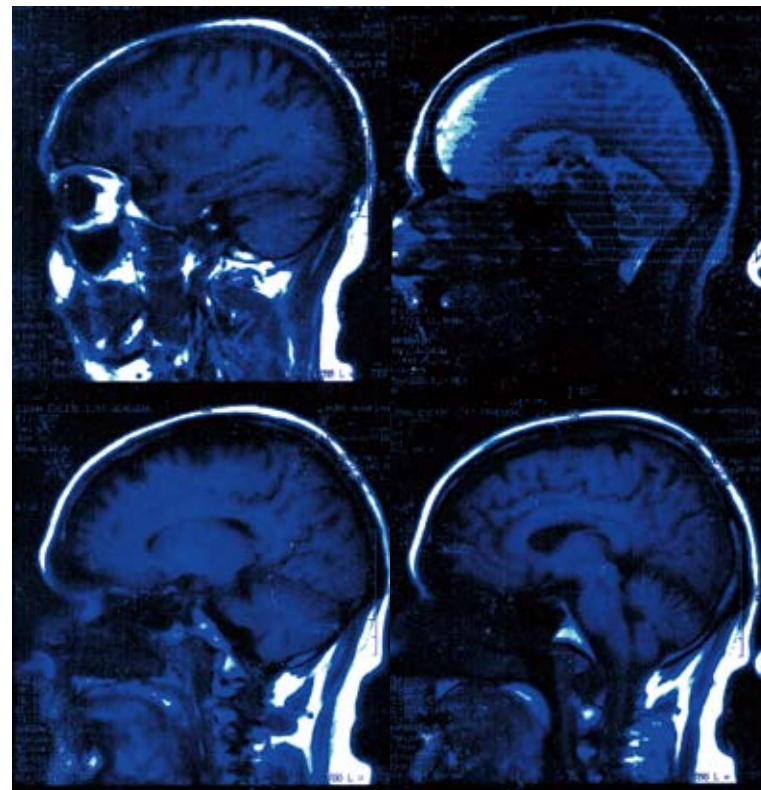
Headache Series 头疼系列, 2007  
MRI scan-detail 磁共振成像扫描-细节, 7x7cm/each



Headache Series 头疼系列, 2007  
MRI scan-detail 磁共振成像扫描-细节, 7x7cm/each



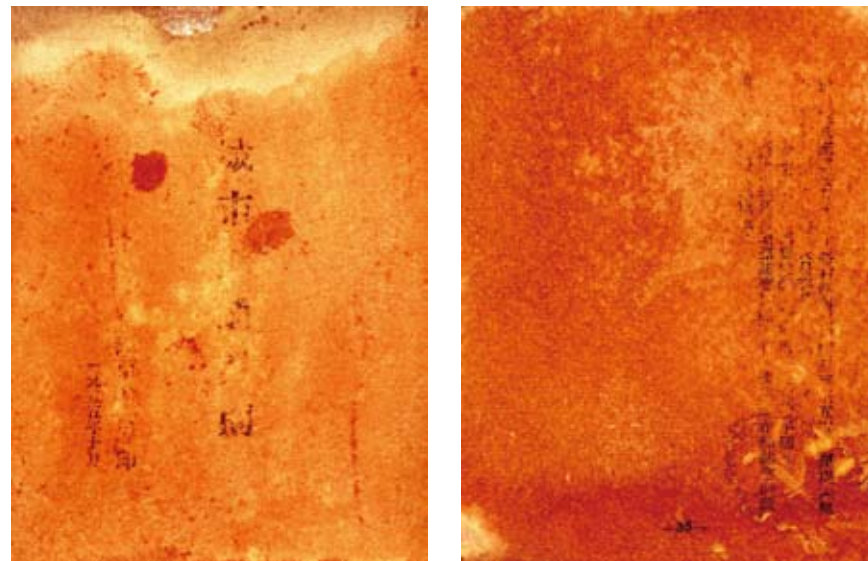
Headache Series 头疼系列, 2007  
MRI scan-detail 磁共振成像扫描-细节, 7x7cm/each



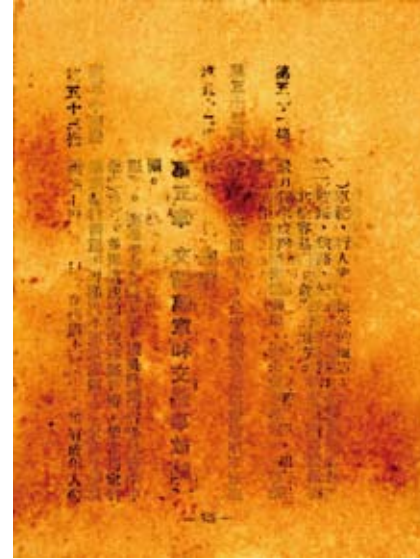
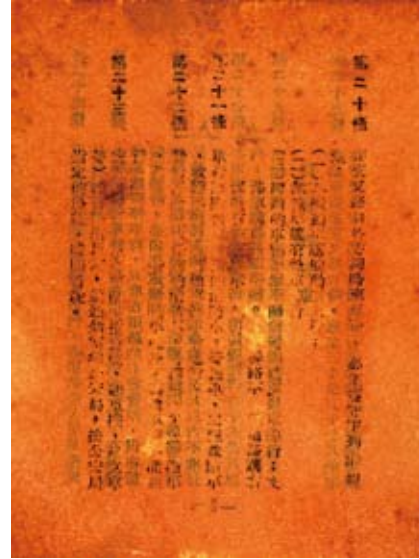
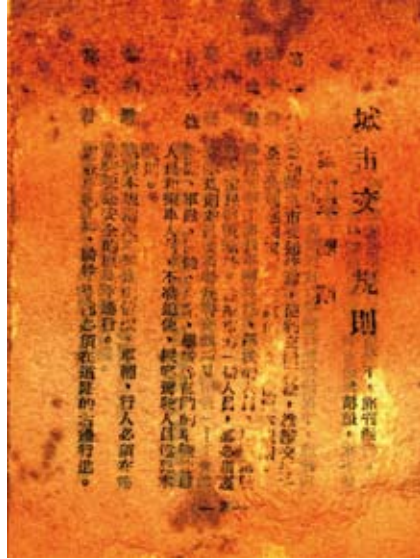
Headache Series 头疼系列, 2007  
MRI scan-detail 磁共振成像扫描-细节, 7x7cm/each



Observe – Instruct Series 观察-指示系列, 2008  
instruction manual pages, wax, pigment 交通规则手册的页面, 蜡, 色素, 11x9cm/each

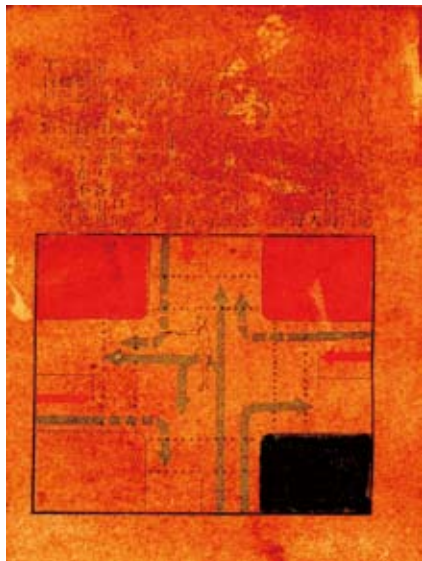


Observe – Instruct Series 观察-指示系列, 2008  
instruction manual pages, wax, pigment 交通规则手册的页面, 蜡, 色素, 11x9cm/each



Observe - Instruct Series 观察-指示系列, 2008  
instruction manual pages, wax, pigment 交通规则手册的页面, 蜡, 色素, 11x9cm/each

Observe - Instruct Series 观察-指示系列, 2008  
instruction manual pages, wax, pigment 交通规则手册的页面, 蜡, 色素, 11x9cm/each



Observe - Instruct Series 观察-指示系列, 2008  
instruction manual pages, wax, pigment 交通规则手册的页面, 蜡, 色素, 11x9cm/each



Observe - Instruct Series 观察-指示系列, 2008  
instruction manual pages, wax, pigment 交通规则手册的页面, 蜡, 色素, 11x25cm(top), 11x30cm(bottom)

**托尼·苏格特**出生于澳大利亚，2005年开始在北京生活。自1994年以来，他的足迹遍及中国及亚太地区，获得了丰富的职业经历。**个展(有选择的)** 2007年神殿几何学，上海红寨画廊。2006年十年以来，香港艺穗会俱乐部。2005年两次旅行，墨尔本Maroondah画廊；新的旅行，墨尔本Span画廊；海市蜃楼，北京红门画廊。2003年十年，东京Kato画廊。2002年着陆，澳大利亚高级理事会，新加坡。**联展(有选择的)** 2008年中国艺术项目启动展，北京平行线空间；明亮的黑暗，布雷伯特瑞画廊，德国柏林；进程—旅行，北京红门画廊，上海东廊画廊，香港SINO空间。2005年海拔，Shepparton画廊，澳大利亚维多利亚；流浪，Kunstlerhause，奥地利维也纳；全球融合，维也纳，墨尔本，北京艺术博览会，墨尔本艺术博览会，红门画廊。2003年Drawing Dust，墨尔本，香港，北京。**获奖情况** 澳中理事会，Arts Victoria，澳大利亚驻华使馆外事和贸易司及驻香港、广州、新加坡的北京—澳大利亚高级理事会的艺术奖金。**受委托项目** 北京君悦大饭店、墨尔本皇冠大酒店、澳大利亚国家银行、澳大利亚国家银行伦敦分行、东京渣打银行、香港四季酒店等。**收藏** 托尼·苏格特的作品被多家政府机构和私人收藏，包括：澳大利亚驻华使馆、澳大利亚堪培拉国家美术馆、维多利亚艺术中心、澳大利亚艺术银行。

Tony Scott was born in Australia and has lived in Beijing since 2005. He has had wide professional experience in China and throughout the Asia Pacific region since 1994. **selected solo exhibitions** 2007 Temple Geometrics, Studio Rouge, Shanghai. 2006 Ten Years On, Fringe Club, Hong Kong. 2005 Journey, Maroondah Gallery, Melbourne; New Travels, Span Gallery, Melbourne; Shadowlands, Red Gate Gallery, Beijing. 2003 10 Years, Kato Gallery, Tokyo. 2002 Landfall, Australian High Commission, Singapore. **selected group exhibitions** 2008 C.A.P. Launch, Two Lines Space, Beijing; Luminous Dark, Bleibtreu Gallery, Berlin; Process-Journey, Red Gate Beijing, Eastlink Gallery, Shanghai, Capital Place, Hong Kong. 2005 Altitude, Shepparton Art Gallery, Victoria, Australia; Wandering, Kunstlerhause, Vienna, Austria; Global Fusion, Vienna/Melbourne. 2004 Beijing Art Fair and Melbourne Art Fair, represented by Red Gate Gallery. 2003 Drawing Dust, Melbourne/Hong Kong/Beijing. **awards** include the Australia-China Council, Arts Victoria and DFAT through the Australian Embassy, Beijing. **commissions** include major private commissions for the Grand Hyatt Hotel, Beijing, Crown Hotels, Melbourne, National Bank Collection in Australia and London, Standard Chartered Bank, Tokyo and the Four Seasons Hotel, Hong Kong. **collections** works are held in important private and government collections including Australian Embassy, Beijing, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Victorian Arts Centre Collection and Artbank, Australia.

