builder

November 23rd there were six people looking at the building site and on one morning shuttle, November 24th there were five people looking at the building site on one morning shuttle, November 25th there were eight people looking at the building site on one morning shuttle. We are the passersby sometimes investigate a building site and observing the happenings in it. We are the witness of the growing tall buildings. The spotlight always brightens the reinforced concrete and sparkling glass, however, never highlight the workers’ faces. Even though these construction workers’ clothes are conspicuous fluorescence, the similar red or orange plastic safety helmet, waistcoat, cement embellished jeans, muddy shoes, blurred them out of our non-labor’s mind. We never know what their faces are looked like, but we know through our stereotypes that their skin will be dark from the sun, and their faces will be dusty because of the working environment. Their work may be dangerous and hard, but we have never truly observed their work closely. We do not know this team have more than 50 million and haven been the largest industrial labor group in the world in 2020. This project named *builder* displays the working process of the construction workers, the builder of China’s urban prosperity. The audiences can have a better understanding of the construction workers’ work and working conditions.

Most of them leave their homes, to work, sleep, and eat, and endure low incomes which may be in arrears at any time. According to research, most construction workers are between 45 and 65 years old, but this time I saw a young guy who seemed to be only about 30 years old. The younger workers are engaged in high-altitude operations, such as installing glass and welding. They have friends who work at heights together and chat. When they are tired, they will squat in front of the unglazed windows, light up their cigarettes, and look at their mobile phones or just looking at other construction workers. Most of them will always do similar work in newly opened construction sites until they can no longer climb to the top of the building or carry the heavy cement bags. Some of them have long been numb, repeating the same thing every day, just for food and clothing. However, facing the camera, most of them will still smile, revealing their yellow teeth, allowing the wrinkles on their faces to accumulate. Some of them have never stepped into the building they participated in, and some can only look at the door.

Who polished the ground of the building we are stepping on now?