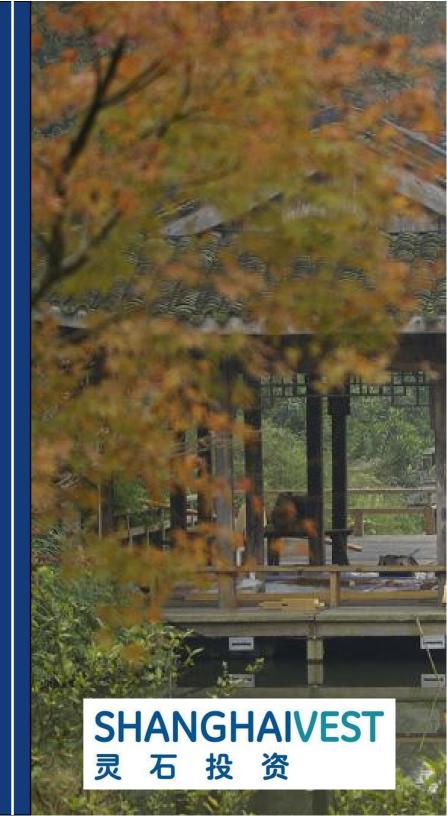


## The Ecosystem of Early-Stage Investment in China

**Bruno Bensaid** 

@BPI/BusinessFranceParis - 29 Sept 2015



### Foreword about Shanghaivest

- Pioneering investment banking advisory firm focusing on cross-border M&A and capital raising transactions between China/Asia & Europe. Shanghaivest was set up in 2010 by veterans from the M&A and technology investment industries.
- Shanghaivest has presence in Shanghai (HQ), Paris and San Francisco
- **Building** cross-border synergies in :
  - 1. Technology and advanced manufacturing (Internet and telecom, automotive, aeronautics, electronics, clean energy, etc.)
  - 2. Cosmetics, Luxury, Retail
  - 3. Healthcare
- Clients include SMEs, funds looking for cross-border exit or expansions strategies (Europe -> China, China -> Europe, Europe -> US, etc.)

### Landmark deals in the TMT Space



In the Acquisition of



**R&D Center & Assets** 

SHANGHAIVEST-

App Annie

In Raising Series A from

**IDG Capital Partners** 

SHANGHAIVEST-

#### Other Transactions closed in 2013-2015







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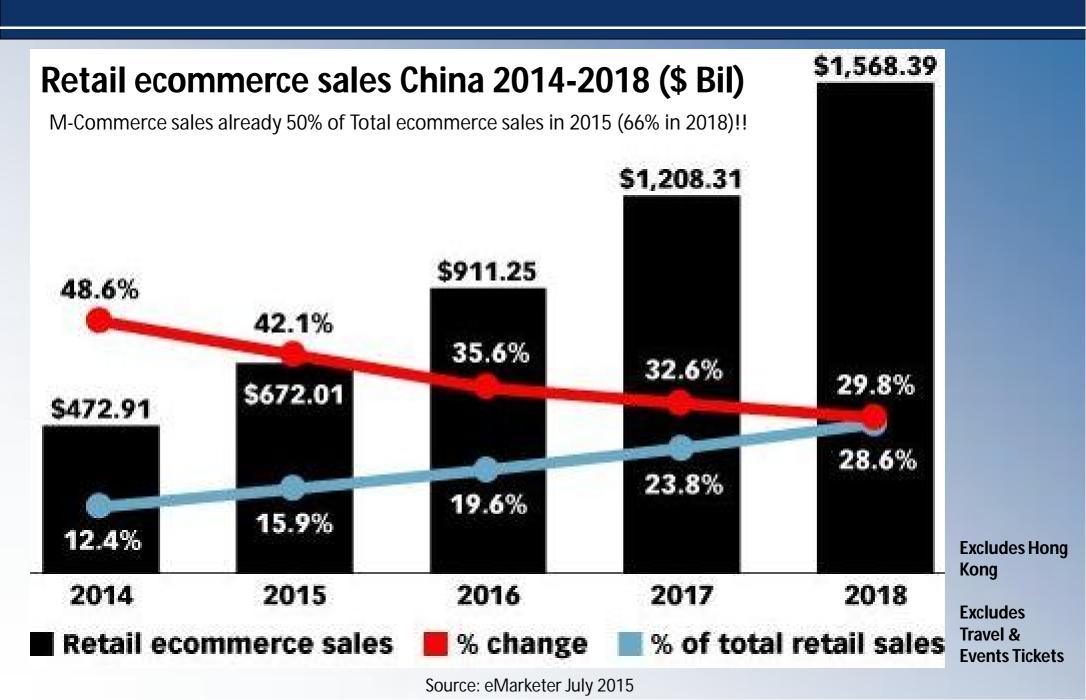


### **Entering a Rapidly Changing Business Environment**

Amidst Chinese slowing Economy, Shanghai Stock Exchange Composite Index (SHCOMP) went down 42% in 3 Months!!

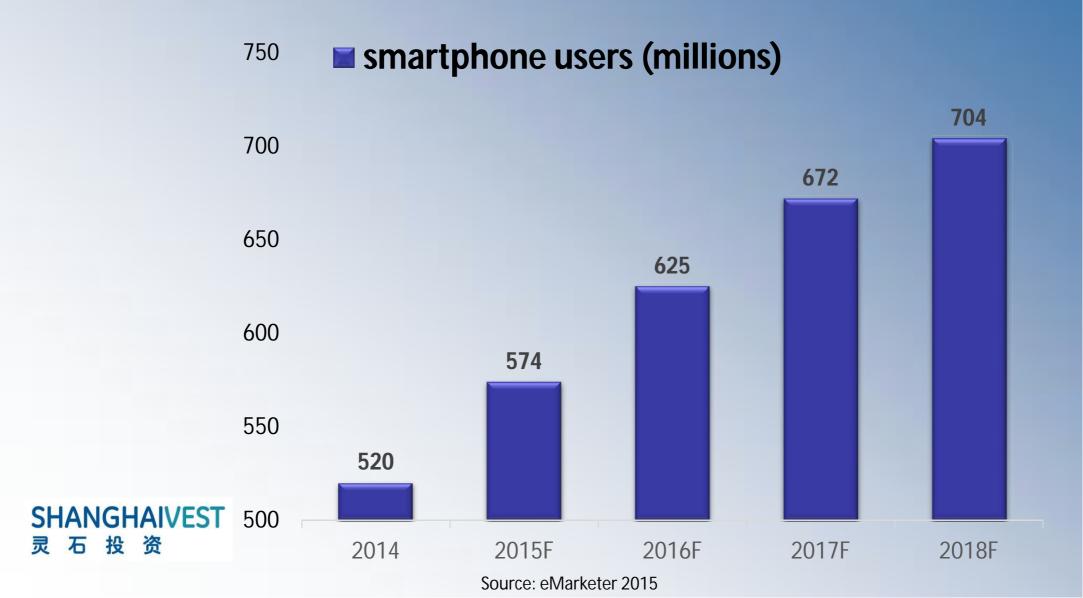


### Yet the New Economy has never been Stronger



### Driven by a Mobile-First Market (+100% cell penetration)



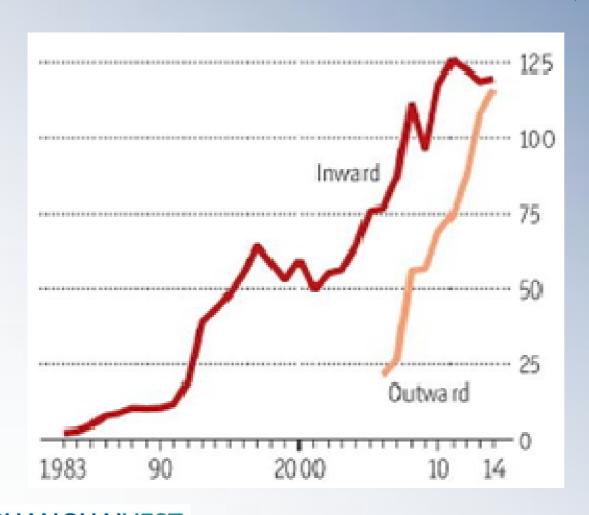


## Stiff Local Competition and Government Endorsement push Chinese Companies To Look Overseas for Solutions

- > From "Copy-to-China & Just Good Enough" to "World Class Innovators"
  - Many firms tried to innovate and failed, whereas those who copied became billionaires. But now, local firms need to innovate in sophisticated industries like cars to compete in global markets (Dean of Cheung Kong Graduate School of Business)
  - Chinese consumers are now so demanding and globally minded that you can't get away with Just Good Enough...you need to be world-class to serve China (Gary Rieschel, Head of Qiming Ventures)
- > Rise of Chinese national champions to compete on the global markets
  - In all key industry sectors, China is building national champions that may be publicly or privately-owned (Huawei, Xiaomi etc).
  - These champions challenge existing Western players in / out of China

## Making it the best year for China outbound investments, and European companies are high on the shopping list!

#### China Inbound/Outbound investments (\$ Bil)



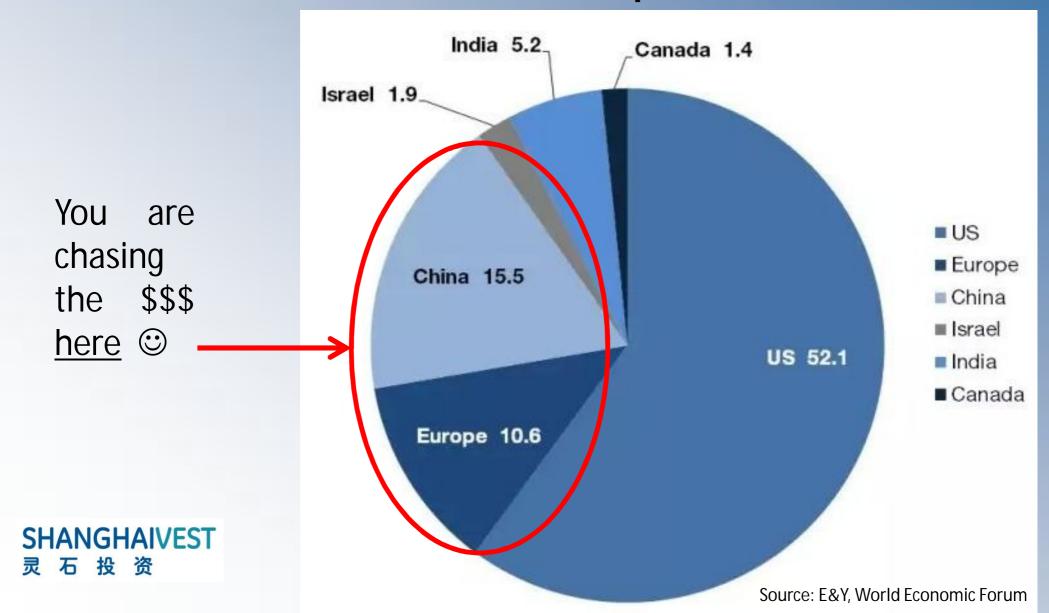
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Sources: MOFCOM; Rhodium Group

- China outbound investments rose 14%
   YOY to \$56 Bil in H1'2015 (MOFCOM)
- Investments in Europe rose to \$18 Bil in 2014, particularly looking at brands, technology and know-how (EU research published by Bank of Finland)

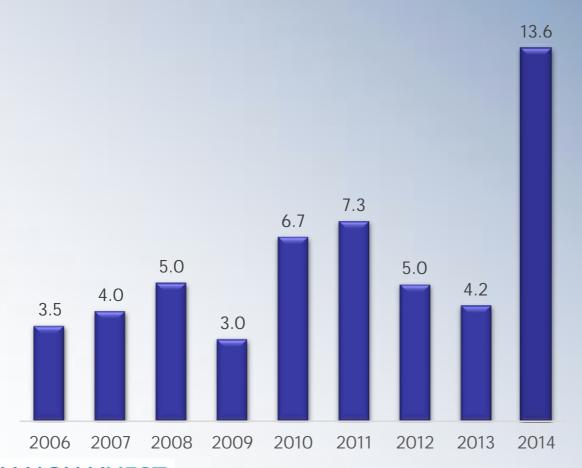
## China: 2<sup>nd</sup> Venture Capital Market in the World

#### **Share of Total Venture Capital Invested in 2014 - \$ Bil**



## Large VC rounds financed Marketplace, Mobile and Ecommerce plays in 2014 and H1'2015

#### China VC investments (\$ Bil)





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Source: Dow Jones VentureSource, startintx

### 2015 still hot but belt-tightening is coming

In H1'2015, investment in early-stage tech startups reached US\$ 2.2 Bil (up 3X YoY from US\$648 Mil) but Investors might adopt a more cautious approach in 2015-2016 (post market turmoil) and focus on the following industries:

- Consumer business (aged care, domestic consumption, tourism, education, cultural industry)
- Internet O2O (Online to Offline)
- Internet and mobile industry (mobile internet, cloud computing, big data, Internet of Things, e-commerce, financial tech, assurance tech, artificial intelligence, Virtual Reality etc)
- Environmental protection
- Infrastructure projects PPP (Public Private Partnership)

## A maturing Early-Stage (& Cross-Border) Entrepreneurial and Investment Ecosystem























ZhenFund 真 格 基 金

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创新工场 INNOVATION WORKS



### Many local Tech CEOs ventured in Early-Stage Investment

- Local tech superstar CEOs have joined the innovation investment bandwagon and used their celebrity to raise capital and attract top quality project deal flow and employees:
  - Innovation Works (IW): created in 2009 by Ex-Google China CEO, Canadian-Taiwanese Lee Kai Fu. IW is both an incubator and a VC firm, to support the growth of incubated companies (e.g. Wandoujia, China's largest app store, raised \$120 Mil). IW raised \$385 Mil in 2 funds
  - Raymond Yang, ex-CEO of Linktone, the first Chinese internet company to IPO in the US, founded cross-border **West Summit Capital** (\$400 Mil)
  - > Xiaomi's founder, Lei Jun, is also running **Shunwei**, a \$525 Mil VC fund
  - Former Alibaba CEO, David Wei, set up **Vision Knight Capital** in 2012. its second fund closed \$550 million fundraising within four months only
  - GMAT/TOELF cram school New Oriental co-founders (Xu Xiaoping & Wang Jiang) set up ZhenFund to invest in seed/angel-stage local companies (some with foreign founders)

## Government Playing Their Role in building the Ecosystem: Beijing (Zhong Guan Cun)

## Top local universities and governments are creating innovative models, incl. VC



- In 2001, Tsinghua University set up Tsinghua Science Park Business Incubator, Tsinghua Science Park Technology Asset Management, and Tuspark Ventures (raised 3 funds since 2006)
- Tsinghua University's x-lab, an accelerator program launched in April 2013, with 80+ teams in the program at end of 2013, is aiming to expand from 500m<sup>2</sup> to 5,000m<sup>2</sup> within 3 years!
- Virtue Inno Valley, a Tsinghua-affiliated (x-lab alike) accelerator

#### Privately or publicly backed co-working spaces:

- ➤ Government-backed Z-innoway is a CNY 200 million, 45,000m² project. It covers 339 startups. 123 have raised funding
- 3W is one of the accelerators operating in Z-innoway
- 36KR, Cheku Café, Moment Café, Bingo Café etc, are among the cafés/ co-working space / media outlets / accelerators

### Government Playing Their Role: Hangzhou

### Newly Created Impressive Tech and Investment Zone: DreamValley



- Aims to gather 10,000 entrepreneurs, 2,000 startups projects, and host 300 investment funds or vehicles, an aggregate of RMB 100 Bil Capital
- Already gathered 350 startups, including one listed on the NTB (New Third Board, a recently established Beijing OTC Board)
- 43 startups have already raised more than RMB 1 Mil each. In total, RMB
   1.1 Bil has already been raised by these startups.
- > 89 investment funds already on site (RMB 31.9 Bil AUM)
- Some « star » startups » of DreamValley
  - > 59store raised RMB 200 Mil in Pre-B round in August 2015
  - > 买好车 (maihaoche) raised RMB 100 Mil round A with Northern Light VC

### Local Internet Giants have major investment firepower

- ➤ **Tencent** earmarked \$1.5 Bil to small and large scale investments in China and overseas since 2011...
- Qunar (online travel company acquired by Baidu in 2011, and IPO in 2014) launched a U\$160M incubator fund to help entrepreneurs in the online travel space in 2014
- ➤ Xiaomi heavily investing in content (\$290 Mil co-invest. in iQiyi), wearables (\$35 Mil invested in Huami), IP / patents (\$35 Mil co-investment with Kingsoft and others to create a pure IP fund).
- ➤ Qihoo 360 is to establish a \$60M Internet-Of-Things Venture Fund and becoming limited partner in \$197 Mil Israel-based Carmel Ventures, along with Baidu and Ping An Insurance....
- > DJI set up an investment vehicle to develop a drone ecosystem

### MNCs in China also joining the Corporate Venture craze

St-Gobain set up Nova External Venturing, tasked with facilitating partnerships (joint-development, licensing, marketing, investment, etc.) between St-Gobain Group's activities and innovative start-ups. They also work closely with 40+ VC funds, incubators & corporate venturing organizations.

Telstra Group (Australia's #1 telco) setup a corporate development team and a VC fund (Telstra Ventures) to screen and invest in early/growth stage companies with synergies with the Group

MNC Media (Indonesia's largest media group) has a corporate development team and an investment execution team to screen and invest in early or growth stage companies in China / SEA to build synergies and diversify



**SAINT-GOBAIN** 

**Telstra** 

## New Sino-Europe Early-Stage Cross-Border Funds, focused on Innovation, run by experienced GPs

"King of Sino-Europe Cross-Border Funds" – Cathay Capital is now deploying its Sino-French Innovation Fund
CATHAYCAPITAL

Private Equity

**ELECTRANOVA** 

➤ IDInvest manages **Electranova**, a recent fund invested by EDF targeting companies with strong China presence or potential

Demeter Partners and Emerald Technology Ventures signed an agreement in June 2015 with China Energy Conservation and Environmental Protection Group and Europe-China Commercial Union to setup a Sino-French fund

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### Cross Border Angel Groups / Accelerators now on the Map

- China Entry Specialists are now firmly established on the local market:
  - ➤ Angelvest, a 100-strong angel investor network, Shanghai-based has invested in over 30 companies (now with BJ/HK/SGP antennas too)
  - Chinaccelerator (software accelerator in Shanghai) now in Batch VIII
  - > HAX (hardware accelerator in Shenzhen) also backed by SOS Ventures







- NEST (Hong Kong incubator and investor) setting up affiliate accelerators for different verticals
  - Teaming up with Infiniti Motors for an accelerator in Transportation
  - > Teaming up with DBS bank for an accelerator in Fintech
  - Teaming up with AIA for an accelerator in Insurance Tech



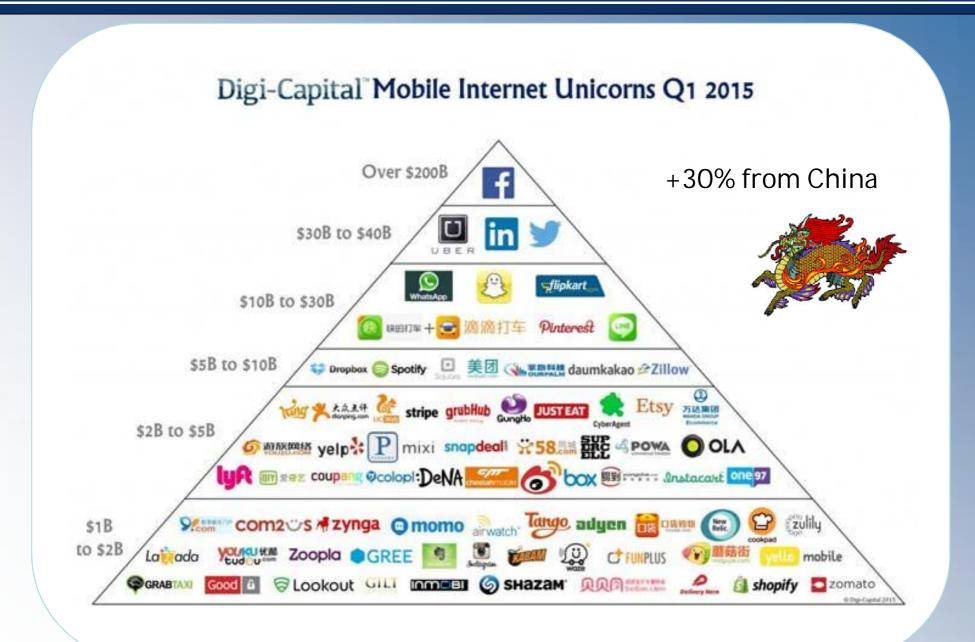
## Don't Fight China Unicorns, Ride Them!!





Unicorn = Venture-backed Company with SHANGHAIVEST Valuation > US\$ 1 Bil

#### China Counts 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the World's Unicorns



### Some of the well-known China Unicorns





Founded April 2010 \$1.1 B latest round (Dec. 2014) Now valued \$46 B





Founded in Sept 2010 and Aug 2012 Last funding rounds: \$2B (July)&\$1B (Sept) Group valued at \$17.5bn (Sept 1205)



ZhongAn Insurance

Founded in 2013 \$931M funding Val \$8B (Jun 15)



Founded in 2012 \$485M funding Val.\$10B (May 15)



Founded in 2006 \$105M funding Val \$8-10B (May 15)



Founded April 2003 \$1.04B funding Val \$4B (Mar 15)

## 美团网meituan.com

Founded Nov 2014 \$1.6B funded Val.\$7B (Mar 15)

#### TRENDY BEE

Founded in 1999 \$200M funding Val \$2B (Sept14)

#### MEIZU

Founded in 2003 \$900M funding Val. \$3B (Sept 14)

#### meitu

Founded in 2008 \$360M funding Val \$2.3 B (Sep14)



Founded in 2011 \$212M financing Val \$1B (Jun 14)

#### VANCL 凡客城品

Founded in 2007 \$570M financing Val \$3B (Jul 15)

#### □ 拉卡拉

联想控股成员企业

Founded in 2005 \$242M financing Val. \$1.6B (Jun 15)



Founded in 2011 \$155M financing Val. \$1B



Founded in Dec 09 \$128M financing Val \$1B (Jun 14)

## Leverage What Unicorns Have to Offer

- ➤ E-commerce infrastructure (Tmall, Taobao, JD) are the main channels to online merchant distribution
- Mobile-first Social Networking Massive Adoption (Wechat!)
- Online payment infrastructure ready (Alipay, Lakala...)
- Cloud Infrastructure ready (Aliyun, AWS etc)
- Xiaomi and others commoditizing the hardware industry and needing ecosystem partners and developers for apps
- Online Offline integration (020) is becoming a reality, but could have less friction and need more developers too
- Health, Home, Virtual Reality, Wearable, Food, Entertainment, Tourism, drones etc are key areas where Unicorns need to build ecosystems

## Tencent's Wechat has become THE platform no-one can avoid, driving a huge ecosystem behind it



# Disrupting the whole hardware economy, nothing less... "Xiaomi is a software and ecommerce company that just happens to manufacture hardware" Hugo Barra, VP International, Xiaomi



## Didi-Kuaidi (Tencent/Alibaba) fighting its way up again Uber China (backed by Baidu etc) – fueling the revolution of the sharing industry



## Chinese Offline Payments Lakala -> From hardware innovator to a diversified financial services company



## Drone Developer DJI develops its own ecosystem and fuels investments in the budding drone economy





**Now Called** 



#### WITHME.COM (US/China founders)

Focusing on ecommerce workflow tools including cross-border ecommerce.

- Incubated by Chinaccelerator (batch II) in Dalian
- ➤ Won its Demo Day and pocketed first investment from SOS Ventures and Infinity Ventures Partners (\$3 Mil) Series A in 2011
- ➤ Moved to Las Vegas in 2013 following Series B investment from several investors (\$6 Mil) including Zappos CEO
- > Series B' (\$28 Mil) in 2014 with a syndicate of existing and new investors

## VISUALEAD (Israel) Visual QR code technology

- Had raised series A in Israel
- ➤ Founders decided to relocate to China in 2013 with NO TRACTION at all on the local market
- Failed to raise \$\$\$ from local angel groups (mainly because of high valuation)
- Finally got hooked onto an Alibaba team and after a year of negotiations, landed a \$5 Mil Series B investment (Jan 2015)



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#### **APPANNIE (US)**

App Annie is the largest mobile app intelligence platform in the world

- Spin-off of a Norwegian-owned game outsourcing company in Beijing
- Unsuccessfully tried to raise formal angel \$\$\$ in China
- Successfully raised \$1 Mil (IDG VC) in Beijing in 2011
- Raised 4 subsequent round totalling \$93 Mil from IDG, Sequoia Capital, Greycroft Partners etc.
- Subsequently relocated to San Francisco

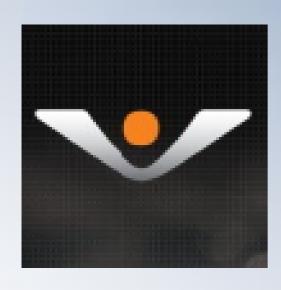
#### **GLAMOUR SALES / MEI.COM (France)**

Leading Luxury Items Flash sales site

- Created by a team of French executives, formerly from Coach, L'Oreal etc.
- ➤ Raised \$13 Mil seed capital from AXA Private Equity & Mandra Capital (2010)
- ➤ Raised several follow on round from Neiman Marcus (\$28 Mil) in 2012 and Chow Tai Fook (\$65 Mil) in 2013
- ➤ Partial sellout and last fundraising round with Alibaba July 2015 (\$100 Mil)







#### **VIRTUOS GAMES (France)**

Outsourcing Shop to major movie and gaming studios

- Created by a former (French) Ubisoft GM in Shanghai
- Raised Series A with Legend Holdings
- Raised Series B from Xuhui Venture Capital (2014)
- Now more than 500 staff working on the most popular franchises

### Challenge of Fundraising in China: Local Entrepreneurs will be in favor at first ... Deal with it

- Attracting local money is unnatural -> find an angle (IP? clients? Traction?) and put yourself in the shoes of the local venture capital firms' fund managers, help them defend the project to their Investment Committee
- Investors are wary of communication issues between them and foreign owners of local (or Western) companies -> Localize founding team; try hiring a local "co-founder" or CTO, CMO etc.
- VCs will gauge you against more pragmatic local competition
  - -> Research competition before pitching
- ▶ **Do your due diligence on Investors**, Select the ones that can and want to work cross-border. No need to waste your time and others'
- Local investors often offer **quirky terms** that even local entrepreneurs have difficulty dealing with (liquidation preference, high equity requirements, milestones-based disbursement etc). Keep looking for your match.



### We are here to help!



## brubrushanghai



### **Shanghaivest in the News lately**





#### Thank You!

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