



PAINT
THE PRESENT
WITH
THE PAST



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Preface

The Foundation is honored to host the first exhibition organized outside China for the young Chinese artists in traditional painting.

This invitation is in line with our exchanges organized since 2010 with the China Artists Association in order to discover how our alpine landscapes are seen through the eyes of Chinese painters.

The Foundation is pleased to welcome the laureates of the Art IVY project, which involves all the Art Academies in China. This exhibition in Zermatt represents a good opportunity to discover the paintings selected to represent the young talents and also to examine the political feasibility to organize, alternatively between Switzerland and China, a new type of worldwide exchanges for young artists.

It's obvious that our environment differs from that of our Chinese friends, who have the chance to refer to a rich millenary culture. Taking into consideration this situation, our wish is to develop a philosophy of exchanges based on our heritage and our fundamental values. We are confident that, each of us, as from its strengths and weaknesses, will contribute to reinforce in our hearts, the links of friendship between our two countries.

The Foundation invites you to contribute, with your experiences and intelligence, to make this challenge a success for the peace between peoples.

Gerald Imfeld 田 德
President of the Fondation Alpes Encre de Chine

Introduction

Art at Present

This exhibition presented in Switzerland, consists of 12 young artists from various art academies in China. All of them work primarily in the medium of ink on paper. Although their artistic approaches and subject matters vary, each driven by different focus in their practice, yet their inextricable connections to traditional Chinese painters are apparent. Among the works of Bian Kai, Chen Sanyin, Liang Guifeng and Hao Wei, the impact of classical Chinese painting, and in particular calligraphy are critical in understanding their works. All of the artists have honed their techniques and trainings over time and adopted them into their own languages – known as the brushworks (笔墨, bi mo) in Chinese painting. Likewise, as the traditional literati painters would call their works “a few whimsical strokes, to amuse oneself”, expressing their emotions through painting subjects such as “landscapes, or birds and flowers” that were seemingly irrelevant to social political issues; the works of the artists such as Gu Haitao, Fan Handong and Wang Yiwei also expand from observing lives around them. Yet we should not naively believe their seemingly dissociative attitude towards social reality, just as we cannot simple separate Zhao Mengfu’s famous painting, Twin Pines, Level Distance from its era – separating from the context of Mongolian ruling class. Artists Shi Lei, Peng Zhenzhong, Shi Bowen and Wang Chao are further exploring possibilities of painting on paper beyond the existing motifs in order to expand the boundary of painting.

Is this the only historical development?

For Western viewers, over the long historical development of Chinese painting, it would often seem stagnant, and impossible to appropriate the same developmental progress from the history of Western art since the Renaissance.

For example, “originality” has been one of the primary characteristics in Western art, as was gradually indoctrinated in the 20th century. On the other hand, it had already been a common reality among literati painters in the 16th century, would such phenomenon make us skeptical and ambivalent of the single path of development to engender art theory? I think, a series of mutual inquiries is not aimed at a “true victory”, but rather focusing on the positive effect in the development of art through mutual communications. Historically speaking, as early as Buddhism came into China and its impact on Chinese visual art, to the impact of Ukiyo-e on the West, such cultural encounters have occurred time and time again in pushing forward the artistic language of the other.

The past is a foreign country, they do things differently there.

Whether it is the East or the West, the artists would have never foreseen the present at the end of the 19th Century. Rapid modes of communication and technology to disseminate information have completely reduced the distance between the two. When the East meets the West face to face, would they actually be able to communicate, and willingly to express one’s ideas to the other in full? Or would they withhold one’s academic standard in favor of the other’s understanding? Or would any party adopt the mechanical translations of each other’s works to put on the façade of satisfaction? These are the issues we need to face today.

WU Hao
Curator



BIAN Kai

Born in Liaoning in 1981

Graduated with a Doctor's degree, Central Academy of Fine Arts

2013 *The National Youth Landscape painting Exhibition, Beijing*

2011 *The National Youth Landscape painting Exhibition, Beijing*



Baoding Mountain 50x50cm ink and color on silk 2015

Southern mountains 46x46cm ink and color on silk 2015





CHEN Sanyin

Born in Beijing in 1986

- 2015 Work "In that Faraway Place" Selected for the 5th National Youth Art Exhibition*
- 2013 Selected for the Doctoral program of the Chinese National Academy of Arts*
- 2011 Work "Spring Tea" presented with the Award of Outstanding Arts at the 4th National Youth Art Exhibition*

Artist's cabinet No.1 136x68cm ink on paper 2015



Artist's cabinet No.2 136x68cm ink on paper 2015





FAN Handong

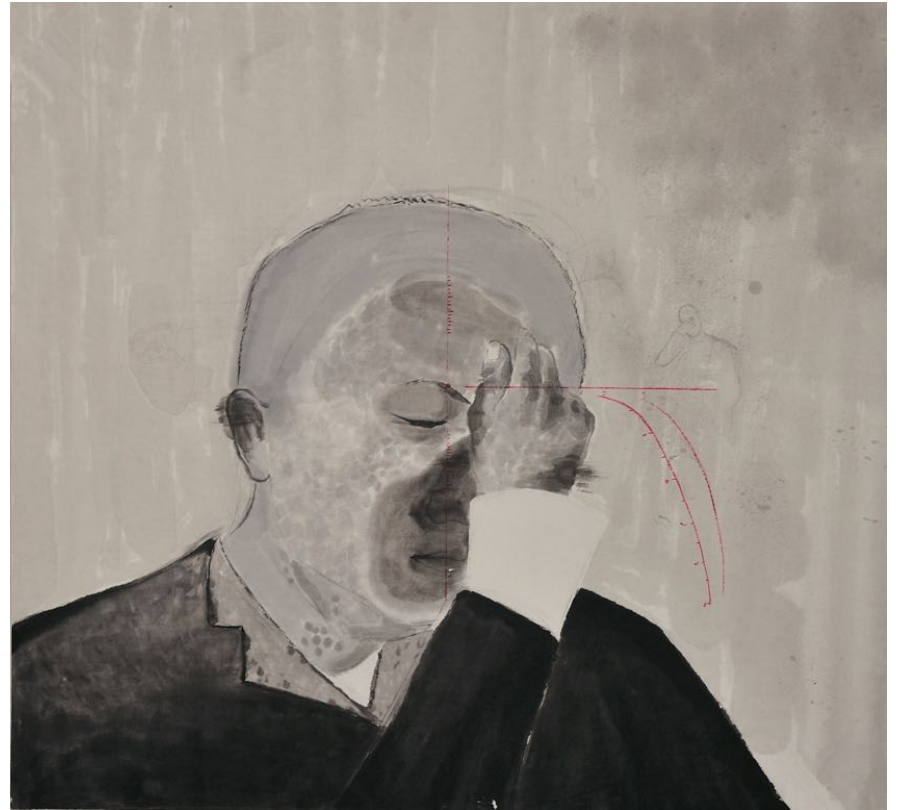
Born in 1990

Graduated with a Bachelors's degree, Chinese Painting Department, Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts. Student of Professor Li Xiaoxuan

2015 *IVY ART, Young Artists Exhibition at Today Art Museum
the Poly Stellardemia Art Exhibition
The "second international art exhibition", Nanjing
"National Uprising" Art Exhibition, Shanghai
"62-degree ash", UCCA, Beijing*

2014 *"Institutions – art new plans", Right View Art National Art College Students' Annual
Nomination Exhibition
China's key art college graduate exhibition of excellent works "Art on poly new forces"
1st "Ovation Star" Excellent Works Exhibition for Youth Support Plan*

Final measurement I 97x90cm ink on paper 2014





Sink III 41x61cm ink on paper 2015



Rachel 60x60cm ink on paper 2016



GU Haitao

Born in 1979

Graduated with Doctor's degree, Tsinghua Academy of Fine Arts

- 2016 Nominated Exhibition of Asian young artists at Today Art Museum*
- 2015 Impression of the North and South of China - the 1st Painting Exhibition of colleges, Great Hall Art Gallery*
Heart of Chinese Ink - Exhibition of Contemporary Young Artists, Qilu Art Museum
17th Exhibition of young artists of Shanghai Art Fair, Shanghai
IVY ART, Chinese Young Artists Exhibition at Today Art Museum, Beijing
- 2011 Exhibition of the Fine Arts of Tsinghua University*
Outstanding graduate works, Beijing Art Gallery
Exhibition of the National New Painters
- 2010 Nominated Exhibition of College Students, China Today Art Museum*
Exhibition of China and South Korea ink and wash paintings, Beijing
- 2009 South Korea Seoul culture and Art Festival and Exhibition, Seoul Museum*
- 2005 Participation of the 12th session of the China Art Fair*

Scape 8 22x30cm ink and color on paper 2014



Scape 12 22x18cm ink and color on paper 2015



View series II 20x30cm ink and color on paper 2015

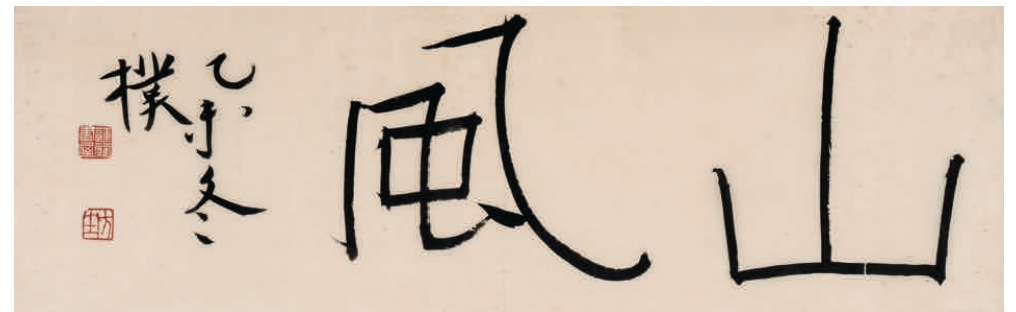




HAO Wei

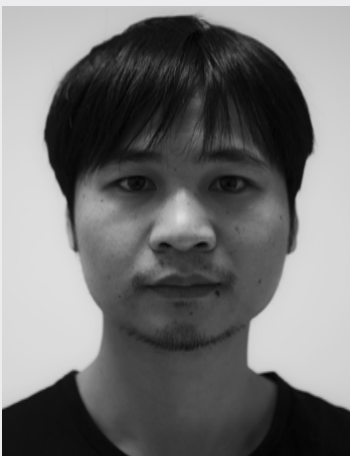
Born in 1985

Graduated with a Master's degree in 2013, Central Academy of Fine Arts department of calligraphy



Mountain wind 23x74cm ink on paper 2015

清晨急雨度林扉
 滴烟柳尚濕初雨
 水霞明桃亂吐
 沿溪風暖草初肥
 物情到底能若懶
 正事從前頓覺非
 自擬看花還自顧
 好雅歌咏月
 中歸
 山中漫興



LIANG Guifeng

Born in 1983 in Guangzhou

Graduated from the Central Academy of Fine Arts in 2016

- 2016 *"Academy Lights - I ask Confucius". Excellent Works Exhibition CAFA Art Museum, Beijing*
- 2015 *"Spring of Yan Huang - Invitation Exhibition of Contemporary Artists", Yan Huang Art Museum, Beijing*
Nanjing International Art Festival, Nanjing International Exhibition Center
- 2014 *"the 65th Anniversary of Foundation of People's Republic of China" Guangdong Art Works Exhibition, Guangzhou Art Museum.*
"Graduates Art Fair", Guangzhou Nan Fung International Conference and Exhibition Center



Head of Beast - the Buck 50x40cm ink and color on silk 2014



Head of Beast - the horse 50x40cm ink and color on silk 2014



PENG Zhenzhong

Born in Wuhan in 1979

Graduated with a Master's degree in 2010, Hubei Institute of Fine Arts

Member of the China Artists Association

- 2015 *5th National Fine Arts Exhibition for Young Artists held by the China Artists Association*
- 2014 *IVY ART, the 1st Chinese Young Artists Promoting Exhibition, Inside-Out Art Museum, Beijing*
- 2013 *The National Excellent Art Work Exhibition of the 10th Chinese Art Festival, Shandong Museum of Art*
6th Chengdu Biennale, Chengdu New International Convention and Exhibition Center
- 2012 *Chinese Contemporary Ink Painting Exhibition, Hubei Museum of Art and Today Art Museum*
- 2010 *7th Shenzhen International Ink Painting Biennial, Shenzhen Painting Academy a National Chinese Painting Exhibition, China Artists Association*
- 2009 *7th National Art Work Exhibition, Shanghai Exhibition Hall*
7th China Sports Art Exhibition, China Artists Association



Chinese Style No.6 66x66cm ink on paper 2013



Chinese Style No.11 66x66cm ink on paper 2013

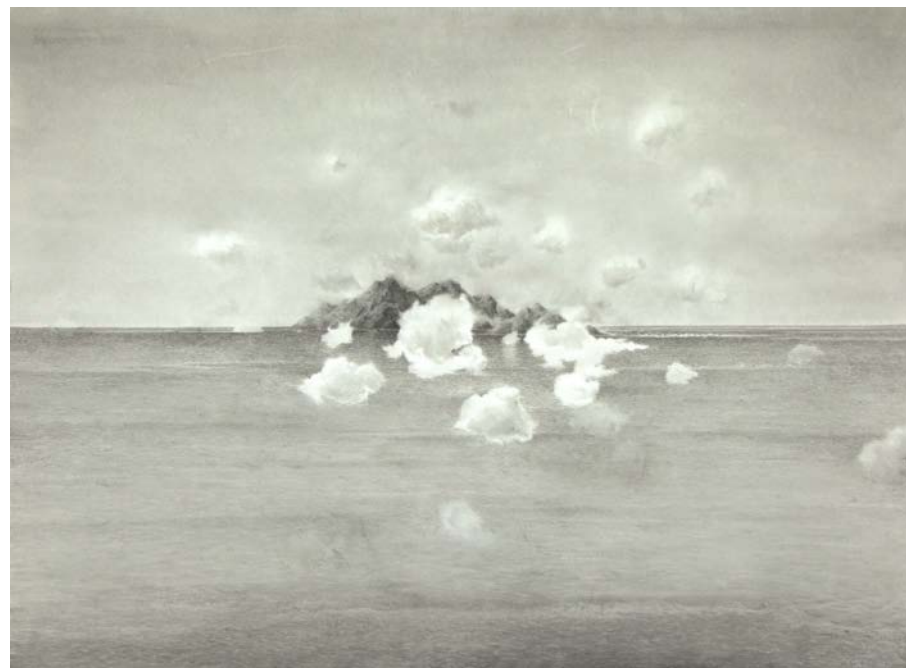


SHI Bowen

Born in 1982 in Heilongjiang

Graduated with a Master's degree in 2013, Printmaking Department of China Academy of Art

- 2015 *Lost in Contemplation - Solo Exhibition, Mingtai Space, Beijing*
Pursuit of Excellence : Artists from Academy the First National-wide Tour Exhibition of Oil-painting, Dayuntang Art Museum, Beijing
- 2014 *On the Road: Nomination Exhibition of Chinese Young Artists & Forum of Young Art Critics, Guan Shanyue Art Museum, Shenzhen*
1st Chinese Printmaking Exhibition, Guanlan Print Art Museum, Shenzhen
IVY ART - 1st Chinese Young Artists Promoting Exhibition, Inside-Out Art Museum, Beijing
Art Nova 100 at National Agricultural Exhibition Center, Beijing
10th China Art Festival, the National Exhibition of Fine Arts, National Art Museum of China, Beijing
China Youth Prints Exhibition Touring Exhibition in SoHo 456 Gallery, New York
- 2013 *Chinese Printmaking Yearbook, Shenzhen Fine Art Institute*
20th National Printmaking Exhibition of Fine Arts, Heilongjiang Art Museum in Harbin
2nd Chinese Youth Invitation Exhibition, 798 Unionist, Beijing



Streaming Cloud 56x76cm ink on paper 2015



SHI Lei

Born in 1982 in Tianjin

Graduated with a Master's degree in 2015, Tianjin Academy of Fine Art

- 2015 *Print Exhibition of the 13 Artists, DeZi Art Center, Beijing*
Second prize of the Graduation Exhibition of Tianjin Academy of Fine Art
IVY ART, Chinese Young Artists Exhibition at Today Art Museum, Beijing
- 2014 *International Biennial Print Exhibit : 2014 ROC*
3rd Guangzhou International Exhibition
Mini-Prints Biennial International Print Exhibition of Northeast Asian International Print Biennial, Kochi/Japan
- 2013 *20th National Print Exhibit, Harbin*
8th Youth Art Exhibition, Tianjin
- 2012 *2nd International Print Exhibit of Yunnan International Biennial Print Exhibit: 2012 ROC*



Moods of love 360x180cm wood engraving 2014



WANG Chao

Born in Shaanxi in 1986

Graduated with a Master's degree in 2013, Painting Department of Xi'an Academy of Fine Arts

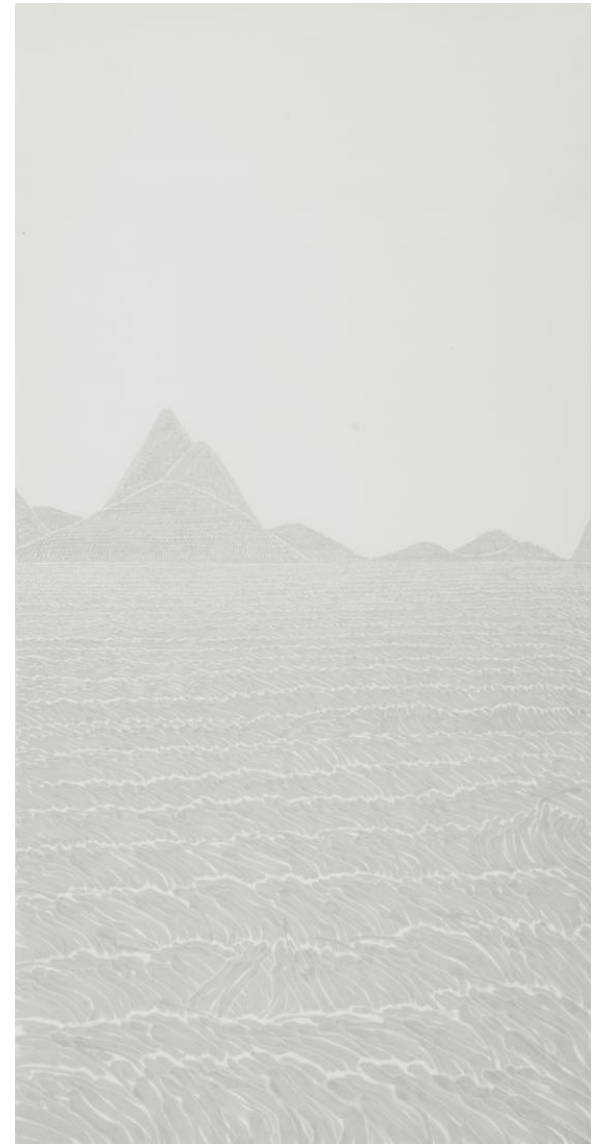
2016 *Notes from China at Minories Gallery in London*

2015 *IVY ART, Chinese Young Artists Exhibition, Today Art Museum Beijing*
Thing in itself. The Invisible Feeling of Deprivation Art, Museum of Nanjing Arts Institute

2014 *Image is Concept at Dalian art exhibition, Dalian*
Another Kind Of Rhetoric - From Avant-garde to Contemporary Art Institute, Xi'an Academy of Fine Arts in Western Art Museum

2013 *3rd Future Star Exhibition, the pot of tea house in Taipei*
Time zone - the Young College Teachers' Experiment and Exploration of Nanjing Arts Institute Art Museum, Nanjing
The Growth of 2013 Shanghai Youth Art Exhibition, Palace of Fine Arts, Shanghai

the Great Mountains And Rivers No.1 138x69cm ink on paper 2013



the Great Mountains And Rivers No.6 138x69cm ink on paper 2015





WANG Yiwei

Born in Tianjin in 1983

Graduated in 2007, Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts

- 2015 *"Eyebrows Was Ruffled". Solo exhibition, 798 Aura Gallery, Beijing*
Anti-divine Group Exhibition, 798 Wonderful Gallery, Beijing
IVY ART, Chinese Young Artist Exhibition, Today Art Museum, Beijing
- 2014 *Oil painting series "My Land My People"*
- 2013 *3rd oil painting Invitation Exhibition, Tianjin*



2 38x51cm ink on paper 2014



9-7 39x54cm ink on paper 2014



10-1 39x54cm ink on paper 2014



10-8 39x54cm ink on paper 2014



WU Hao

Born in 1983 in Tianjin

Graduated in 2006, Central Academy of Fine Arts department of Chinese painting

Lives and works in Paris

- 2016 *Solo Exhibition, Zero Art Center, Beijing*
- 2015 *Solo Exhibition, Galerie Yohann, Paris*
Il Limite – Annual Exhibition, Nian, Espace des arts sans frontières, Paris
- 2014 *Exposition Collective "Semblant non ressemblant", Galerie Paris Horizon, Paris*
Liu Japan-China Friendship Center, Tokyo/Japon
Ertne Galerie AREA, Paris
Galerie Toko, Paris
- 2012 *Galerie Grand E'terna, Paris*



Hic et nunc No.3 70x90cm ink on paper 2012



Hic et nunc No.10 200x90cm ink on paper 2014



Hic et nunc No.12 35x70cm ink on paper 2014

This exhibition "Paint the Past with the Present", presents 12 Chinese young artists selected among the participants of the project IVY ART China. It also plays the role of a showcase, which examine the development of Chinese traditional painting during this era of globalization.

Since the 20th century, worldwide, globalization is appearing, as a key issue of our Society. This phenomenon impacts deeply the social, economic and cultural areas. The planet is becoming smaller and horizontalized. However, once people are free and have more convenience to live and work, anywhere in the world, their traditions, languages and cultures will slowly disappear over generations of intermarriage and dispersal. In terms of art, a negative fact of globalization is the slow disintegration of differences. It seems more significant among the new generations who are using the same social networking websites and even the same art history textbook. Therefore, it has been more and more difficult to recognize a piece of artwork which is finished by a West or by a Chinese artist. Indeed, the geographic boundaries are blurred, and the impact of "global art" is obvious.

However, from another point of view, artist has more space to move around, communicate and choose objects. Artists are no longer stereotyped by regions, mediums or ages, but are regrouped by interests, forms or art languages. This is the so called "Localization Shift" belonging to the globalization movement.

The IVY ART project, as a long term art project, focusing on China's young artists generation, has intensively discussed about "globalization" and "localization" during the last 3 years. In 2016, IVY ART is honored to cooperate with the Foundation Alpes Encre de Chine and to illustrate "localized" art in a globalized circumstance. The exhibition is also an epitome of the diversity of Chinese traditional painting development. Further, IVY ART is looking forward to hold hands with the Foundation in order to develop more exchanges between Chinese and European artists in diversified scales. Last but not least, we have to appreciate that we were born in this era of globalization, which makes all of us possible to dialogue and exhibit our art without gap.

JIANG Dafang
Curator
Founder of Ivy Art Project

About Ivy Art Project

"IVY ART" is a long-term project launched by Tianjin IVY Animation Ltd. which aims at introducing, promoting and supporting Chinese young artists in China. Contemporaneity, professionalism, diversity, artistry and innovativeness are the characteristics of the project. The project is committed to form an eco-chain for the sustainable development of young artists and to build a communication platform in order to connect art with real life and public.

As the core idea of young artist cultivation, "Discovery, Development and Dialogues" is widely recognized by professionals and artists since the project started. We are exploring new brokerage models and popularizing approaches for art constantly. We also promote an artistic attitude of life in the meantime in order to let more and more people pay attention to art and the democratic art market.

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Sponsor

*Fondation Alpes Encre de Chine
IVY ART, China*

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*WU Hao
JIANG Dafang*

Exhibition Place

Grand Hotel Zermatterhof



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JIANG Dafang

Curatorial Assistant

LI Congcong
ZHANG Yujin

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Gérald Imfeld, Président de la Fondation Alpes Encre de Chine

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IVY ART, China
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