

# PearlLam Galleries

Shanghai

## WEST BUND ART & DESIGN 2017

Stand A3

Public Hours      Friday, 10 November, 12noon–7pm  
Saturday, 11 November, 10am–7pm  
Sunday, 12 November, 1:30pm–7pm

Venue              West Bund Art Center, No.2555 Longteng Avenue, Shanghai, China

Shanghai—Pearl Lam Galleries is excited to announce its return to the fourth edition of West Bund Art & Design, one of the largest-scale world-class art and design fairs in China. Once again, international audiences will turn their focus to the Shanghai waterfront during the second weekend of November. As one of Asia's leading galleries with five spaces in Hong Kong, Singapore, and Shanghai, Pearl Lam Galleries will present works by a range of international contemporary artists, including Chinese artists Huang Yuanqing, Ni Zhiqi, Qin Yufen, Qiu Deshu, Su Dong Ping, Su Xiaobai, Zhou Yang Ming and Zhu Jinshi; American artist Leonardo Drew; American photography artist David LaChapelle; and British artist Kour Pour.

### LEONARDO DREW

Leonardo Drew (b. 1961) is an artist whose practice is centred around his choice of medium. The Galleries will exhibit two of his brand-new large-scale sculptural works. The materials he chooses are always of particular importance. After his two-year experiment in Jingdezhen, the porcelain capital of China, he finally succeeded his attempt to incorporate ceramics with wood. Drawn from historical evidence, the resulting abstract sculptural compositions are an emotional reflection of the nature of existence, industrial intervention in the organic cycle of life, and the connectivity of all things.

### HUANG YUANQING

The Galleries is also delighted to be showing *Untitled 2016-10* by the pioneering Chinese abstract expressionist Huang Yuanqing (b. 1963). The artist integrates Eastern calligraphy with Western painting techniques and approaches in creating his abstract works. Huang's paintings are rooted in Chinese literati art, but use contemporary methods. He works from the traditional concept that both painting and calligraphy stem from the same source. With colourful calligraphic lines and layers of texture, Huang's intuitive language possesses an atmosphere of self-command and introspection.

### DAVID LACHAPELLE

As a turning point for American photographer David LaChapelle (b. 1963) as an artist, *After the Deluge: Statue* (2007) will be exhibited at the fair. LaChapelle revolutionizes photography by attempting a holistic rendering of personage, religion, and social-environmentalism through bold, vibrant, and of-the-moment stylistic palettes and inventiveness. Inspired by Michelangelo's Genesis-based fresco, the *After the Deluge* series depicts priceless masterpiece statues in water-flooded and destroyed art museums. Appropriating different signifiers in art history, the artist explores in dramatic images the clash between civilization and the forces of nature, time and the limitation of humankind, humanities, and the value of art.

## NI ZHIQI

As an up-and-coming young artist during the '85 New Wave Movement, Ni Zhiqi (b. 1957) came to prominence with his early expressions and explorations in surrealism and cubism. In the 1990s, the artist furthered his studies at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Belgium, where he was awarded the first-class prize in the exhibition by Karel Veslat. All of his experiences abroad have influenced his unique artistic explorations and creations. In Ni's *ALHAMBRA* series (2017), the artist has chosen to cover the canvas with a specific handmade paper produced by ancient and secretive Chinese papermaking techniques. This series combines both collage and paint. The works are brimming with tile patterns and evoke a feeling of infiniteness while recalling memories of the red palace built by Moors in Spain in the Middle Ages.

## KOUR POUR

As a young British artist of Iranian descent based in Los Angeles, Kour Pour (b. 1987) takes inspiration from his familial connection to Persian carpets, diverse cultural influences from specific locations or time periods, images from auction catalogues, the Internet, and commercial logos in daily life. At the stand, the Galleries will present a piece from Pour's "Miniature Painting" series, *Thank You, Enjoy!* (2017), which is a continuation of his well-acclaimed "Carpet Painting" series. All images share the same space where they lose their bearing of time, location, or even value: a priceless Han dynasty vase floats next to the text "Thank You" from a low-cost fast-food container. The artist attempts to find a space where all categorizations exist in-between and to explore more non-linear narratives about society or cultural hierarchy.

## QIN YUFEN

Qin Yufen's (b. 1954) abstract works borrow from Western concepts while still being rooted in Chinese tradition. They depict Oriental aesthetics of tranquillity and ethereality embodied by Zen meditation. On show will be her work *Ink Colour* (1988), which originated from her early experimentations in abstract art and studies in German. Qin's concepts are implied in the poetic atmosphere, as she uses her unique feminine way of expressing the individual aesthetics of self-examination and contemplation.

## QIU DESHU

Chinese contemporary ink artist Qiu Deshu (b. 1948) continues his over 30 years of experimentation with Xuan paper in creating pictorial fields with cracks and crevices that he feels are symbolic of life's journey—done by a unique technique he calls "fissuring". By tearing, rubbing, and carving the rice paper, the artist has broken away from traditional Xuan paper painting methods, developing a new way of working with this ancient Oriental painting material. He highlights the nature of the material and examines the relationship between close range tension and deep space.

## SU DONG PING

Engaging with the struggle between the calligraphic and the rule-following methods of painting, Su Dong Ping (b. 1958) will present *2016 No.1*, which investigates these thematic concerns. The artist allows thick layers of paint to accumulate over extended periods of time to make up the tactile surface of the painting. Su's "action paintings", full of rich contradictions and feelings, consist of thick impasto layered with raw images and a combination of compact and expansive brushwork.

## SU XIAOBAI

Pearl Lam Galleries will also showcase works by Su Xiaobai (b. 1949), who has developed his own technique using lacquer, a medium steeped in Chinese history, to create works that combine elements of painting and sculpture. Su focuses on essential qualities like colour, shape, and texture, which in various combinations produce unique surfaces that range from smooth and sensuous to carved and abraded. Each piece exudes its own history, character, and independent presence.

## ZHOU YANGMING

Zhou Yangming (b. 1971) is one of the most distinctive abstract artists in China. His works are all based on line and space, which ultimately reflect his thoughts and ideas at a specific moment. They embody

the spirit of abstraction described in the *Dao De Ching*: "The Way bears sensation, Sensation bears memory, Sensation and memory bear abstraction, And abstraction bears all the world." By drawing line upon line, Zhou constructs a feeling of "infinity" in his artistic creations. Zhou narrates his own feelings about space through multiple works in the same series.

## ZHU JINSHI

Zhu Jinshi (b. 1954), a pioneer of Chinese abstract art, will exhibit two of his "thick paintings". His wall-hung works, executed in the mature period of his career, present themselves as low reliefs. After 30 years of unwavering efforts, Zhu's abstract paintings break the constraints of a flat canvas and transform the traditional visual experience through the use of three dimensions.

## About Pearl Lam Galleries

Founded by Pearl Lam, Pearl Lam Galleries is a driving force within Asia's contemporary art scene. With over 20 years of experience exhibiting Asian and Western art and design, it is one of the leading and most established contemporary art galleries to be launched out of China.

Playing a vital role in stimulating international dialogue on Chinese and Asian contemporary art, the Galleries is dedicated to championing artists who re-evaluate and challenge perceptions of cultural practice from the region. The Galleries in Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Singapore collaborate with renowned curators, each presenting distinct programming from major solo exhibitions, special projects, and installations to conceptually rigorous group shows. Based on the philosophy of Chinese Literati where art forms have no hierarchy, Pearl Lam Galleries is dedicated to breaking down boundaries between different disciplines, with a unique gallery model committed to encouraging cross-cultural exchange.

The four branches of Pearl Lam Galleries in Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Singapore represent an increasingly influential roster of contemporary artists. Chinese artists Zhu Jinshi and Su Xiaobai, who synthesize Chinese sensibilities with an international visual language, are presented internationally with work now included in major private and public collections worldwide. The Galleries has also introduced leading international artists, such as Jenny Holzer, Leonardo Drew, Carlos Rolón/Dzine, and Yinka Shonibare MBE, to markets in the region, providing opportunities for new audiences in Asia to encounter their work. Pearl Lam Galleries encourages international artists to create new work which engages specifically with the region, collaborating to produce thought-provoking, culturally relevant work.

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## Press Enquiries

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