

PearlLam Galleries

ART COLOGNE 2015 Stand C-030

Koelnmesse, Hall 11.2
Messeplatz 1, 50679, Cologne, Germany

Vernissage: 15 April, 4–8pm

Exhibition Dates: 16–18 April, 11am–7pm, 19 April, 11am–6pm



From left to right:
Ren Ri b. 1984, **Yuansu Chain Series I, RG-1** (2014–2015), Acrylic box, natural beeswax, natural pigments
40 x 80 x 40 cm (15 3/4 x 31 1/2 x 15 3/4 in.)

Zhu Jinshi b. 1954, **Bold and Decisive Painting** (2013) Oil on canvas, 140 x 160 cm (55 1/10 x 63 in.)

Cologne—Pearl Lam Galleries is pleased to announce its first participation in Art Cologne at the fair's forty-ninth edition. In addition to presenting artworks in the Galleries section, the Galleries is delighted that Chinese artist Ren Ri has been selected to exhibit in the 'New Positions' section, which highlights innovative young artists, on view in conjunction to the booth. The event will take place at Koelnmesse Hall 11.1-3 from 16–19 April, with a vernissage on 15 April.

The Galleries continues its mission of acting as a bridge between the East and West by exhibiting leading contemporary artists from a variety of cultural backgrounds. The fair will be the premiere showcase in Germany for several of the artists aiming to provide an environment for cross-cultural dialogue and understanding. The Galleries will exhibit works by Chinese artists Jiang Dahai, Qin Yufen, Qiu Deshu, Ren Ri, Su Dong Ping, Su Xiaobai, Zhou Yangming, and Zhu Jinshi, as well as works by Ben Quilty (Australia), Peter Peri (UK), Mehmet Ali Uysal (Turkey), Leonardo Drew (USA), and Gatot Pujiarto (Indonesia).

Up-and-coming artist Ren Ri will show pieces from his *Yuansu* series in a 25 square metre curated section of the stand allocated by Art Cologne for artists selected for 'New Positions.' Ren Ri works with bees to form sculptural works out of beeswax. His interactive installations investigate nature's own logic of force, and comment on the impact of human interaction with nature.

Chinese artists known for being pioneers of Chinese abstract art, having led the movement to break free of realist painterly ideals prominent in 1980s China, will be on view. Jiang Dahai, Qiu Deshu, and Su Dong Ping root their work in Chinese traditions that advocate interconnectedness of humanity and nature, along with the cultivation of the inner self. Su Xiaobai, Qin Yufen, and Zhu Jinshi all live or have lived in Germany and combine Chinese and Western influences in their work. Zhu's work explores the wisdom of "emptiness" as reflected in the Diamond Sutra, and Michel Foucault's theories of modernity.

Ben Quilty will exhibit *Identity is a first world problem* (2014), a bold image luring the viewer into the artist's unfathomable world in his textured painting style that can be recognised from his thick layering and smearing of paint applied with a palette knife. The wood sculpture *Number 8C* (2014) from Leonardo Drew's prolific series that explores identity, death, and decay first exhibited in New York in 1989. It is another one of the booth's highlights.

Art Cologne will mark the first collaboration with artist Zhou Yangming, whose *Untitled* (2014) line-based work investigates the relationship between painting and drawing, as well as spatiality within the limitations of a canvas. Pearl Lam Galleries was the first in China to exhibit Mehmet Ali Uysal in 2014, and will show three sculptural works depicting melting frames, an eerie depiction of the decline of painting, from his *Suspended* series at Art Cologne.

About Leonardo Drew

Leonardo Drew was born in 1961 in Tallahassee, Florida, and grew up in a public housing project in Bridgeport, Connecticut. At the age of fifteen both DC and Marvel Comics were courting him to work as an illustrator, but, inspired by Jackson Pollock and other abstract artists, he attended Parsons School of Design in New York and earned a BFA from Cooper Union in 1985. Leonardo Drew's sculptural works often consist of objects mounted onto panels or directly to the wall. The materials he chooses reflect memories of his days in the projects, sociopolitical issues related to his African-American ethnicity, or themes of death, darkness, and decay.

Leonardo Drew's solo exhibitions include *Selected Works*, SCAD Museum of Art at the Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, GA, USA (2013); Palazzo Delle Papesse, Centro Arte Contemporanea, Siena, Italy (2006); Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, USA (2000); and The Bronx Museum of the Arts, Bronx, NY, USA (2000). His work is in the permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, USA; the Princeton University Art Museum, Princeton, NJ, USA; and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA.

Jiang Dahai

Jiang Dahai (b. 1946, Nanjing) is one of the most prominent contemporary Chinese artists. Jiang moved to Paris after graduating from China Central Academy of Fine Arts with a master's degree in oil painting in 1986. He belongs to the third generation of Chinese artists who have settled in France. Six years ago he moved back to China, and now lives and works in Beijing. In his work, Jiang Dahai mostly focuses on East-West cultural integration, exploration and research. His paintings express a historical nostalgia that recalls traditional Chinese landscape paintings of Five Dynasties and Northern and Southern Song periods parallel to influences from Minimalism and Chinese art of the 90's.

Jiang Dahai has exhibited in major museums around the world including Shanghai Art Museum (Shanghai, China), Sophia Antipolis Foundation (Paris, France), MOCA (Shanghai, China), CU Art Museum (Colorado, USA), Centre Georges Pompidou (Paris, France), and the National Art Museum of China (Beijing, China).

About Peter Peri

Peter Peri was born in 1971 in London, UK, and graduated from the Master's in Fine Art programme at Chelsea College of Art and Design, London in 2003. Currently, he lives and works in London, UK. Peri's primary mediums are drawing, sculpture and painting: three

distinct bodies of work, which explore the tension between line and volume, figuration and abstraction, and the question of tradition and influence in Modernism.

Peter Peri's recent solo exhibitions include *The Reign of Quantity* (2014) at Pearl Lam Galleries, Singapore; *Last Family* (2013) at Almine Rech Gallery, Brussels, Belgium; and *We, The Children Of The 20th Century* (2011) at Galerie Almine Rech, Paris, France. He has also shown at *Art Now* (2007), Tate Britain, London, UK; *Country 10* (2006), Kunsthalle Basel, Switzerland; *Classified: Contemporary British Art from the Tate Collection* (2009), Tate Britain, London, UK; and *How to Improve the World, 60 years of British Art—Arts Council Collection*, Hayward Gallery, London, UK. His works are in the collections of Tate Modern, Saatchi Gallery, Victoria & Albert Museum, Arts Council of Great Britain Collection in UK, and UBS Funds (Kunsthalle Basel) in Switzerland.

About Gatot Pujiarto

Gatot Pujiarto was born in 1970 in Malang, East Java, Indonesia. He graduated from the Department of Fine Art and Design at IKIP Malang in 1995. He lives and works in Malang. Pujiarto's works explore abnormalities, weirdness, and tragedy. Inspired by uncommon events or occurrences in everyday life, including stories he hears from friends, TV shows and news that surrounds him, Pujiarto's works amuse and provoke audiences to reinterpret daily stories as a new reality, to enjoy it and feel emotions caused by it. The visual sensation in his works is combined with unique textures created by pasting, patching, layering, tearing, binding, and making patterns.

He has exhibited throughout Indonesia and in Malaysia, Russia, Hong Kong, and Korea.

About Qin Yufen

Qin Yufen was born in 1954 in Shandong Province. She began to create abstract art in the late 1970s. In the mid-1980s, she moved to Germany where she was influenced by Western painting. Her works from this period used both Western and traditional Chinese ink painting techniques, while still depicting Oriental aesthetics of tranquility and the reality embodied by Zen meditation.

Qin Yufen has had solo exhibitions in Beijing, Tokyo, and Berlin, among other international cities. She has participated in several group exhibitions including *Left Hand, Right Hand: A Sino-German Exhibition of Contemporary Art* (2003), Beijing; *The Wall: Reshaping Contemporary Chinese Art* (2005), New York; *The First Today's Documents 2007—Energy: Spirit, Body, Material* (2007), Beijing Today Art Museum; *Wu Ming, Form is Formless: Chinese Contemporary Abstract Art* (2011), Contrasts Gallery (now Pearl Lam Fine Art), Shanghai; and *The Art of Line* (2014), Pearl Lam Galleries Singapore.

About Qiu Deshu

Qiu Deshu was born in 1948 in Shanghai. He reimmersed himself in ink painting after the Cultural Revolution and co-founded the Grass Painting Society (*Cao Cao Hua She*), one of China's first post-Mao experimental artist circles. In the early 1980s, Qiu developed his signature style of works called 'fissuring' (*lie bian*), which literally means tearing and changing in Chinese. Qiu applies vivid colours to xuan paper, which he tears up before mounting the fragments to a base layer, often leaving space in between to create a pictorial field with the "cracks" that he feels are symbolic of life's journey.

Qiu's works are in the permanent collections of the National Art Museum of China (Beijing), Shanghai Art Museum, Museum of Fine Arts (Boston), and the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.

About Ben Quilty

Born in 1973, Quilty grew up in the outer suburbs of northwestern Sydney, Australia, where his youth typified the self-destructive character of Australian masculinity: drugs, alcohol, and recklessness. Ben Quilty's paintings of his Holden Torana produced a sell-out show in 2002 and since then his work has been included in many exhibitions around the world. In 2009 he

won the Doug Moran Portrait Prize in 2009 for his painting *Jimmy Barnes*, and in 2011 he won the Archibald Prize for his portrait of Margaret Olley. He won the inaugural Prudential Eye Awards in Singapore in 2014, which was followed by a solo exhibition at Saatchi Gallery, London.

About Ren Ri

Ren Ri was born in 1984 in Harbin, China. He studied Fine Art at Tsinghua University before receiving his Masters at Saint-Petersburg Herzen State University in Russia. He also holds a PhD in Fine Art from Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing. Ren Ri's understanding of bee psychology and nature helps him to create mesmerising sculptures in collaboration with insects. His series *Yuansu I, II and III*, are all related to his intimate experience with bees as both an artist and a beekeeper. *Yuan* means element, while *su* means mold—*Yuansu* can be translated as 'a comprehension of the gestalt of life'.

Ren Ri's recent solo exhibitions include *Ren Ri: Yuansu Projects* (2014), which was Pearl Lam Galleries' inaugural show at its SOHO space in Hong Kong. His work has been included in group exhibitions in China and Italy.

About Su Dong Ping

Su Dong Ping, who was born in 1958 in Shenyang, Liaoning province, began abstract painting as a revolt against the traditional education model after teaching painting and art history for over 20 years at Luxun Academy of Fine Arts. His artistic language is based on the principles of calligraphy; he employs both the measure and spirituality of calligraphy in his abstract painting. The ideal state of '*bu miao*,' which means not to follow rules docilely when writing calligraphy, but to let the spirit and thought flow on paper spontaneously and decisively, is according to the artist the highest realm of painting. Su Dong Ping layers his works with thick paint day after day. His works are cathartic, having escaped from the constraint of time and space to enter into a state of purity.

Su Dong Ping's recent major solo exhibitions include *Landscapes of the Heart—The Abstract Art of Su Dong Ping* (2015) at Pearl Lam Galleries in Shanghai, and *Instant Measure: Paintings by Su Dong Ping* (2014) at the Inside-Out Art Museum in Beijing.

About Su Xiaobai

Su Xiaobai was born in 1949 in Hubei, China. He studied oil painting at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing in 1984, and received a scholarship to study at the Dusseldorf National Art Academy in 1987. Subsequently, he moved to Germany in 1992, where he has been based ever since.

Su Xiaobai's solo exhibitions include *Su Xiaobai* (2011) at Another Gallery in Shanghai, *Su Xiaobai Solo Exhibition* (2010) at Raketestation Hombroich in Germany, and *The Dynasty of Colours* (2009) at Lagen Art Gallery in Germany. He has also exhibited in group shows at museums and galleries across Beijing, Shanghai, Taipei, Singapore, Berlin, Düsseldorf and Moscow.

About Mehmet Ali Uysal

Mehmet Ali Uysal was born in 1976 in Mersin, Turkey. He studied architecture and received his PhD from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Hacettepe University in 2009 before completing an MFA in sculpture in 2005 at the same institution. Currently, he lives and works in Ankara. Uysal's art questions the subjectivity of art, museology, and the art market. Maintaining a distant and minimalistic aesthetic, the artist conceptually examines spatial experience and will often transform an entire gallery space into a piece of art with his sculptural installations, objects, photos, and videos.

His recent solo exhibitions include *Pinch Me Awake*, Stiftungstarke, Berlin; *Painting*, Pi Artworks, Istanbul (both 2013); *Peel*, the Nesrin Esirtgen Collection, Istanbul (2012); *Malist*, Q Contemporary, Beirut (2011); and *Mist*, Etemad Gallery, Dubai (2011). His works are in the collections of the Vehbi Koç Foundation Collection and Ozyegin University Collection, both in Istanbul; Le Vent des Forêts Festival Public Collection, Meuse, France; Chaufontaine Parks

Public Collection, Liege, Belgium; Audi Collection (Audi Bank Lebanon) Beirut, Lebanon; Golden Harvest Group Art Collection, India; Samdani Art Foundation, Bangladesh; and the City of Umeå, Sweden Collection (2014 Culture Capital of Europe), Sweden.

About Zhou Yangming

Zhou Yangming was born in 1971 in Taizhou, China and has been living and working in Beijing for over 20 years. While studying in Beijing, in 1996 he joined Xu Beihong's studio to improve his artistic practice. Later, he moved to Songzhuang artist village, and recently organised several exhibitions dedicated to this place. Zhou's works are all based on line and space, which ultimately reflect his thoughts and ideas at that specific moment. By drawing and painting line upon line, he creates a colourful surface, which shows great training of both hand and mind.

Zhou Yangming's recent solo exhibitions include *Labor Time—Zhou Yangming Personal Exhibition* (2005), Yi Yue Contemporary Art Gallery, Beijing, China; and *Zhou Yangming Latest Artworks* (2012), Galerie Frank Schlag & Cie., Essen, Germany. Zhou Yangming took part in numerous group exhibitions, including *Immaculate* Da Xiang Art Space, Taichung, Taiwan, and *Virtual Transcend Power—Six Chinese Abstract Artists*, Dobach Contemporary Art Museum, Germany (both in 2014), Today Art Museum, Beijing, China; *China-Germany: Today Abstract Painting* (2012), Caixa Forum Culture Center, Palma, Barcelona, Madrid, Spain; *Yi Pai—Thoughts of a Century* (2009), Beijing Tokyo Art Projects, Beijing, China; and *Yi Pai: 30 Years of Chinese "Abstract"* (2008).

About Zhu Jinshi

After completing an artist-in-residency in Germany and teaching in the Architecture Department at Berlin Technical University, Zhu Jinshi (b. 1954, Beijing) returned to Beijing, where he currently lives and works. He began painting abstract works in the late 1970s, and participated in the Stars group exhibition, the first avant-garde art exhibition after the Cultural Revolution.

Zhu has exhibited in numerous solo and group exhibitions including *Zhu Jinshi: Simplicity* (2014) at Pearl Lam Galleries Singapore, *28 Chinese* (2013–14) at The Rubell Family Collection in Miami; *Zhu Jinshi: The Reality of Paint* (2013) at Pearl Lam Galleries in Hong Kong; *Zhu Jinshi* (2012) at Blum and Poe in Los Angeles; and *Chinese Contemporary Abstract, 1980s until Present: MINDMAP* (2012), which was Pearl Lam Galleries' inaugural show in Hong Kong.

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.

Contemporary Chinese Abstract art is heavily represented in the Galleries roster. Influential Chinese artists Zhu Jinshi and Su Xiaobai, who synthesise Chinese sensibilities with an international visual language, are presented internationally with work now included in major private and public collections worldwide. The Galleries have also introduced leading international artists such as Jenny Holzer, Jim Lambie 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 and culturally relevant work.

Pearl Lam Design shows works by established and emerging international designers, including Maarten Baas, Mattia Bonetti, André Dubreuil, and Studio Makkink & Bey, in exhibitions and design fairs around the world. They are invited to push the boundaries of traditional Chinese art and craft techniques and create new works that reflect their experiences in China.

Press Enquiries

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