

# PearlLam Galleries

Hong Kong

## INK ASIA 2016

Stand B2

Public Hours 16–17 December, 11am–8pm; 18 December, 11am–6pm

Venue Hall 3G, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Wanchai, Hong Kong

Hong Kong—Pearl Lam Galleries is pleased to announce its participation in the second edition of INK ASIA 2016, the first-ever art fair dedicated to contemporary ink art. With the largest stand in the HIGHLIGHTS section, the Galleries will feature works by the prominent Iranian artist and calligrapher Golnaz Fathi (b. 1972); celebrated Chinese artists Qiu Deshu (b. 1948), Qiu Zhenzhong (b. 1947), and Yan Binghui (b. 1956); along with works by new generation Chinese artist Yang Yongliang (b. 1980).

Golnaz Fathi's works are entirely modern, even though traditional Persian calligraphy has a significant influence on her works. Compared to Chinese cursive (caoshu) script, Fathi's works are more abstract, emphasising a growing, dizzying net of divergent, convergent, and parallel lines. The artist practices drawing lines on paper every day until the paper is covered with black ink. Fathi investigates ever more abstract forms of representation, using modern media to aid these explorations, while still basing her work on fundamental calligraphic practices and techniques.

As an important element of Chinese literati culture, ink brush has been practiced for thousands of years. Chinese literati painting and calligraphy are absolutely central to the appreciation of Chinese art. Ink-wash art is derived from the very core of Chinese culture; as such, ink-wash artists are particularly dedicated to this unique medium.

Qiu Deshu continues his experimentation with Xuan paper to create pictorial fields with cracks and crevices that he feels are symbolic of life's journey. His "fissuring" technique encompasses tearing Xuan paper, reconfiguring the pieces, and mounting them to form images, creating lines, or "fissures", that travel across the painting's expanse in a natural, free-flowing manner. While his work is indebted to Chinese landscape traditions, Qiu pushes their boundaries to create a new form of contemporary expression.

Inspired by the works of Western and Oriental masters, Qiu Zhenzhong reproduces them in his own way, with a traditional training technique used in the study of classical Chinese calligraphy and ink painting, *linmo*. The aim of *linmo* is to use brushstrokes to capture and understand the essence of masterpieces through their details and techniques. Through his use of lyrical lines, form, and composition, the artist examines these iconic images from Western and Oriental culture. Both pose and attempt to answer questions of tradition, art, and interpretation.

Different from Qiu Deshu and Qiu Zhenzhong, Yan Binghui extracts the expressiveness of traditional calligraphic works and infuses his art with a sense of contemporary literati style. Yan's works include reinterpretations of Chinese characters, macroscopic views, or ordinary objects, which break through the barriers of traditional writing and ink painting.

A newer generation of Chinese ink brush artists has emerged, who are reacting to Chinese traditions and influences in the new century by using new technical approaches.

Drawing from his formal education in the art of traditional Chinese *shan shui* painting, Yang Yongliang's work exudes a strong sense of traditional aesthetics, although he continually engages with the modern. His works on canvas combines both urban and traditional elements, as he mixes cement with acrylic to paint mountainous landscapes.

As one of Asia's leading galleries, Pearl Lam Galleries is committed to working with artists who push boundaries and reinvent traditions to create an aesthetic that reflects the dynamic changes of Asia today. The Galleries exhibits works by pioneering artists who create new visually complex languages while staying true to a deeply rooted classical origin.

## 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 synthesise 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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