

PearlLam Galleries

Shanghai

Ganjiakou 303

ZHU JINSHI solo exhibition

Exhibition Dates 25 March–15 May, 2018 Monday–Sunday, 10:30am–7pm

Venue Pearl Lam Galleries, 181 Middle Jiangxi Road, G/F, Shanghai, China 200002

Shanghai—Pearl Lam Galleries is pleased to present *Ganjiakou 303*, Zhu Jinshi's first solo exhibition in Shanghai. The exhibition focuses on Zhu's apartment art by incorporating installations and paintings from 1979 up to the present day. Over 20 works will be divided into three sections, with each section occupying its own separate yet interlinked space, including the basement of the gallery.

The concept of apartment art was brought up by art scholar Gao Minglu, who is also the curator of this exhibition, in reference to the art activities spontaneously initiated by Chinese artists in private spaces in the mid-1990s when public contemporary art spaces were very limited. Apartment art works are often based on an artist's family and personal living environment and include happenings and difficult-to-preserve features. Low-cost, pocket-sized or small-scale, and ephemeral, these works retain the inseparable relationship between artists and their specific life situations, while at the same time consciously confront the firm rigidity of domestic and international art systems.

The first part of the exhibition will, for the first time, present around ten of Zhu Jinshi's miniature apartment art installations from the mid-1990s, which have been restored, including pieces such as *The Ward*, *Clock*, *Temporary House*, and *Landscape Legal Case*. The reproduction of a room from the actual Ganjiakou 303 apartment, where Zhu first made these pieces, can be found as an independent space inside the entrance on the right side of the gallery, and the text on the wall there will describe the artistic ideas and discussions Zhu Jinshi had with his artist friends during the period he created apartment art.

The second part of the exhibition will be situated in the centre of the main gallery space, where Zhu Jinshi's six displayed works of apartment art will reflect Gao Minglu's views on art history in general. Gao believes that compared to more popular large-scale contemporary artworks, especially those found in museums, apartment art in China provides more thought-provoking simplicity, as the essence of art dwells within an artist's innermost being.

The third part of the exhibition consists of paintings from 2017 displayed in a way that opens up the gallery's basement space, which is about the same height as Zhu Jinshi's current working environment. The entire display perfectly fits the physical constraints of an apartment space, encapsulating apartment art's various changes throughout time.

About the Artist

Zhu Jinshi, born in 1954, is a pioneer of Chinese abstract art and installation art. He began to create abstract paintings in the early 1980s and moved to Berlin in 1986. Since then, he has been

experimenting with performance, installation, and conceptual art. In 1994, Zhu returned to China, dividing his time between Berlin and Beijing until 2010. At present, he lives and works in Beijing.

Zhu's solo exhibitions include *Presence of Whiteness* (2017), Pearl Lam Galleries, Singapore; *Detached from Colour* (2016) Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong, China; *Zhu Jinshi* (2016), Yuan Art Museum, Beijing, China; *Zhu Jinshi* (2016), Blum & Poe, New York City, USA; *Performance in Paint: Zhu Jinshi* (2015–16), Inside-Out Art Museum, Beijing, China; *Zhu Jinshi: Boat, a Yi Pai installation* (2015), organized by Pearl Lam Galleries and Hongkong Land at Exchange Square, Hong Kong, China; *Zhu Jinshi: Simplicity* (2014), Pearl Lam Galleries, Singapore; *Zhu Jinshi: The Reality of Paint* (2013), Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong; and *Zhu Jinshi* (2012), Blum & Poe, Los Angeles, USA. Group shows include *Black* (2016), Blum & Poe, Los Angeles, USA; *Perfection by Chance—A Yi Pai Series Exhibition* (2015), Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong, China; *Thick Paint: Jean Fautrier, Franz West, Zhu Jinshi* (2014), Luxembourg & Dayan Gallery, New York City, USA; *28 Chinese* (2013–14), The Rubell Family Collection, Miami, USA; *Orient/Ation*, 4th International Istanbul Biennial in Turkey (1995), Istanbul, Turkey; *Fang* (1990), DAAD gallery, Berlin, Germany; and the 1st Xing Xing (Stars Group) Exhibition (1979), Gallery in Beihai Park, Beijing, China. Zhu Jinshi's works have been collected internationally by notable public and private collections.

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.

Further building on the Galleries' commitment, Pearl Lam Galleries is delighted to announce the opening of its new gallery at H Queen's, Hong Kong's latest art hub, in March 2018. The five gallery spaces of Pearl Lam Galleries in Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Singapore represent an increasingly influential roster of contemporary artists. Chinese artists Su Xiaobai and Zhu Jinshi, 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 Leonardo Drew, Jenny Holzer, 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.

Press Enquiries

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