

PearlLam Galleries

ART BUSAN 2019

Stand A-19

Public Hours 31 May–1 June, 11am–8pm; 2 June, 11am–6pm
Venue BEXCO Exhibition Center Hall 1
55 APEC-ro, Haeundae-gu, Busan 48060, Korea

Busan—Pearl Lam Galleries is pleased to announce its upcoming participation in the eighth edition of Art Busan, one of Asia's fastest growing art fairs. The fair attracts top-tier and up-and-coming contemporary art galleries and collectors from around the world. 164 galleries from 17 countries are taking part in this year's fair, located in the renowned waterfront city of Busan.

At its stand at Art Busan, the Galleries will present a solo exhibition by Chinese abstract artist Zhou Yangming, featuring a selection of paintings created between 2007 to 2018. Meanwhile, a selection of new sculptures by British-born African artist Yinka Shonibare CBE will be presented in the form of a special exhibition.

Zhou Yangming's paintings illustrate a unique concept of space that is born out of a relationship between movement and transformation. They do not possess a logical narrative. Zhou's oeuvre focuses on repetition, continuity, and achieving a mental clarity through self-cultivation to reach a spiritual infinity. By using markers, Chinese ink, and acrylic paint in a disciplined manner, the artist negotiates the formal structure of painting through an intricate system of vertical and horizontal lines as well as dots. Painting these lines and dots has become a part of the artist's everyday life. He paints them meticulously in order to express his own fluctuating and serene emotions. Zhou creates different colour fields and leaves tiny spaces in between shapes to create an illusion. The artist then applies a second layer by painting line upon line and dot upon dot in dialogue with the background colour, enticing viewers to study the painting more closely. Zhou shifts his focus to the toe of the brush by emptying his mind, which he hopes will deeply resonate with Korean audiences.

In contrast, Yinka Shonibare explores the "duality of history" and "cultural hybridism" in his works. He understands that written history is intrinsically relative and has at least two sides, and that no historical account describes the absolute truth. Heroes written in history were also inevitably cruel invaders to some people. Shonibare audaciously inspects how Eurocentrism and racism are profoundly and inconsiderately entrenched in Western society. He criticizes imperialism, colonialism, and the misrepresentations of the past with his unique sense of humour and use of Dutch wax fabric with brilliantly colourful abstract patterns. Dutch wax fabric is widely viewed as native to Africa, yet the fabric originated from the former Dutch colony of Indonesia and was introduced to Africa by the British Empire. Shonibare successfully captures the irony of how a symbol of Africa is the product of imperialism and colonialism. With Korea being a country that has experienced and suffered from the prolonged aggression of imperialism, this special exhibition aims to provide a unique opportunity for Korean viewers to engage with issues related to colonialism through Shonibare's unique sculptural works.

About the Artists

Zhou Yangming

Born in 1971 in Taizhou, Zhou currently lives in a suburb of Zhejiang province. Zhou studied at China Academy of Art, the Academy of Arts and Design at Tsinghua University, and Xu Beihong's studio at the

Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing. He has held various solo exhibitions as well as participated in group exhibitions in China, Europe, and the USA. Important solo exhibitions include *Continuum* (2019) and *Begin Again* (2017) at Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong, China; *Zhou Yangming Recent Works* (2012), Galerie Frank Schlag & Cie., Essen, Germany; and *Meticulous Transcendence* (2005), Onemoon Art, Beijing, China. Selected group exhibitions include *Lingering Manifestations* (2018), Pearl Lam Galleries, Singapore; *Emptiness in Time* (2016), BA Art Space, Shanghai, China; *Simple Is Good* (2015), Red Gate Gallery, Beijing, China; *Virtual Transcend Power—Six Chinese Abstract Artists* (2014), Museum für Aktuelle Kunst – Sammlung Hurre, Germany; *Immaculate* (2014), Da Xiang Art Space, Taichung, Taiwan; *China–Germany: Abstract Painting Today* (2012), WILO Germany, Dortmund, Germany; *Yi Pai—Century Thinking* (2009), Today Art Museum, Beijing, China; and *Yi Pai: 30 Years of Chinese “Abstraction”* (2008), CaixaForum, Palma/Barcelona/Madrid, Spain.

Yinka Shonibare CBE

Yinka Shonibare CBE (b. London, UK, 1962) moved to Lagos, Nigeria at the age of three. He returned to the UK to study Fine Art at Byam Shaw School of Art, London and Goldsmiths College, London, where he received his Masters in Fine Art. Shonibare's interdisciplinary practice explores colonialism and post-colonialism within the context of globalization. Through examining race, class, and the construction of cultural identity, Shonibare's works comment on the tangled interrelationship between Africa and Europe and their respective economic and political histories. He was a Turner Prize nominee in 2004 and has participated in many renowned exhibitions such as the Venice Biennale and Kassel documenta. In 2010, *Nelson's Ship in a Bottle* became his first public art commission on the Fourth Plinth in London's Trafalgar Square. In October 2013, the artist was elected as a Royal Academician, and in January 2019, he was awarded the decoration of the Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (CBE). Shonibare currently lives and works in London.

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 and Shanghai 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.

Pearl Lam Galleries represents an increasingly influential roster of contemporary artists. Chinese artists include 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, and Yinka Shonibare CBE, 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

Kacey Cho / Pearl Lam Galleries

kacey@pearllamgalleries.com / (82) 10 3731 7828