

# PearlLam Galleries

## COSMOSCOW International Contemporary Art Fair

Stand D2

Public Hours      18–20 Sept, 2021  
Venue                Central Exhibition Hall “Manege” (1, Manege Square), Moscow, Russia

Moscow—Pearl Lam Galleries is delighted to announce its participation in the ninth edition of COSMOSCOW International Contemporary Art Fair which aims to unite galleries, artists, experts, art collectors and connoisseurs from Russia and all over the world.

On view is a selection of curated artworks by artists from different generations and cultural backgrounds. Exhibiting artists include Antony Micallef (b.1975, UK), Mr Doodle (b. 1994, UK), Zanele Muholi (b. 1972, South Africa), Studio Swine/A.A. Murakami (est. 2011), and Zhang Huan (b. 1965, China).

Antony Micallef’s portraiture contemplates the very substance and void that make us human in the first place. The intent is to short-circuit our narcissism and provoke us to contemplate what makes a painting after all. Micallef’s preoccupation is not to merely create imaginary subjects, but to capture an emotive moment that both the artist and viewers can share. Described as a modern Expressionist and widely recognized as one of the finest painters in contemporary art today, Micallef roots his works *Constructing Auras* in social commentary and self-examination.

Mr Doodle describes his art practice as a relentless happy doodle virus that consumes everything in its path. Since creating a new visual phenomenon, the iconic “Doodleland”, the artist’s core belief has always been to provide an open platform for audiences of all ages and cultures to enjoy art as a form of release or meditation. Through the depiction of dense clusters of characters, objects, and patterns with markers that grow organically across an expansive picture plane and even on the façade or interior of a building, Mr Doodle’s improvisations celebrate uninhibited freedom of expression and its social anxiety as a result of the commodification of culture both high and low. On view is a recent artwork by Mr Doodle.

Studio Swine is a collaboration between Japanese architect Azusa Murakami and British artist Alexander Groves, also known as A.A. Murakami. They explore art and design through material innovation and sustainable systems whilst placing equal importance on aesthetics. Their work straddles between the spheres of sculpture, installation, and cinema, resulting in immersive experiences. Interested in how natural processes can be adopted into industry or technology, *Metallic Geology* draws reference from Chinese rock gardens to bring natural elements into a domestic environment. With this freestanding object, the rock made with foamed aluminium opens up to reveal another structure within, which gives it a natural and elemental feel and conveys a sense of the uncanny.

South African-based Zanele Muholi prefers to be called a “visual activist”. Zanele Muholi’s *Somnyama Ngonyama (Hail the Dark Lioness)* series takes self-portraiture as a starting point to confront historical racism. These poignant black and white photographs are deeply personal, amplifying the subject’s “blackness” to reverse the gaze back onto the beholder as a form of resistance.

Considered as one of China's key avant-garde artists, Zhang Huan moved to New York and returned to Shanghai in 2005. Demonstrating the fraternal kinship between Russia and China, Zhang has exploited materials such as ash and wooden doors to depict memories of historical figures and events. In particular, the work titled *My Winter Palace* features wood bas-reliefs, carved with silk-screen printed photograph motifs of Hermitage paintings, pays tribute to the Hermitage Collection and the Modern Masters.

## About Pearl Lam Galleries

Pearl Lam Galleries is a driving force within Asia's contemporary art scene. Founded in 2005, the gallery plays a vital role in stimulating international dialogue and cross-cultural exchange between the East and West.

Following a rigorous programme, Pearl Lam Galleries presents museum-quality exhibitions that re-evaluate and challenge perceptions of cultural practice in Asia. With a thoughtfully balanced roster of Chinese and international artists, the gallery is strategic in its curation, positioning itself as an educator.

The gallery maintains a flagship space in the historic Pedder Building in Hong Kong, whilst the Shanghai gallery is situated in the heart of the Bund district. With a team of international staff, Pearl Lam Galleries' reach is global, having presentations at major international art fairs including The Armory Show, Art Cologne, Art Basel Hong Kong, Frieze Masters, and West Bund Art and Design.

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## Press Enquiries

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