PearlLam

Shanghai

West Bund Art & Design 2025

Stand 1B07

Media Preview Thursday, 13 November, 11am–1pm
VIP Preview Thursday, 13 November, 1–7pm
Public Days Friday, 14 November, 12 noon–6pm

Saturday, 15 November, 12 noon-6pm Sunday, 16 November, 12 noon-6pm

Venue West Bund International Convention and Exhibition Center

No. 7 Longyao Road, Shanghai, China







L-R: SU XIAOBAI b. 1949, **Niao Niao - West - A,** 2023, Oil and lacquer on linen and wood, 97 x 95 x 10 cm (38 1/4 x 37 3/8 x 3 7/8 in.) DAMIAN ELWES b. 1960, **Kerry James Marshall's Studio in Chicago,** 2020, Acrylic on canvas, 161 x 209 cm (63 3/8 x 82 1/4 in.) ALIMI ADEWALE b. 1974, **Femme Terra,** 2024, Acrylic on mixed media, 233 x 142 cm (91 3/4 x 55 7/8 in.)

Shanghai—Pearl Lam is delighted to announce its participation in the twelfth edition of West Bund Art & Design, held from 13–16 November, with a presentation featuring eight artists from different continents, including Alimi Adewale (b. 1974, Nigeria), Mr Doodle (b. 1994, UK), Leonardo Drew (b. 1961, USA), Damian Elwes (b. 1960, UK), Michal Korman (b. 1987, Slovakia), Ni Zhiqi (b. 1957, China), Su Xiaobai (b. 1949, China), and Zhu Jinshi (b. 1954, China). Expanding on themes of tradition, the presentation brings together works that move fluidly between abstraction and figuration, reinterpreting historical techniques through contemporary sensibilities. The artists explore the interplay between heritage and modernity, offering new perspectives on material and form, while reflecting the gallery's ongoing commitment to bridging the East and West.

A pioneer of Chinese abstract painting, Zhu Jinshi presents two new large-scale works, *The Rainstorm Turned the Scene into a River* (2025) and *Temple of the Ten-Thousand-Fathom Taihang* (2025), that extend his signature "thick painting" practice. Layers of pigment more than ten centimetres deep form sculptural surfaces that pulse with movement and time. Zhu's paintings merge the spirit of Chinese philosophy with the materiality of paint, transforming gesture into a meditation on matter, energy, and being.

Su Xiaobai's lacquer works, distinguished by their textured, shell-like surfaces and gracefully curved forms, merge a deep respect for tradition with contemporary aesthetic. This presentation, featuring the Shanghai debut of the *Niao Niao* series, reflects his enduring inquiry into materiality and spiritual presence. This showcase offers a preview of Su's exhibition at Palazzo Soranzo Van Axel as an official Collateral Event of the 2026 Venice Biennale, organised by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA).

British artist Damian Elwes will exhibit *Matisse's Flower Balcony, Nice* (2025) and *Kerry James Marshall's Studio in Chicago* (2020) from his celebrated *Artist Studios* series. Through these vibrant depictions of creative spaces, Elwes pays homage to artistic legacies while capturing the colour, rhythm, and atmosphere that define them. Influenced by Hans Hofmann and Keith Haring, he paints with both hands, transforming colour and gesture into a visual meditation on creativity and emotion.

Alimi Adewale's richly textured paintings reinterpret African identity and urban experience through abstraction. His *Femme Terra* (2024) portrays the embodiment of Mother Earth as a symbol of nurture and renewal. Bridging realism and abstraction, Adewale celebrates the divine feminine as a life-giving force, a dialogue that will continue in his first solo exhibition with the gallery in Shanghai in March 2026.

Ni Zhiqi's works, including *Like a Cloud* (2018) and *Morning in Sicily* (2018), continue his poetic exploration of perception and silence. Using handmade paper and linen to fuse collage and painting, he constructs minimal compositions that evoke lightness and introspection. Drawing from travel and memory, Ni's restrained palette and soft surfaces turn simplicity into an emotional and spiritual presence.

Completing the presentation are major works by Leonardo Drew, whose porcelain and charcoal reliefs explore cycles of transformation; Michal Korman, who reflects on memory through intimate still lifes; and Mr Doodle, whose playful universes of lines invite viewers into a world of dynamic energy. Together, these artists exemplify the gallery's commitment to dialogue across material, culture, and time.

"West Bund Art & Design continues to be one of Asia's most important platforms for cross-cultural conversation," says Pearl Lam, Founder of Pearl Lam. "Our presentation reflects the evolution of abstraction as a living language, bridging the East and West, and uniting the material with the spiritual."

About Pearl Lam

Pearl Lam 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 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 space in Hong Kong and Shanghai. With a team of international staff, Pearl Lam's reach is global, having presentations at major international art fairs including Art Cologne, Art Basel, Frieze Masters, and West Bund Art and Design.

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