

# ULLENS CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART 尤伦斯当代艺术中心

## NEW WORK BY SONG KUN: A THOUSAND KISSES DEEP

June 2, 2012. Beijing China

### Editorial Contacts:

Baiqu Gonkar, UCCA

+86 10 5780 0243

+86 13161102813

[gonkar@ucca.org.cn](mailto:gonkar@ucca.org.cn)

Jade Ouk, Sutton PR Asia

+852 2528 0792

[jade@suttonprasia.com](mailto:jade@suttonprasia.com)

### Media/UCCA Members/VIP

#### Preview:

June 2

### Exhibition dates:

June 3 – July 15, 2012

Also available for download from the  
UCCA website

### One of China's most prominent young female artists

The Ullens Center for Contemporary Art (UCCA) will present an exhibition of new work by Song Kun, one of China's most prominent young female artists. "Song Kun: A Thousand Kisses Deep", opens Sunday 3 June 2012. Hung salon-style across the twin walls of UCCA's Nave, the exhibition features a new cycle of 28 shimmering paintings, technical studies of drifting light evoking a sinister, sensual beauty and the dual themes of carnality and spirituality. Paired with an immersive video installation, this presentation showcases the latest practice of one of China's most interesting young painters.

This most recent work demonstrates an exploration of abstract qualities, divided roughly between images of bodies and static organic forms, and dominated by shifts between light and dark. The works evoke emotional distance, while employing an increasingly luscious color palette. *A Thousand Kisses Deep* explores the quiet properties of natural materials, then ventures into the realm of carnality. Deeply personal moments become allegories for societal change, fear, desire and disillusion. The artist's work is characterized by a kind of wistful desire, with figures portrayed as hovering in a dream world both familiar and fantastic.

Born in Baotou, Inner Mongolia, 1977, Song Kun was a founding member of the artist group N12 during her studies at the Central Academy of Fine Arts (CAFA), where she completed her master's degree in the oil painting department in 2006. She represents a generation of art students formally trained within a rapidly developing environment. Her nostalgic obsession with the commonplace sets Song Kun apart from political, contemporary pop art, as her oeuvre reveals subtle criticisms and a muted mourning for something lost. While still a student, she was recognized as a notable artist at the 2005 Triennial of Chinese Art, 'Archaeology of the Future' at the Nanjing Museum.

Earlier works provided glimpses into the narrative of her own life by focusing on small romances of the ordinary. In her first solo exhibition, "It's My Life," she



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produced a series of diminutive paintings – observations of the world around her – every day for a year. She has exhibited widely both in China and abroad, having mounted solo shows in Los Angeles and Beijing.

## Related Programs

### ***Lull & Silent Dog Night* performance – Song Kun's Special Project**

Time: Saturday, June 2, 21.00

Venue: School (53 Wudaoying Hutong, Andingmen, Dongcheng District)

Guests: Song Kun, Huzi, Sulumi, Exit A, Gao Hu, Mulian, Yang2, Yangzi...

### **smart Artists' Talk Series: ART AS - Painting, Performance, Music, and a Digital Revolution**

Time: Sunday, June 10, 16.00-17.30

Venue: UCCA Auditorium

Guests: Song Kun  
Chen Mulian (electronic musician and multi-media artist)

Language: Chinese with English translation

### **Children's Art Workshop: The Life Magician**

Time: Sunday, June 17, 10.00-11.30

Venue: UCCA La Suite

Guest: Song Kun

Language: Chinese with English translation

## About UCCA

The Ullens Center for Contemporary Art is a not-for-profit art center in Beijing, located at the heart of the 798 Art District. As a platform for contemporary art linking China and the world, UCCA offers an average 15 exhibitions a year and over 500 public programmes including art talks, film screenings, performances, workshops and public festivals. The international center maintains a special focus on recent developments and historical movements in Chinese contemporary culture, whilst also showcasing the latest in art and design and fostering international exchange.

[ucca.org.cn](http://ucca.org.cn)

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## About Song Kun

Song Kun (b. 1977, Baotou, Inner Mongolia) completed her MFA in the oil painting department at the Central Academy of Fine Arts (CAFA) in 2006. She was a founding member of the artist group N12 during her studies, and she gained recognition as one of China's most prominent young female artists at the Second Triennial of Chinese Art (Nanjing Art Museum, 2005). Solo exhibitions include "Seeking the Recluse but not Meeting" at Walter Maciel Gallery (Los Angeles, 2009); "Xi Jia – River Lethe" at Boers-Li Gallery (Beijing, 2008); "Song Kun, Solo Project" at Hammer Museum (Los Angeles, 2007); and "It's My Life" at Boers-Li Gallery (Beijing, 2006). Selected group exhibitions include a special presentation at The Armory Show (New York, 2010); "Body - Boundary" at Chambers Fine Art (New York, 2006); and The Second Triennial of Chinese Art (Nanjing Art Museum, 2005). In 2008 she was a resident artist at the Leipzig International Art Program. Song Kun lives and works in Beijing.