

CHEN ZHOU



Chen Zhou
The Story of Nanka Gulu and Iron Hawk
2021
Short video, HD2080P
14'00''

Thanks to: Slat Projects, Dinawanisland

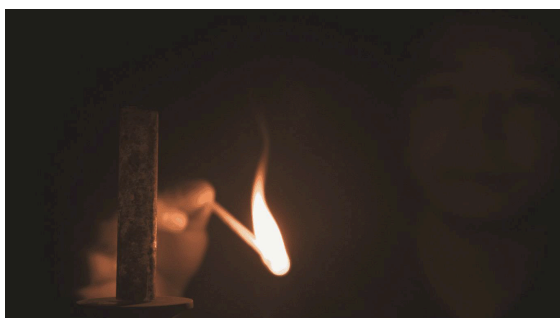
WORK INTRO

Out of unknown reasons, an Iron Hawk (drone), escaped from the factory, flew across the sea and arrived on an island to find Nanka Gulu, god of the mountain. Nanka Gulu adopted Iron Hawk, named it Diemo, meaning “the primordial awareness”.

ARTIST INTRO

Chen Zhou (b. 1987, China) currently lives and works in Shanghai. His early works center on the spiritual predicaments in contemporary life and try to respond to and deconstruct them humorously and absurdly. From 2022, Chen turned internally to human spiritual force and sentience. Specializing in abstract narrative cinematic images, paintings, and writing, Chen creates tranquil and intuitive scenarios that seek to provoke the viewers into introspection by capturing a vague gap between the lived experience of reality and the trance of void. He likens it to the trigger of an inner mirror.

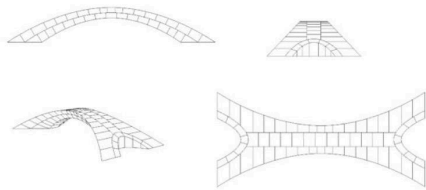
CHU BINGCHAO



Chu Bingchao
The Buddha Bridge,
2020
Video
1 hour 19 mins



Chu Bingchao
The Buddha Bridge – Candle
2020
Candle, wood
16 x 10 cm



Chu Bingchao
The Buddha Bridge
2022
manuscript
60 x 60 cm

WORK INTRO

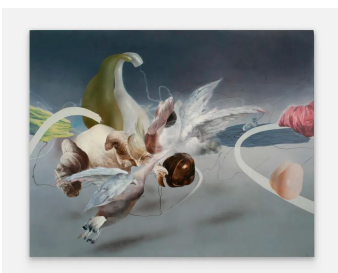
In 2014, during a research trip to a small Northwestern town, I found a half-burnt candle in an abandoned grotto in the wilderness outside the town. From the look of the was, I estimated the candle had been left here dozens of years ago. I held on to the candle. According to a folklore circulating around the town, dozens of years ago, Buddha statues in the grottoes in the area had been knocked down to be used as construction material for a bridge on the river. After that, I had returned to the town several times to look for the bridge, but without success.

One day in 2020, I lit the candle in a dim room and shared this story with a friend. This time, it was our faces that the candle was lighting up. As the story ended and the candle burned out, the bridge also became forever cemented as the bridge in my imagination.

ARTIST INTRO

Chu Bingchao (b. 1986, Pingliang, Gansu province) currently lives and works in Beijing. He graduated from the Hubei Institute of Fine Arts in 2010 and works across mediums including sculpture, painting, installation, video, and more. Throughout the course of his artistic career, he has consistently focused on social issues, personally placing himself within the symbiotic relationships between the individual and society, and between art and reality. To this aim, he has restored Buddha statues, and altered the shape of mountains, as an adventurer into the wild.

FU SITE



Fu Site
The birds II
2021
Acrylic on canvas
130 x 160 cm



Fu Site
Emperor
2021
Acrylic on canvas
130 x 97 cm

WORK INTRO

The core concern of my recent works is the interconnection of things. These works explore the complex manifestations of these associations. Natural, physical, biological, or virtual elements encounter one another on the canvas, generating random themes. I examine the relationship between images, associations, emotions, consciousness, and visual experience in various forms, whose common features are "anti-gravity" and "periodicity". I am heavily inspired by mythology, renaissance and baroque paintings. The balance of colour, space, volume, and pictorial objects remain the fundamental task of my practice.

ARTIST INTRO

Fu Site was born in the Liaoning province (China) in 1984. He graduated from the Tsinghua University in Beijing (2006), the École des Beaux-Arts in Versailles (2011) and the École Supérieure d'Art du Nord-Pas-de-Calais (2014). Fu's recent practice attempts to broaden the inclusiveness of the pictorial language and explores the relationship between virtual images, associations, emotions, consciousness, and visual experience. By depicting fragmented visual elements and mixing or juxtaposing them on canvas, he projects tranquility and chaos at the same time.

FENG ZHIXUAN



Feng Zhixuan

Vast Similitude Spans All– Establishing A Monumental Pillar

2022

Oyster shells, volcanic stones, coral bones, polyurethane refrigerator insulation and flame retardant fillers, permeable concrete, galvanized pipes, steel cables and other accessories, polytunnel ground anchors

2000 x 1500 x 1400 cm

WORK INTRO

"The white sandalwood Maitreya Buddha statue in the Lama Temple, Moai, Stonehenge, and obelisks... When facing these colossi on the earth surface that span time and space and standing in their immense shadows, I often ponder how the ancients lifted them up and erected them forever."

Oyster shells, volcanic stones, and coral bones as filter materials for water quality control; thermal insulation and flame retardant polyurethane fillers for refrigerators; permeable concrete on the surface of ecological slope protection systems... These materials exist in the crevice of the city and are congealed in a dried up gutter at the chicken farm, before being propped up and erected.

ARTIST INTRO

Feng Zhixuan (b.1993, Zhejiang, China) received his BA from China Academy of Art in 2015 and MA from Royal College of Art in 2018. He is constantly inspired by multiple life and artistic experiences. His work provokes cultural resonance through gradations of non-fictional materials, which he uses to produce historical action. The cultural elements in his works are revealed from a highly personalized material form, transformed through historical and improvisational narratives, thus creating nomadic civilizations that function across time and space.

HE AN



He An
Together
2021
Cast aluminum
488 x 260 x 140 cm

WORK INTRO

The artist collects jeans worn and discarded by family and friends, and rips them into rags by hand. He took the stitches apart, separated some details, and piled up mounds of scattered cuffs, inseams and waistbands. The resulting strips of thin denim are placed on floors and countertops, before being turned into cloth shapes from aluminium. The casting process is meticulous, with the aluminum "cloth" fine enough to capture details such as buttons, shreds and even seams.

This work is shaped like a human spine, which is not difficult to resonate with people, because the objects used in the creation are worn on the human body. Clothing is the most direct symbol of human beings. It represents the body itself. After turning into aluminum, it also has the meaning of weight, and the ashes after cremation.

ARTIST INTRO

He An (b.1970, Wuhan, China) is one of the most representative artists born in the 1970s' China. His practice spans installation, sculpture, and photography. Born in the era of China's economic expansion, He An's works extensively reflect the physical and emotional impact brought about by urbanization, industrialization, and globalization. Combining urban industrial materials – advertising metal panel, concrete, neon light and stolen signs, etc., he transforms them into an artistic language.

KAN XUAN



Kan Xuan
In an Instant
2020
Video
10'18"

WORK INTRO

During the pandemic lockdown in the first half of 2020, apart from getting my groceries, the most real connection I had with the outside world was the occasional knock on the door – “Delivery!”. The packages began to pile up at home, along with the bubble bags and the air inside. With this video I want to keep these dear in my heart and convey my gratitude to the couriers.



Kan Xuan
Walking, Walking
2018
Animation
1'30"

WORK INTRO

A group of cucumbers move ahead in unison like worms while shouting, "No oil! No garlic! No vinegar! No salt!" I wish to negate an ordinary side dish, smashed cucumber with dressing, by way of negation.

ARTIST INTRO

KAN Xuan was born in 1972 in Xuancheng, Anhui Province. She is a visual artist whose work primarily takes the form of video, as well as photography and installation. She graduated from the China Academy of Art in Hangzhou in 1997 and completed a residency at the Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten in Amsterdam. She was a recipient of Holland's Prix de Rome in 2005. Now she divides her time between Beijing and Amsterdam.

LIU YUJIA



The Koh Larn Island
Single Channel HD Video
Color, Sound
14'47"
2017

WORK INTRO

THE KOHLARN ISLAND (2017), shot in Thailand, showcases Liu's high level of authorial control. It reveals playful experimentation and heavy pathos as Liu stages mobile scenes with a local, masked drifter as he tows a giant inflatable swan behind a motorcycle. The protagonist's voiceover in English gives an account of his downward spiral and unfortunate descent into vagrancy. He navigates the contours of beaches in uncertainty and disillusionment, and the swan becomes a fantastical element that remains present but rather humorously unacknowledged as a narrative device. Like the beach itself as a boundary between the flux of the ocean and the fixity of a continent, the swan comes to embody a phantasmagorical tableau between a semi-staged fiction and an elusive reality.

ARTIST INTRO

Liu Yujia currently lives and works in Beijing. Her recent practice engages with moving images. Her video works and films explore the dialectical tension between documentary reality and fiction, examining the complex and mysterious dimensions of subjective experience in different social and political contexts.

LU PINGYUAN

Lu Pingyuan
A Blue Cottage
2022
Story – audio

Lu Pingyuan's practice is based on people's floating and ever-changing experience. Here he presents a story about the experience of survival, which will be encountered by people during its journey.

Lu Pingyuan was born in 1984 in Zhejiang province, China, lives and works in Shanghai. Lu Pingyuan's artworks involves a variety of media, including texts, installations, videos, paintings and others. For a few years, Lu Pingyuan concentrated his practice on the writing of "stories" as a unique type of media for art creation. These short "stories" significantly broaden the artworks' state of existence in the real world, extend the inherent spirit of art itself. His work has been exhibited extensively both nationally and internationally.

LI HANWEI



Li Hanwei
Economic Zone
2022
Foam, resin, wood, metal, acrylic, UV printing, fabric fiber, LED light, ready-made models, paper, oil paint, acrylic, lacquer, rubber
Dimensions variable

WORK INTRO

Economic Zone is located on a lawn outside Madeln Art Museum, comprising about thirty tents, large and small, real and fake. The content of the tents consists of products, tools, advertisements, as well as their constituent information and raw materials. Each tent has an individual theme, but their respective information overflows into a whole on the lawn, each vying for attention. By fitting them together in a fierce, blind fashion, I hope to sort out an intricate genealogy of network relations, thereby presenting our judgments and attitudes towards health, people, ecology, and tools.

ARTIST INTRO

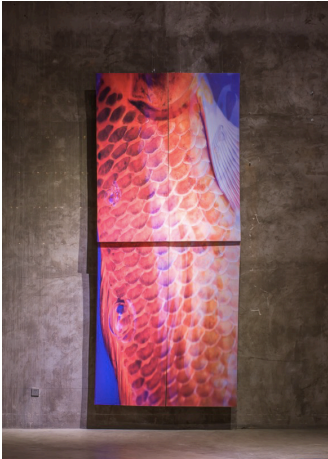
Born in Xuzhou, Jiangsu province in 1994, Li Hanwei graduated from the Shanghai Institute of Visual Arts in 2018, and currently lives and works in Shanghai. Li's practice is based on adapting forms of commercial advertisements and films as metaphors. Through the study of communication methods, the artist uses CG images to establish a worldview in the fictional world where counterfeit of the real world and science-fiction coexist, as a way to present the intersection of contemporary cultural forms and individual identities.

LILI REN



Lili Ren
my river shimmers at night
2021
Black Galaxy granite
154 x 86 x 5 cm

Courtesy of the artist and Magician Space



Lili Ren
to catch a swimming fish
2021
Memory foam, UV printing
380 x 160 x 3 cm

Courtesy of the artist and Magician Space



任莉莉

the skeleton of a mattress

2021

Spring bed slats, sponge, resin, marble, hemp rope

180 x 150 x 40cm

Courtesy of the artist and Magician Space

WORK INTRO

The artist uses sculptural elements including memory foam, marble, resin, glass, bronze, and water. The works take the form of everyday objects like a chair, spring bed slats, a car windshield, a diving fin, etc., but at the same time they resemble a familiar ghost or a distant, mirage-like evocation.

ARTIST INTRO

Lili Ren (b.1986) is a sculptor who uses tactile materials ranging from soft and ethereal to hard and heavy to create intimate narratives in space. Ren is interested in the psychological effects of human scale and bodily forms, unfolding personal narratives that evoke emotions and feelings. These often absurd and dreamlike forms create a mode of escapism, taking viewers to a place where the real and imagined merge.

WANG JIANWEI



Wang Jianwei
Prophet
2012
Mixed media, installation
330 x 400 x 381 cm

WORK INTRO

I walk around the city every day and all I see is street lights, light box advertisements, and exhaust pipes. They tell a story about my city, so I'd make it like that. By naming the work "Prophet", I do not mean that I thought of it first, but rather that it gave birth to my thoughts.

ARTIST INTRO

Wang Jianwei (b.1958, Sichuan Province, China) lives and works in Beijing. Since the 1990s, he has been researching the influence of multiple sciences and interdisciplinary knowledge on contemporary art. Well-versed in philosophy, he draws from mathematics, data-collection methods, scientific experimentation, and neurology to develop a new language for art and to practice a cross-sector methodology. Such a vision illuminates his creations spanning new media, film, performance, painting, sculpture, and installation.

Wang Jianwei has participated in major film and theater festivals, exhibitions, and academic events around the world. He was the FCA (Foundation for Contemporary Art) Grant Recipient in 2008.

ZHANG LIAOYUAN



Zhang Liaoyuan

You love the server and the server loves you

2022

Rack server, 3.5-inch HDD, acrylic base

440 × 650 × 120 mm, acrylic base: 850 × 400 × 45 mm

WORK INTRO

I am not a sentimental person, at least I yearn for a sober life. I don't drink or smoke, which can explain this. But I don't know when I began to fall in love with the world of server links involuntarily. This kind of trap makes people unable to extricate themselves. Although my reason tells me that this is not normal, because it does bring me the same amount of trouble, which reminds me of the song that Jacky Cheung sang decades ago:

Love paired with hatred, just more or less

Happiness paired with trouble, unless you discard both.

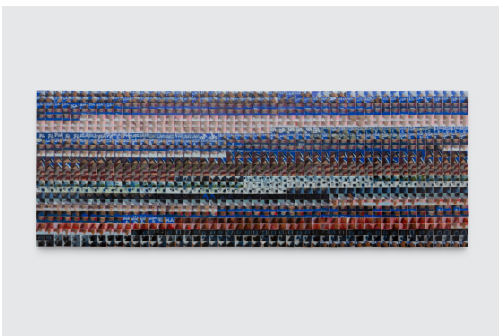
Your tenderness is far more important than other things

Without you, every second is full of pain.....

ARTIST INTRO

Zhang Liaoyuan (b.1980) lives and works in Hangzhou, China. Since 2009, he has focused on visual phenomena and experimented with "reverse" media related to light, imaging, and viewing methods, so as to make the media structure the object of viewing and explore how visual experience affects our cognition. In 2016, Zhang began a new image project, focusing on the technical logic of digital media and using the system's own structure to create and imagine. In recent years, he takes "viewing" as a starting point to investigate the linguistic phenomenon and media mechanism in the art world. Through a direct reuse of form in dismantling way, he brings out its close relationship with our cognitive activities.

EVIAN WENYI ZHANG



Evian Wenyi Zhang
Flanigan & Cotillo
2022
Acrylic on canvas
195 x 520 cm

Evian's practice explores the interrelation between the observer and the observed. In her densely composed paintings, she rearranged subjective visual fixations (defined as Areas of Interest, AOI) in accordance with a cognitive progression of saccade, that afterwards reassembled into a tabulation form of painting, visualizing the result of this cognitive study.

She forgoes the figurative artist's or photographer's insistence on the pictorial composition and geometry of subject matters, such as a solid-colored background that no one truly pays attention to, or the repetitive and unchanging floral pattern of a blanket, etc. Areas without visual interest are completely abandoned. Only remaining AOIs and its respective duration form a tabular pattern available for analysis, rich in information and vivacity. She has an aesthetic appreciation of tabulation and its indicative nature, or, more accurately, an obsession with statistical analysis and efficient categorization.

ARTIST INTRO

Evian Wenyi Zhang (b.2000, Shanghai) currently lives and works between Shanghai and New York City. She is a B.A. candidate in Studio Art at New York University. She studies the changes of cognitive habits during the era of simulacra with chart-like paintings and large-format photography. Her practice investigates how a formatted medium invented by human beings can define reality.