

**Daniel UM: *Trails Left by the Moonlight***

May 18 - July 13, 2024

No. 4 - 165 Wuyuan Rd, Shanghai

LINSEED is pleased to present the first solo exhibition "Trails Left by the Moonlight" of Daniel UM (b.2001, South Korea) in the Asia-Pacific region from May 18 to July 13, 2024. The exhibition will present the latest paintings by the artist, capturing poetic moments of vividness, melancholy, and loneliness between wake and dream, in a world of memory and imagination charged by natural landscapes.

Like the Korean poet Yoon Dong-ju's poem "Shooting at the Moon", which the artist quotes as depicting "waking up to the natural scenery outside the window," Um creates a whimsical world where nature and human experience are intertwined from a third point of view. The artist's unfolding images seem to be the superposition of multiple illusions, forming an ideal state constructed for the self. Here, the viewer is immersed in everything around them, merging with the natural landscape composed of large color blocks, and becoming the recipient of the dream.

Deliberately blurring the focus of the scene, Um transforms the lush landscape and the rear-view figures (Rückenfigur) of only two or three people into a subtle and secretive moment of private rest, where the landscapes in the paintings become a refuge for the artist's private emotions and self-image, allowing them to be enveloped in a dense, luminous and colorful atmosphere. Dappled angular light refracts the moisture in the air, creating a kind of chimeric with a diffuse twilight effect (Les effets crépusculaires), in which the leaking light is captured by Um's repetitive and intermittent brushstrokes, allowing his inner emotions to be hidden in the shimmering solitude of the forest (Waldeinsamkeit). The direction of the light source in the picture also suggests the existence of another perspective (the window), outside which the protagonist becomes the object of observation. The artist intentionally blurs the boundaries between private and public space, making it difficult for the viewer to gauge the emotions of the protagonists, even if there are people in the paintings, and giving these works an inexplicable (Intimisme) feeling.

"Speaking directly in the form of nature, their power comes from the order of the work of art itself" (Caspar David Friedrich)[1]. The views and horizons presented by Um are self-expressive, each seemingly sealed with an untold but deeply felt narrative. They are not only landscapes by the forest lake, but also the extension and imagination of the artist's universal and visible reality after traveling around in the past. An inner, deeper order is then created in the visible landscape, whereby the emotions hidden in the heart never go against nature, but are always in line with it. When memories of the past are transformed into visual experiences, the mingled colors and ambiguous halos keep alluding to the venting and surging of the artist's inner emotions. In the midst of it, the viewer and protagonists in these paintings, are all given the paths across dreaming and reality, waking up and sinking down, entering into a place of abode formed by self-consciousness.

Note:

[1]. Charles Rosen and Henri Zerner, *Romanticism and Realism*, 1984.

**About the Artist**

Daniel UM was born in Seoul, South Korea in 2001. He obtained his BFA in illustration at Parsons School of Design in 2024, and currently lives and works in New York. Influenced by his early experience of traveling and living in different countries, Um's work captures slices of the felt isolation and solitude in a stream of consciousness. Through the overlapping sensations and imaginations of intertwined worlds, the artist combines intimate memories and natural landscapes in a dreamlike, whimsical space. The isolated protagonist, who appears and disappears, often hovers in the lush and hazy nightscape constructed by dense and repetitive brushstrokes, where the artist's personal consciousness and inner emotions are enveloped in a sense of quiescence.

His recent solo exhibitions include: "Trails Left by the Moonlight", 2024, LINSEED, Shanghai; "Lullaby", 2024, Turn Gallery, New York; "Ponderers", 2023, Painters Painting Paintings, Online. His selected group exhibitions include: "Swallow Mountain, Drain Sea", 2023, LINSEED, Shanghai; "Sun to Moon", 2023, Turn Gallery, New York; "The Power to Dream", 2022, Galerie Hussenot, Paris; "Life in Color", 2022, The Room London, London; "Group Show", 2021, Loft 121, New York.



**严义竣：夜半潜逃**

2024年5月18日 – 7月13日

上海市五原路165弄4号

LINSEED 欣然呈现艺术家严义竣 (Daniel UM, b.2001, 韩国) 亚太地区的首次个展“夜半潜逃” (*Trails Left by the Moonlight*)。此次艺术家的全新绘画作品，铺陈出介于半梦半醒之间，将自然景观连接于记忆和想象世界里生动、忧郁又寂寞的诗意时刻。展览将于2024年5月18日开幕，至7月13日。

同艺术家所引用的朝鲜族诗人尹东柱的诗歌《射月》 (*Shooting at the Moon*) 里所描绘的“被窗外的自然景色惊醒”那般，严义竣创造了一个发自第三视角，身处于自然与人类体验交织的异想世界，娓娓铺陈的画面好像是多重幻梦的叠加，营造出一种为自我构建的理想状态。在这里，观者沉溺于周围的一切，和几何形的空间切割、大色块构成的自然景观融为一体，成为梦境的受述者。

刻意将景物的焦点模糊化，严义竣将郁郁葱葱的景观和仅有两三人背影 (Rear-view figure) 的画面，化为幽微而隐密可许私人小憩的空闲时刻，画中的风景成为艺术家私隐情绪和自我镜像的庇护所，任由他们笼罩在氤氲发光的五彩斑斓中。斑驳有角度的光线折射空气中的水分，创造出一种带有暮光效果 (Les effets crépusculaires) 漫射的嵌合体，其中流洩的光线被严义竣断续重复的笔触所捕捉，叙事的情境隐匿在微光弥散的森林间的孤寂 (Waldeinsamkeit) 中。画面中光源的方向也暗示着另一视角 (窗) 的存在，窗外的主角成为被注视的对象。艺术家有意模糊了私人空间与公共空间的界限，即使画中有物，观者也难以揣摩出作品中主角的情绪，让这些作品莫名带有了“私密主义 (Intimisme)” 的色彩。

“以自然的形式直接说话，它们的力量来自于艺术作品本身的秩序” (卡斯帕·大卫·弗里德里希 Caspar David Friedrich) [1]。严义竣所呈现每幅作品似乎尘封着一段未讲述但深深被感受到的叙事。它们不仅是森林湖畔的景色，而是由艺术家旅居于各地普遍、可见现实的延伸与臆想。可见的风景中流露出孩童般的天真稚拙，却又隐含一种内在更为深刻的秩序，交融的色彩与含混的晕染似乎暗示成长现实的微妙暗涌，观者与主角们也置身其中，共同经历关于梦境与现实、清醒与沉溺的选择，进入一个由自我意识形成的栖居之地。

**参考文献：**

[1] Charles Rosen and Henri Zerner, *Romanticism and Realism*, 1984.

**关于艺术家**

严义竣 (Daniel UM) 2001年生于韩国首尔，于2024年获纽约帕森斯艺术学院 (Parsons School of Design) 学士学位，现工作生活于美国纽约。受年少时期旅居于不同国家经历的影响，严义竣的创作以意识之流捕捉着过去孤独与封闭经验的生活切片。通过对交织世界的重叠感觉与想象，艺术家将私密记忆与自然景观糅合于如梦境般的异想空间中。画面时隐时现的孤立主角常依偎徘徊在由密集、重复笔触所构建的郁郁葱葱的朦胧夜景里，艺术家的个人意识和内心的情绪笼罩在沉静的凝滞感之中。

其近期个展和项目包括：“夜半潜逃”，2024，LINSEED，上海；“Lullaby”，2024，Turn Gallery，纽约；“Ponderers”，2023，Painters Painting Paintings。其近期群展包括：双人展，2024，Scroll NYC，纽约；ART SG，2024，LINSEED，新加坡；“Inaugural Exhibition”，2023，Armature Projects at Fort Street Studio，纽约；“Focal Point”，2023，Long Story Short NYC，纽约；“Wild Is The Wind”，2023，Hew Hood Gallery，伦敦；“包山包海”，2023，LINSEED，上海；“Sun to Moon”，2023，Turn Gallery，纽约；“The Power to Dream”，2022，Galerie Hussenot，巴黎；“Life in Color”，2022，The Room London，伦敦；“Group Show”，2021，Loft 121，纽约。

