

David Ostrowski: *Let me put it this way*

Aranya Art Center North
May 27 - November 23, 2025

Aranya Art Center North is pleased to present *Let me put it this way*, the first museum solo exhibition in China by German artist David Ostrowski, focusing on the artist's signature *F Series*.

Entering the exhibition space, the viewer encounters a series of large paintings made from irregular spray-painted lines on white or dark acrylic backgrounds, or even on raw canvas. Close inspection reveals that the canvas is peppered with pieces of scrap paper, tape, cotton remnants, and other everyday materials from the artist's studio. Through a highly intuitive approach, Ostrowski constructs pure form out of line, color, and gesture. The letter *F* in *F Series* is often interpreted as representing "failure" or "Fehlermalerei" (error painting), but the artist's choice of this letter was purely out of intuition. These seemingly "failed" or "erratic" visual experiments in fact amount to a rethinking and doubting of the forms of painting, satirical deconstructions of the traditions and authority of painting.

The exhibition title *Let me put it this way* further breaks down the solemnity of the contemporary art exhibition in a casual manner. The exhibition employs an unconventional design, with paintings hung haphazardly around the space to achieve a three-dimensional presentation. In this way, Ostrowski's paintings constitute multiple meanings according to different viewing paths and spatial constructs.

This exhibition is organized by Assistant Curator Gao Liangjiao and Associate Curator Wu Yiyang at the Aranya Art Center.



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www.aranyaartcenter.com/
10:00 – 18:00, Tuesday to Sunday
0335 782 5660
W30, Binhe Commercial Street, Aranya North Coast
Beidaihe New District, Qinhuangdao, Hebei Province, China

About the artist

David Ostrowski

Born in 1981 in Cologne; lives and works in Cologne.

David Ostrowski studied at the Düsseldorf Art Academy under Albert Oehlen. Ostrowski is a professor for painting at the State Academy of Fine Arts Karlsruhe since 2022. Selected solo exhibitions include Sprüth Magers, New York (2024), Fig., Tokyo and Ramiken, New York (both 2023), Sprüth Magers, Berlin (2021), Avant-Garde Institute, Warsaw and Jir Sandel, Copenhagen (both 2020), Sundogs, Paris (2019) etc. Selected group exhibitions include Akademie der Künste, Berlin (2021), Aishti Foundation, Beirut (2018), the Halle für Kunst & Medien, Graz and the Institute of Contemporary Arts, London (2014) etc. His work is in numerous international public collections, such as Aishti Collection, Beirut; Arken Museum of Modern Art, Copenhagen; Colección Jumex, Mexico City; Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Torino; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles; Louis Vuitton Collection, Paris etc.

About Aranya Art Center

Aranya Art Center is a kunsthalle for contemporary art, powered by Aranya, a seaside community in Beidaihe, China. Its architecture is designed by Neri&Hu. Its heavy volume, dark facade and concrete wall tiles with different textures make the exterior of the art center look like a tough rock. The spiral staircases inside the building connect the open-air atrium at the bottom with each exhibition gallery.

Since its opening in May 2019, the Aranya Art Center has presented more than 20 exhibitions, including group exhibitions *Long Day*, *Études*, *How Far*, *How Close*, *Studio Visits*, and *Paint for Life!*, as well as comprehensive museum exhibitions of Anselm Reyle, Sylvie Fleury, Tao Hui, Gabriel Kuri, Jiang Zhi, Yuko Mohri, and Trevor Yeung.

Aranya Art Center's first branch, Aranya Art Center North, opened on September 22, 2024.



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