

Tang Contemporary Art presents:

Chen Danqing: Disguise and Paintings from Life

Artist: Chen Danqing

Curator: Cui Cancan

Exhibition Dates: May 24 – June 30, 2019

Location: 10/F, H Queen's, 80 Queen's Road Central, Central, Hong Kong

Opening Reception: Friday, May 24, 6 – 8 pm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (HONG KONG – May 14, 2019):

Tang Contemporary Art is pleased to present “Chen Danqing: Disguise and Paintings from Life”, a solo exhibition of oil paintings by Chinese-American artist Chen Danqing. The show marks Chen's first major solo presentation in Hong Kong and his first exhibition with the gallery. Curated by Cui Cancan, it will showcase Chen's latest figure paintings from live models.



Stylist Xie Xing, 220 x 400 cm, oil on canvas, 2017
《造型設計師謝星》, 220 x 400 cm, 布面油畫, 2017

Chen Danqing is one of the most important painters in history of Chinese contemporary art. Born in Shanghai in 1953, he created propaganda posters as a teenager depicting the feats of Mao Zedong. He took an interest in painting at a young age, constantly studying works by Western artists to improve his technique. Chen was particularly influenced by the works of the Realist painter Jean Francois Millet whose works were featured in the group exhibition “Exhibition of French Rural Landscape Paintings from the 19th Century” in National Art Museum of China in 1978. In 1976, Chen visited Tibet and painted “Harvest Fields Flooded by Tears” that earned him early recognition. His growing interest in Tibetan people and their life resulted in visiting Tibet for the second time in 1980 and producing numerous life-drawings, sketches later realised in the form of paintings. He graduated from the Chinese Academy of Fine Arts in 1980 and participated in the graduation exhibition showcasing his most well-known series of Tibetan paintings.



White Shirts, 210 x 230 cm, oil on canvas, 2017
 《白襯衫》，210 x 230 cm，布面油畫，2017

The medium of painting allows Chen Danqing to orchestrate the viewer's interaction with work, therefore producing a flow of pictorial associations. According to the artist, "key elements of painting include composition, colour, genuineness, rhythm and idea development. Painting definitely has limits, you cannot release yourself through the process of painting. Painting can no longer provide so-called 'nutrition', which is why I do not care about what I do. In this sense, all the people that are still into painting are immoderate."

Chen's latest works were produced in collaboration with models from China Bentley Culture & Media Company and renowned stylist Xie Xing. He worked at the studio of artist You Yong from Chinese Academy of Oil Painting. Model's height encouraged the artist to create large-scale life paintings for the first time. By integrating influence of Western aesthetics with Chinese culture, Millet's technique is still manifested in chromatic brilliance of Chen's paintings.

**Artist and curator will be present and available for interviews, please contact us in advance for scheduling.*

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Chen Danqing is a Chinese-American artist, writer, and art critic. He is known for his realist depictions of nudes and rugged landscapes. Influenced by the paintings of Jean-François Millet, Chen empathetically portrayed Tibetan farmers and herdsman in the 1970s. He graduated from the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing in 1980. In 1982, the artist emigrated to the United States, where he spent the next 18 years writing and painting in New York. Chen returned to China in 2000 as a professor at Tsinghua University in Beijing. He was awarded the prizes "50 Most Influential Chinese Intellectuals" (2004), "Top-10 Male Elites in China" (2005), "Elites of the Era" (2011), "Most Popular Author" (2011), Honorary Professorship of School of Humanities at Zhejiang University (2011), Lucie Foundation Award (2013) and others.

He participated in numerous exhibitions worldwide, including Museum Europe D'Art Modern (Barcelona, Spain), Venice Biennale (Venice, Italy), Guggenheim Museum (New York, USA), Aros Museum (Aarhus, Denmark), Louis Blouin Foundation (London, UK), Asia Society Art Museum (New York, USA), Shanghai Museum of Contemporary Art (Shanghai, China), Minsheng Art Museum (Shanghai, China) etc. His work has been acquired by various museums and institutions, such as Harvard University, Chinese Academy of Fine Arts, National Art Museum of China, Jiangsu Provincial Museum, Military Museum of Chinese People's Revolution and private collections.

ABOUT THE CURATOR

Cui Cancan is an independent curator in China, who won various awards, including The 12th Art Power 100 - Curator of the Year, Chinese Contemporary Art Award Critic Award, Yi Shu Award for Critical Writing etc., curated exhibitions titled *Hei Qiao Night Way* (2013), *Xiang Cun Xi jian Chui* (2013), *FUCKOFF II* (2013), *Unlived by What is Seen* (2014), *Between the 5th and 6th Ring Road in Beijing* (2015), *The Decameron* (2016) and others. He also curated solo exhibitions by Ai Weiwei, Xia Xiaowan, Shen Shaomin, Wang Qingsong, He Yunchang, Xiao Yu, Qin Ga, Xie Nanxing, Shi Jinsong, Li Zhanyang, Xu Zhongmin, Ma Ke, Xia Xing, Zhao Zhao, Li Qing, Chen Yufan, Chen Yujun, Li Binyuan, Feng Lin, Zhang Yue, Zong Ning, Jiang Bo etc.

ABOUT TANG CONTEMPORARY ART

Tang Contemporary Art was established in 1997 in Bangkok, later establishing galleries in Beijing and Hong Kong. The gallery is fully committed to producing critical projects and exhibitions to promote Chinese contemporary art regionally and worldwide, and encourage a dynamic exchange between Chinese artists and those abroad. Acting as one of the most progressive and critically driven exhibition spaces in China, the gallery strives to initiate dialogue between artists, curators, collectors and institutions working both locally and internationally. A roster of groundbreaking exhibitions has earned them international recognition, establishing their status as a pioneer of the contemporary art scene in Asia.

Tang Contemporary Art represents leading figures in Chinese art including Ai Weiwei, Huang Yongping, Shen Yuan, Wang Du, Liu Xiaodong, Yang Jiechang, Xia Xiaowan, Sun Yuan & Peng Yu, Yan Lei, Wang Yin, Wang Yuping, Yangjiang Group, Guo Wei, Zheng Guogu, Michael Lin, Lin Yilin, H. H. Lim, He An, Zhao Zhao, Wang Yuyang, Weng Fen, Yang Yong, Xu Qu, Xu Xiaoguo, Ji Zhou, Cai Lei, Ling Jian, Liu Yujia, Zhu Jinshi, Qin Qi, Chen Yujun, Chen Yufan and Chen Wenbo, additionally collaborating with international artists such as Rirkrit Tiravanija, Sakarin Krue-On, Michelangelo Pistoletto, Adel Abdessemed, Dinh Q.Le, Michael Zelehoski, Jennifer Wen Ma, Rodel Tapaya, Natee Utarit and Heri Dono.



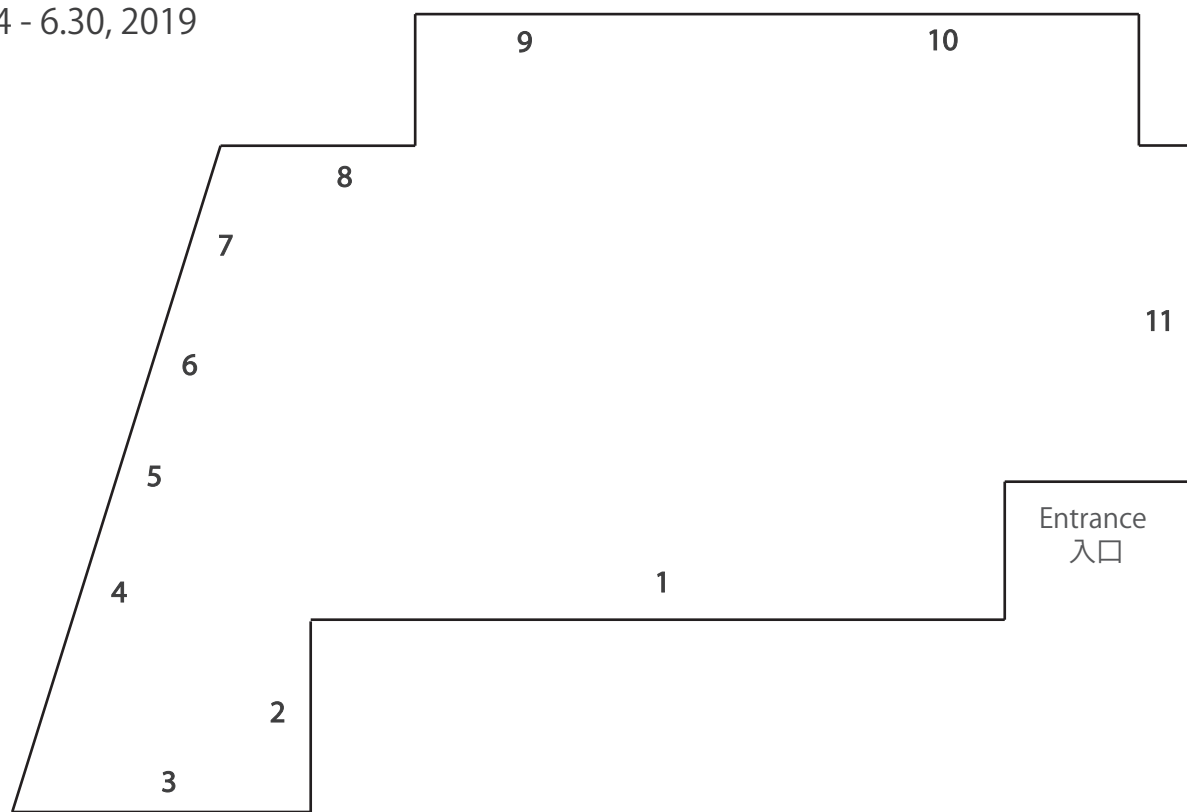
Artificial Flowers, 210 x 230 cm, oil on canvas, 2017
《假花》，210 x 230 cm，布面油畫，2017

Tang Contemporary Art
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Chen Danqing: Disguise and Paintings from Life
《裝扮與寫生》陳丹青

5.24 - 6.30, 2019



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| 1 Stylist Xie Xing
造型設計師謝星

Oil on canvas
布面油畫

220 x 400 cm
2017 | 2 At Ease
稍息

Oil on canvas
布面油畫

180 x 160 cm
2017 | 3 Self-portrait - 60 Years
Old
60歲的自畫像

Oil on canvas
布面油畫

138 x 92.5 cm
2014 | 4 Cigarette
煙

Oil on canvas
布面油畫

180 x 160 cm
2017 |
| 5 Floral Dresses
花裙

Oil on canvas
布面油畫

180 x 160 cm
2016 | 6 Colourful Clothing and
Muslin Dress
彩衣與紗裙

Oil on canvas
布面油畫

180 x 160 cm
2017 | 7 Veil
面紗

Oil on canvas
布面油畫

180 x 160 cm
2017 | 8 Smartphones
手機

Oil on canvas
布面油畫

160 x 160 cm
2016 |
| 9 White Shirts
白襯衫

Oil on canvas
布面油畫

210 x 230 cm
2017 | 10 Artificial Flowers
假花

Oil on canvas
布面油畫

210 x 230 cm
2017 | 11 Woman Resting Her
Head on Her Hand
托腮的女人

Oil on canvas
布面油畫

61 x 76 cm
2014 | |