

Tang Contemporary Art presents:

WILL – Mao Xuhui Solo Exhibition

Artist: Mao Xuhui

Curator: Dai Zhuoqun

Exhibition Dates: January 8 – February 10, 2020

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

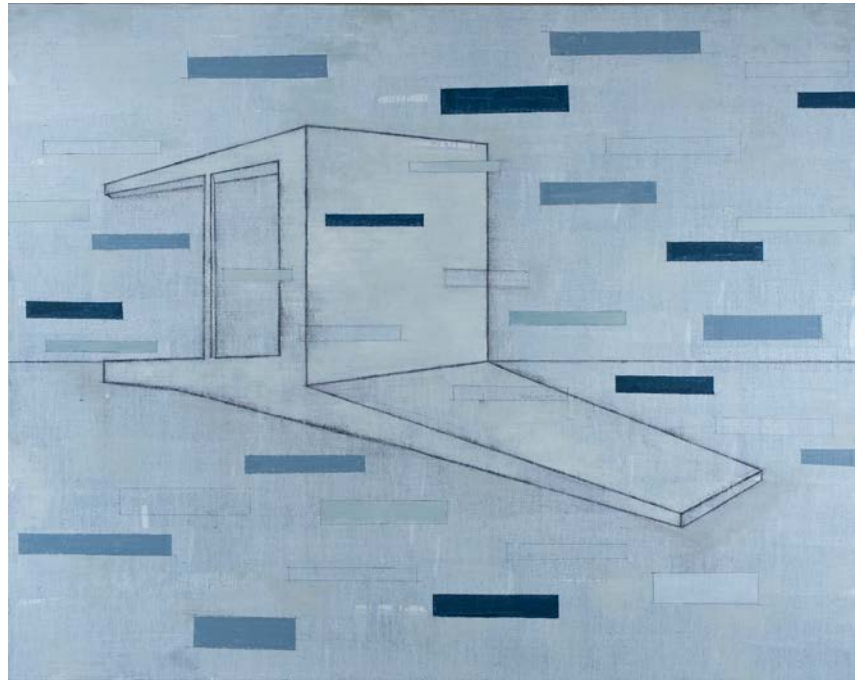
Opening Reception: Wednesday, January 8, 6 – 8 pm

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (HONG KONG – December 30, 2019):

Tang Contemporary Art is proud to announce the opening of Mao Xuhui's solo exhibition "WILL", curated by Dai Zhuoqun, featuring fifteen of his oil paintings of 'Scissors' and 'Chairs' series on January 8, 2020, at the gallery's Hong Kong space in H Queen's.

Like many of his contemporaries, Mao Xuhui has developed a kind of branding identity for his work through the repeated use of figurative daily objects. After evolution of 3 decades from the motives of 'Scissors', 'Paternalism' to 'Daily Epic', the meaning of scissors and chairs have grown from home and country, feudalism and authority to the metaphor of life, death and family bonding. His 'Guishan' series since 1980s is a tribute to humanity and homeland.



Topped Back – chair · Far Away, oil and acrylic on canvas, 200 x 250 cm, 2012
《倒下的靠背椅·遠去》 | 布面油彩、丙烯 | 200 x 250 cm | 2012

I love them, and will has the greatest meaning

Dai Zhuoqun

I. Will

Before passion turns to ashes, it dissipates, and your soul dies before your body does.

You don't want literature, narrative, lyricism, expression, or superficial formalism; it is only meaninglessness that generates meaning - will has the greatest meaning.

Seek truth, seek truth, seek truth, even if it is brutal, tearing, and destructive.

What makes for truly great art? The interrogation and close examination of the soul, far from everyday ordinariness, absolutes, loftiness, and essence. Only immense loneliness can produce eternal works of art.

For the vast majority of people on earth, life exists in a superficial world. Only the extremely special children of art can reach or touch the world of will. The world of will is the contemplation of existence, the questioning of the ultimate end, and the gate to the mysteries.

Will is persistence, and it is spiritual pride and suffering. Will is an adventure full of twists and turns, and it is dying nine times without regret; it is endless depletion, and it is interminable delay. It is passion, resistance, solemnity, pain, piety, waiting, hesitation, grief, and decline.

Will is following your heart; it is not mixed with any impurities. True freedom is the massacre of the self.

Will is humanity's absolute truth.

II. Love

I love them. I am faithful to the earth, and I push art to the precipice.

The desire to create is the desire to reproduce. Reproduction is an endless love for life. A life of creativity rejects the mediocre and the dull, and will linger in a metaphysical haze. Worry is creative desire, and life is only meaningful in an invisible, internal world. A restless, fragmented creative life is not a happy one; "happiness" is an absurd word. The world of creation is endless pain, and pain is spiritual succor. Pain and meaning are two sides of the same coin. Pain produces pain, but pain also cures pain.

I love them. I am faithful to life and nature. I am not restricted to a particular form; I simply maintain a spirit.

The highest art is neither artificial decoration nor the accumulation of ideas; it is not a tool of superficial reality. When you meet her, you dive into that deep secret with your pure heart and you reach the essence of truth.

I love them, a knife, a chair, and a report on the soul.

Absolute will can be given lofty form. Shape and color are the codes for heart and emotion. Works of art are tombs of the soul, and they are the silence that remains after your struggles and desires end. Silence is the epitaph carved by fate.

Only truth and love are eternal.

December 25, 2019

Beijing



Exhibition view of *Mao Xuhui: I am here*, Kuandu Museum of Fine Arts, TNUA, Taipei, Taiwan
《毛旭輝 · 我就在這兒》展覽現場 | 台北國立藝術大學關渡美術館 | 台北 | 台灣

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Mao Xuhui (b.1956, Chongqing, China) graduated in 1982 from the Yunnan Art Academy. Mao Xuhui is an iconic artist in Chinese contemporary art history. He is one of the figures in China Art Power 100 and the leader of the avant-garde community in southwest China in the 1980s. He also formed the Southwest Art Research Group with several artists in 1986. These achievements have earned him an crucial position in Chinese contemporary art history.

Mao Xuhui has widely exhibited in Euro - pan - Asian cities, including Shanghai, Beijing, Hong Kong, Singapore, New York, San Francisco, Barcelona, Bologne, Paris and London. His artworks are included in many influential exhibitions, for example, the milestone exhibition in Chinese contemporary art history, Inside Out: New Chinese Art (1998) co-organized by Asia Society New York, Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco and Hong Kong Museum of Art.

ABOUT THE CURATOR

Dai Zhuoqun is an independent curator and art critic. He currently lives and works in Beijing. In 2007, he founded Contemporary Art magazine, where he served as chief editor and art director. He was also the executive director of White Box Museum of Art. In 2009, he launched and jointly curated the “Warm Winter” protest project in Beijing, one of the most important art events in recent years. He has since planned exhibitions and lectures with numerous art institutions, art academies, and museums.

He has also published articles in international art magazines and other publications. He has curated exhibitions such as “Games” and “The Awakening of Things” (White Box Museum of Art, Beijing, 2011), “Superfluous Things” (Hive Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, 2013), “Old Bloke” (Gallery Yang, Beijing, 2013), “Conscious: Twelve Views on Painting” (Tang Contemporary Art, Beijing, 2014), and “Civilization” (White Box Museum of Art, Beijing, 2013; OCAT, Xi’an, 2014; Hubei Institute of Fine Arts Museum, Wuhan, 2015).

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, Lin Yilin, 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 Christian Lemmerz, Niki de Saint Phalle, Jonas Burgert, Adel Abdessemed, Michelangelo Pistoletto, Michael Zelehoski, H.H.Lim, Rirkrit Tiravanija, Sakarin Krue-On, Dinh Q.Le, Jennifer Wen Ma, Rodol Tapaya, Natee Utarit and Heri Dono.

Tang Contemporary Art
10th Floor, 80 Queen’s Road Central, Central, Hong Kong
Gallery Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 11am – 7pm

info@tangcontemporary.com.hk | +852 2682 8289
WeChat: tang_contemporary
IG: tangcontemporaryart