

#### E-Published specially for

Amidst Smoke and Rain 「家近煙雨樓」 I A Solo Exhibition by Wang Tiande

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#### Cover Image:

**Wang Tiande** - The Foreseer Through the Painted Mirror 先覺 · 境上, 2020, 1070x72.5cm, Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper

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Born in Shanghai in 1960, Wang Tiande graduated from the Chinese Painting Department of the China Academy of Fine Arts (formerly Zhejiang Academy of Fine Arts) in 1988. Upon entering the Academy, he, alongside fellow schoolmates. was inundated with the 85' New Wave Art Movement, which left an enduring mark on his subsequent creations full of explorations and experimentations. As early as the 1990s, Wang's Circle series has already generated much buzz. In 1996, he steered away from painting to create installations such as Ink Banquet and Sealed, the critical social statements behind these works created a sensation. Since then, he has continued to explore new ideas through works such as Chinese Clothes and other ink installations. probing the contemporisation of Chinese ink.

In 2002, while smoking a cigarette in his Paris studio, the sight of cigarette ash scorching

a hole in the paper inspired Wang to use cigarettes and later incense as a substitute for brushes. This approach led to his acclaimed Digital series, later renamed Hou Shan in 2014. He started off with calligraphy, and added in landscape in 2005. Wang would paint a layer with ink, then stack another layer of xuan paper on top, one which has been burned to form silhouettes of trees, mountains and snow, a relief-like effect as shadows form when light is shone on the art. The visual gaps allows more room for imagination, breaking free from the aesthetics of traditional landscape paintings. In his opinion, the layer underneath appears obscured from view, showing only parts of itself through the burns of the top layer. such partialness resembles the transient nature of modern living. Hence, this constructed space, while inheriting the essence of traditional Chinese culture, has quietly embedded in itself, a contemporary context.

time when his At a artistic career was flourishing, Wang returned to his alma mater to study under world renown artist contemporary Wand Dongling and completed his PhD in Calligraphy in 2014. As his study on Chinese ink deepens, it seems only natural for him to pay homage to the rich cultural assets of his roots. Fascinated with ancient calligraphy, painting, stelae and seal carving. Wang reckons that these historic artefacts exude the spirit of the times and embody timeless cultural and historical values. In 2013. He started merging his creations with original manuscripts or rubbings of stelae and seals from his personal collection, an attempt to reconnect modern art practices with ancient heritage. Wang believes that in order to retain the core spirit of Chinese ink, it is necessary to return to its oriental origins. Through the juxtaposition of works from different times and contexts, he hopes to bridge

a widening cultural gap by creating a dialogue with the past. Drawing on the wisdom of his predecessors, Wang has found his place living and creating in the contemporary.

The title of this exhibition. Amidst Smoke and Rain 《家 折煙雨樓》 was derived from a seal of Wu Changshuo owned by Wang. The pandemic veiled with uncertainties has left many feeling like the lone tower clouded by rain and fog. 17 works on display are the artist reflections on the old and the new. A trip to Singapore beginning of 2020 led him to discover this city-state filled with hidden green pockets and ancient relics of Southeast Asia across the island. These new insights find themselves subtly echoed in his new works.

The Plank Road to a Hidden Temple has a piece of stone rubbing from the Inscription of the Stone Gate, one of the oldest

form of documentation. Looking back at his time in Singapore. Wang realised remnants of history share a common, everlasting The auadriptvch. charm. Seeking Slope among Rivers and Mountains has inspiration drawn from Singapore, as the artist hopes that islands, or rather entities could live in co-existence. Southern Mountains Reflecting Water, a rather rare hand-scroll painting which has incorporated the spirit of Huang Gongwang's Dwelling in the Fuchun Mountains, invokes universal sentiments for mountains and rivers.

In The Foreseer Through the Painted Mirror, an unusual and rare work in Wang's recent series, meaningless text deliberately eliminates the possibility of interpretation through reading, urging viewers to feel the visual aesthetic of the symbols instead. Installation piece Solitary Mountain with Snow Imprints looks like a mellow and simple

hard wood box at one glance. As one pulls it open one by one, 4 pieces of calligraphy works and 4 landscape paintings come into view respectively. Bearing resemblance to keepsake boxes used by ancient Chinese scholars to store their writing tools, the installation has instilled a delightful surprise. As the eight pieces of works overlap each other, seemingly independent, vet interconnected, a spiritual exchange between the literati of the past and the present has subtly taken place.

Wang has held solo and group exhibitions in prestigious museums, galleries and institutions across the globe. His works have been included in the permanent collections of many museums, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Hong Kong Museum of Art, the British Museum, and the National Art Museum of China.



Circle Series 圓系列 1993



Ink Banquet 水墨菜單 1996



Sealed 水墨靈柩 1998



Wang Tiande in his studio in France 王天德在巴黎的工作室 2002



Digital Series No. 4 HH01 數碼系列 No. 4 HH01 2004



Digital No. 5-N13 數碼 No. 5-N13 2005



First layer of ink on *xuan* paper 水墨底稿



Xuan paper burned to form silhouettes of trees, mountains, and snow 以香燙勾勒出樹木、群山、積雪等意象的宣紙

干天德1960年生於上海, 於1984年考入中國美術學院(前 浙江美院)水墨畫系,1988年獲 得學士學位。剛入美院就經歷八五 新潮運動,使他其後的創作充滿了 探索和實驗性。早在九零年代,王 天德便以《圓》系列引起不少關 注。圓形構圖打破傳統山水一貫的 格局,由水墨和其他媒介填滿,形 成一個抽象的載體,充滿現代闡釋 意義。1996年,他從平面出走, 創作《水墨菜單》和《水墨靈板》 裝置,其背後大膽的社會隱喻,備 受矚目。此後,他不斷在創作中加 入新意,如《中國服飾》以及一些 水墨裝置等,深入探索和思考水墨 當代化。

2002年, 王天德在巴黎 的工作室抽煙,煙灰偶然掉到地 上,在紙張上灼出了焦洞,啟 發他以香代筆。《數碼》系列 (2014年更名為《後山》系列) 也應運而生。初期,他多以香燙 書法為主,2005年開始則加入山 水。一張水墨底稿,再加上另一 張以香燙勾勒出樹木、群山、積 雪等意象的宣紙。兩張宣紙疊加 一起,上下兩圖參差交疊,在光 的照耀下形成視覺上的錯位。看 似浮雕的效果為觀者帶來無限的 想像空間,突破以往傳統山水畫 的審美趣味。在他看來,底層的 意象時而因藏匿於另一張官紙內 而顯得迷蒙缥缈,時而藉由局部 縷空的部分展示清晰輪廓。這若 隱若現的空間,繼承中國傳統文 化脈絡,又嵌入了當代語境,蘊 含古今相通的文人意趣。

王天德在藝術事業蒸蒸日 上之際,再度返回母校學習,師 從當代國際著名藝術家王冬齡, 並於2014年取得書法系博士學 位。隨著他對水墨本質的思考愈 趨深入,汲取東方文化深厚的底 蕴作為創作的基石成為自然而然 的事。鍾情於古字畫、石碑和篆 刻的他認為這些真跡、原稿所散 發的時代氣息、承載的文化價值 與歷史意義,始終歷久彌新。於 是,王天德從2013年開始將他的 創作和收藏的印章書畫原件拓片 裝裱在一起,實踐和傳統的一次 對接,或者說續接。他相信,要 保留水墨精神的東方内核,那必

在不同時代語境的作品,他找到 了彌合某種文化斷層的方式,與 過去開展了一場對話,從古人的 智慧中找到當代生活的定位。

本次展覽取題《家折煙雨 樓》,源自王天德所收藏的吳昌 碩刻印。在疫情的籠罩下,人們 深居簡出,恰似置身迷離朦朧之 中的煙雨樓臺。《家近煙雨樓》 即是對東方古典文化與歷史的傳 承,亦是對當下社會狀態的詩意 表達。17 件作品展示了他對過去 和現在的反思。2020年初南下獅 城讓他認識了這個將自然藏匿於 城市之中的島國,也有幸接觸東 南亞的古文物,這些發現隨之與 作品產生了巧妙的呼應。

《棧道隱寺圖》拼接了 《石門銘》,這塊石碑屬早期的 歷史文體,再回顧自己在新加坡 的所見所聞,歷史的載體無論出 處,似平都存在着某種共誦的、 跨時空魅力。《溪山尋坡圖》中的 「坡」字取自新加坡的「坡」。四 聯畫的排列著眼當下,倚望島

然需要回歸東方哲學。通過並置 嶼與島嶼之間可以共存與共生。 《南山印水圖》屬現今較為少見 的卷軸書,融入黃公望《富春山 居圖》的遺韻,即使沒有元代的 江上孤舟也可以感受山水與水墨 那厚實的文化積澱與全球性的文 化感知。

> 《先覺・境上》為王天德 近期少有的純香燙書法,無意義 的文本刻意消弭了通過閱讀闡釋 背後語意的可能, 使觀者轉而感 受香燙文字的視覺屬性與書香卷 氣。《孤山問雪圖》是頗有東方 意趣的裝置作品。溫潤樸實的酸 枝木盒宛如古代文人用於收納雅 玩的匣盒,當一一拉開時,印入 眼簾的是四幅山水與四幅書法。 **售秀的書法與山水上下層疊,似** 平分而獨立,又互相聯繫,風雅 再現前人與後人的精神交流。

王天德曾在世界各地多個 重要博物館、畫廊以及機構舉辦 個展及羣展。他的作品也被納入 多家美術館的永久收藏,包括大 都會藝術博物館、香港藝術館、 大英博物館、中國美術館等等。

















### **Solitary Mountain with Snow Imprints**

2020 19.4x 42x35cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper





丘壑復雪

## **Mountains and Valleys Covered with Snow**

2020 68.5x197.5cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper





# **Looking for Snow Pines by the Clear Waters of Xiang**

2020 35x176.5cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper



### Lonely Snow outside the Gate of Qin

2020 141x98cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper





### Gathering Mountain Wood and Looking Afar

2020 189.7x69cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper







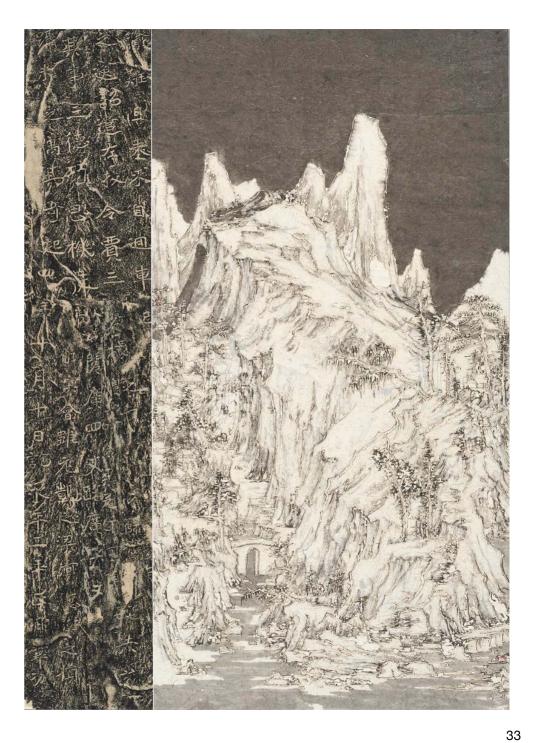
### Peaceful Snow at Yingqiu

2020 35.5x170cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper





172.5x122.5cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper







2020 146x106.5cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper







2020 108x90cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper







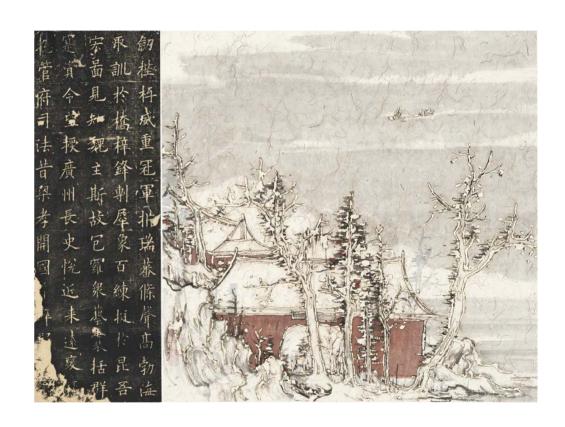
### **Sparse Woods with Sunset Snow**

39.5x69.5cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper





46.5x63.5cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper





寒山疏林

### **Cold Mountain and Sparse Forest**

2020 46x164.3cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper



2020 61x52.5cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper

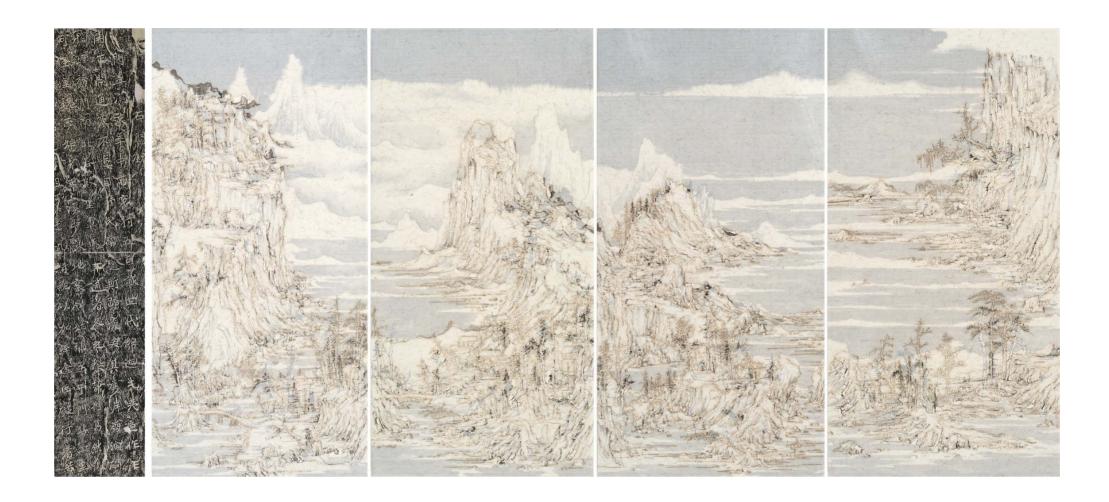




### Plank Road to a Hidden Temple

172.5x121cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper





溪山尋坡圖

## **Seeking Slope among Rivers and Mountains**Quadtych

2020

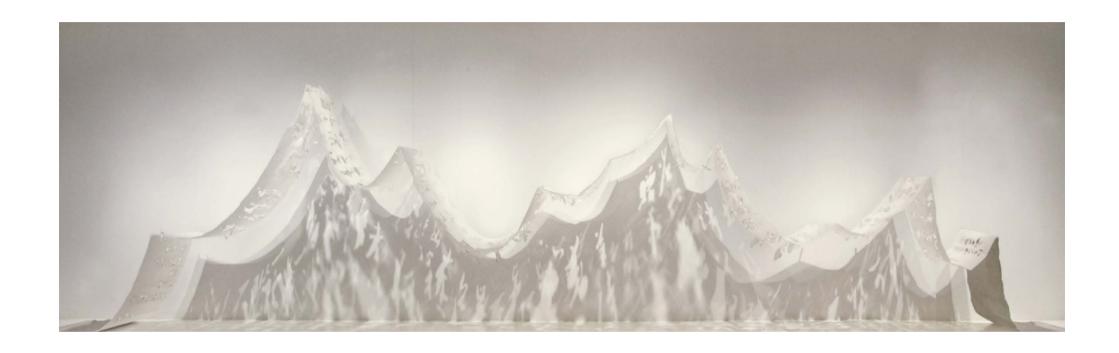
170x40cm(Left Rubbing Piece), 170x79.5cm(Each) Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper



南山印水圖

### **Southern Mountains Reflecting Water**

2020 35.5x645cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper



先覺•境上

### The Foreseer Through the Painted Mirror

2020 1070x72.5cm Ink, Flame and Rubbings on Paper



#### Wang Tiande

1960 I Born in Shanghai, China

#### **Personal Information**

2005 – 2009 | Dean, School of Visual Communication, Shanghai Institute of Visual Art, Fudan University, Shanghai, China
2020 | Professor, Arts Education Center, Fudan University, Shanghai, China

Education

2014 I Ph.D. in Calligraphy, China Academy of Art, Hangzhou, China 1988 I Bachelor of Fine Arts (Chinese Painting), Zhejiang Fine Arts Academy, Hangzhou, China

#### Selected Solo Exhibitions

2020 | Amidst Smoke and Rain, iPreciation, Singapore 2019 | Wang Tiande: Winter of Longing, Ink Studio, Beijing, China 2018 | Awaiting, Alisan Fine Art, Hong Kong 2017 | Over Mountains and Across Valleys, Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangdong, China 2016 | Literati Gathering: New Work by Wang Tiande, Nanhai Art. San Francisco, USA 2015 | The Palace, The Palace Museum, Beijing, China 2014 | Mountainscapes: New Ink Art by Wang Tiande, Alisan Fine Art, Hong Kong / Hou Shan: Wang Tiande Solo Exhibition, Suzhou Museum, Suzhou, China / Kai Men: Wang Tiande Exhibition, Today Museum, Beijing, China 2012 | Gu Shan, Sanshang Art, Hangzhou, China / Gu Shan, Nou Gallery, Taipei 2011 | 3,720, Chambers Fine Art, New York, USA / Boat, Gallery 99, Aschaffenburg, Germany 2010 | 3,720, Chambers Fine Art, Beijing, China / Shuang Shuang, University of Sidney, Sidney, Australia 2009 | Up/Down: Wang Tiande Art Project, Spencer Museum of Art. Kansas. USA 2008 | Wang Tiande: One Meter Seventy-Three. Contrasts Gallery, Shanghai, China 2007 | Made by Tiande II, Chambers Fine Art, New York, USA / Shan (Mountain) & Shui (Water), Alisan Fine Art. Hong Kong / Wang Tiande Solo Show, Han Art, Montreal, Canada 2005 | Redolent of Incense, Yishu Space, Vancouver, Canada 2004 | Made by Tiande, Chambers Fine Art, New York, USA / Solo Exhibition, Galerie 99, Germany 2003 | Wang Tiande: Ink for the 21st Century, Alison Fine Art, Hong Kong 1995 | Solo Exhibition, German Center, Shanghai, China 1991 | Solo Exhibition, Chinese Painting Institute, Shanghai, China

#### Selected Group Exhibitions

2019 I Contemporary Chinese Art Exhibition: Arts of Asia Gallery, Brooklyn Museum, New York, USA / Inquiry on Water, Suning Art Museum, Shanghai, China / Ink at Current: 10th International Ink Art Biennial of Shenzhen, OCT Art & Design Gallery, Shenzhen, China / Spirit of Ink Art: New Creation from Traditional Thoughts and Wisdom, Jining Art Museum, Jining, China / Writing Non-Writing: Hangzhou International Modern Calligraphy Festival, CAA Art Museum, Hangzhou, China / In Ink: Current Trends of Ink Art, NanHai Art, San Francisco, USA / Art Basel Hong Kong, Alisan Fine Arts, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Hong Kong / 1st Taipei Dangdai, Alisan Fine Arts, Taipei Nangang Exhibition Center, Taipei, Taiwan 2018 | Art

021 Shanghai Contemporary Art Fair 2018, Alisan Fine Arts, Shanghai Exhibition Centre, Shanghai, China / Ink Worlds: Contemporary Chinese Painting from the Collection of Akiko Yamakazi and Jerry Yang. The Cantor Arts Center. Stanford University, Palo Alto, USA 2017 | Art 021 Shanghai Contemporary Art Fair, Alisan Fine Arts, Shanghai Exhibition Centre, Shanghai, China / Crisscrossing East and West: The Remarking of Ink Art in Contemporary East Asia. Yinchuan Museum of Contemporary Art. Ningxia, China 2016 | Huafu Art Space, Art Stage Singapore 2016, Singapore / Alisan Fine Arts, Art Basel, Hong Kong 2015 | Michael Goedhuis, Art 15 London, London, UK / Huafu Art Space, Art Beijing, Agricultural Exhibition Center of China, Beijing, China / Gajah Gallery, Art Stage Singapore 2015, Singapore / Huafu Art Space, Art Stage Singapore 2015, Singapore / Alisan Fine Art, INK Asia 2015, Hong Kong 2014 | Contemporary Ink; Li Huavi, Wang Tiande, Zhan Chongbin, Lu Chuntao, Nan Hai Art, San Francisco, USA / Variation: Contemporary Chinese Ink Art Series, Hive Center for Contemporary Art. Beijing, China / 2011 | Red Flag: Contemporary Chinese Art in Montreal Collection, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. Montreal, Canada 2010 | Create Something Out of Nothing, Hong Kong Central Library, Hong Kong / New Ink, Mingyuan Art Center, Shanghai, China / Memories of the Past: Contemporary Chinese Ink Painting, Transylvania University, Kentucky, USA 2009 I Ink Not Ink: Contemporary Chinese Art. Drexel University. Philadelphia. USA / Paper! Paper!, Chambers Fine Art, New York, USA 2008 | Net: Re-imagining Space, Time and Culture, Chambers Fine Art, Beijing, China / Chinese Minimal Art 30 Years, La Caixa Forum, Barcelona, Spain / The Transforming Marks of Ink, The Staatiche Kunstsammlungen, Dresden, Germany / New Ink Art, Hong Kong Museum of Art, Hong Kong 2007 | FUN: Taipei Calligraphy Biennial, Taipei Fine Art Museum, Taipei, Taiwan 2006 | Brush and Ink: The Chinese Art of Writing, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA / 2006 World Calligraphy Festival, Seoul, South Korea / Light on China Art Generation, Palazzo Caponi, Florence, Italy / Exhibition of Chinese Painting Documentaries, Jiangsu Art Museum, Nanjing, China / Revival: New Ink Art, Shanghai Duolun Museum of Modern Art. Shanghai. China / China Trade. Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, Vancouver, Canada / DU, Expressions of Contemporary Chinese Water and Ink Painting, Art Museum of Tianiin Art College, Tianiin, China / 60's Vision Documenta, Today Gallery, Beijing, China 2005 | Chengdu Biennale, Chengdu International Exhibition Centre, Chengdu, China / The Present for Hong Kong, Hong Kong Museum of Art, Hong Kong / Contemporary Chinese Water and Ink Painting in China and Korea, Seoul Municipal Art Museum, Seoul, South Korea / Art Rising, Toronto International Art Fair, Toronto, Canada / Word, Not Word: Contemporary Chinese Calligraphy Exhibition, Chinese Academy of Fine Arts Museum, Hangzhou, China 2004 | Contemporary Chinese Art. Dublin Contemporary Art Museum, Dublin, Ireland / Contemporary Art from Shanghai, Museum Villa Stuck, Germany / Nomination Exhibition, Wuhan, China / Six Artists Exhibition, Galerie Karin Sachs, Munich, Germany 2003 | An Opening Era, China National Museum of Fine Arts. Beijing, China / The White East: 20th Century Chinese Paintings, Paris, France / Dots and Beyond, National Art Museum, Malaysia 2002 | New Ink Paintings, Teachers College, Taiwan / Variations of Ink, Chambers Fine Art, New York, USA / Guangzhou Triennial, Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangzhou, China / O Material, Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing, China / East + West:

Contemporary Chinese Art, Austria 2001 I Ink Color, China National Museum of Fine Arts. Beijing, China / Reshuffling, Sculpture Institute, Shenzhen, China / 20 Years of Experimental Ink Paintings, Guangdong Art Museum, Guangzhou, China / Annual Nomination Exhibition, Naniing Museum, Naniing, China 2000 | Neo-lnk Paintings in China 2000, Shanghai, China / The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Biennale of Ink Paintings, Guan Shanvue Museum, Shenzhen, China 1998-99 | Inside Out; New Chinese Art. PS 1. New York: San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco / Asian Art Museum. San Francisco, USA / Museo de Arte Contemporaneo, Monterey, Mexico / Tacoma Art Museum and Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, Washington, USA 1998 | Shanghai Biennial, Shanghai Art Museum. Shanghai, China / Reflections on Chinese Fine Arts over the Past Two Decades, Beijing, China / The 1st International Biennial of Ink Painting, Shenzhen, China 1997 | Exhibition of Shanghai Artists, St. Petersburg, Russia 1996 | Shanghai Ink Painting Exhibition, the Art Museum of Arizona University, Arizona, USA 1995 | Contemporary Chinese Art. Lineart International Art Fair, Gent. Belgium 1994 | The 8th National Painting Exhibition, China 1993 | Shanghai Modern Art. Yokohama Art Gallery, Yokohama, Japan 1992 | Sea Horizon Exhibition of Paintings and Sculptures, Shanghai, China 1991 | Four Chinese Artists' Paintings Exhibition, Shanghai Art Museum, Shanghai, China 1989 | The 7th National Painting Exhibition, China

#### Selected Public Collections

Asian Art Museum of San Francisco British Museum Brooklyn Museum Fidelity Investments Art Collection

Guangdong Museum of Art Hong Kong Museum of Art

Hong Kong Museum of Ar

JP Morgan Collection

Metropolitan Museum of Art

Montreal Museum of Contemporary Art

Boston Museum of Fine Arts

National Art Museum of China

Oxford University Museum

Royal Ontario Museum

Shanghai Museum of Art Shenzhen Art Museum

Spancar Museum of Art University

Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas

Suzhou Museum

The Art Institute of Chicago

Today Art Museum

UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive

Today Art Museum

Berkeley Art Museum

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

