



559 West 23rd Street, New York, NY 10011

ENCOUNTERING RHYTHM OF TIME

Exhibition Date: July 25 - August 25, 2019

Opening Reception: Thursday, 25 July 2019 | 6 – 8 PM

Artists: Ann Niu, Qin Feng, Wang Tiande, Yang Liming, Zhang Tingqun

Crossing Art is delighted to announce: 'Encountering Rhythm of Time', the summer group show, featuring five Chinese artists — Ann Niu, Qin Feng, Wang Tiande, Yang Liming, and Zhang Tingqun. These artists utilize different abstract pictorial languages to transform our perception of time and space, to explore the fluidity and rhythmicity that flow beneath the tangible dimension of existence. The exquisite meditative paintings, with a concurring stylistic focus on intricate and continuous linear strokes, deliver an interwoven sense between the temporal and the spatial realm.

The artworks present influences of Chinese calligraphy and ink painting, rendering the fantastical marriage between the eastern philosophy that emphasizes spirituality and inner-cultivation, and the western avant-garde approaches that are loudly radical and proudly chaotic. Such artistic collision creates a placidly powerful statement that challenges the boundary between the material and the immaterial, the static and whimsical, permanence and transience. From the pictorial mediation in Yang Liming's deep monochromatic shades, to the poetic musicality in Qin Feng's dynamic brushstrokes; from the visually texturized rhythm in Zhang Tingqun's linear composition, to the calligraphic melody in Ann Niu's expressive treatment of color, to the ruminative use of subtly different shades of ink in Wang Taide's layered landscapes, these paintings offer a powerful visual orchestration that challenges our sensibilities and perceptions. Through these meditative brushstrokes, the show presents a new sensory dimension where the temporal and spatial realms seem to intertwine, and where the Chinese pictorial tradition and the Western abstraction converge.

Ann Niu

Using fluid, gestural lines, Ann Niu builds upon calligraphic tradition to tell stories both personal and universal. Niu's work draws upon her multicultural upbringing in places such as Japan, China, Korea, and the United States. Incorporating elements of traditional Chinese ink painting and Western oil painting, the artist works in both oil on canvas and watercolor on rice paper. Her representational and calligraphic compositions, which draw from street art and Abstract Expressionism, are rendered with energetic brushstrokes and in vivid colors and thin washes. Emblematic of her larger body of work, Niu's "Scholar Stones" series features free-spirited

gestures that filter traditional techniques through a modern lens. Grounded in Chinese tradition, the series melds poetry from the post–Cultural Revolution era with ancient objects of meditation.

Her works have been shown in China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan, France, Holland, Australia... collected by Singapore National Art Museum, HSBC Private Bank(HSBCPB), and various worldwide private collectors.

Qin Feng

Born in 1961 in Xinjiang Province, Qin Feng is a leading international ink artist and one of the foremost representatives of China's avant-garde movement. He studied mural painting at the Shandong University of Art and Design in the early 1980s and was one of only two people in Shandong Province who radically experimented with imported styles of contemporary art during that period. Because of his involvement in the Chinese avant-garde movement, the German government invited Qin to curate an exhibit promoting cultural exchange between China and Germany. In 1996, Qin moved to Berlin where he began to synthesize Western modernism and the Chinese ink-painting tradition and subsequently became the first Asian artist to show at the Raab Gallery.

His work has been exhibited at institutions around the world, including the Museum of Contemporary Art, Beijing; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Israel Museum, Jerusalem; Saatchi Gallery, London; Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; and the Museum of Modern Art, New York.

Wang Tiande

A prominent figure in the development of modern calligraphy, Wang Tiande reinvents traditional Chinese script and painting through his innovative use of materials. For his “Digital” series, Wang painted layers of Chinese characters and landscapes in ink onto paper or vellum, then accentuated certain elements by burning the material with cigarettes or incense. Wang has also produced digital photography, as in *Yuhuangshan* (2008), which captures an image of heaps of ash made from burnt Xuan paper, giving the appearance of mountainous landscapes. Among his experimental approaches to calligraphy, Wang has been known to have sheep eat grass in the shape of Chinese characters, and to create calligraphy by planting new grass. His work can be seen to occupy a space between past and present, material and immaterial, permanence and transience.

Wang Tiande's works are in the collections of the National Art Museum of China, Shanghai Art Museum, Suzhou Museum, Shenzhen Art Museum, Guangdong Art Museum, Hong Kong Museum of Art, Museum of Fine Arts Boston, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Spencer

Museum of Art, the British Museum, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, and UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, as well as major private collections in Asia and the West.

Yang Liming

Born in the Chinese province of Sichuan in 1975, Yang Liming in 1999 obtained his degree at the Art College of Sichuan Normal University. His work is regularly exhibited in many museums and galleries in China. As a child, Liming practiced calligraphy to the sounds of western classical composers like Beethoven, Bach, and Mozart. Liming explains that Qi (vigor, energy flow) is the core of calligraphy, meanwhile, qi (tone) also represents music that is silent. Continuing his practice, Liming's subtle tonal variations and rapid calligraphic strokes of huge abstract works echo the motions of life. "The best feeling," Liming says, "is when the light is just right in the black night, and it feels as if I'm touching another space."

Yang Liming lives and works in Beijing, China. He synthesizes contemporary forms of Western abstract art harmoniously with the spirit of Chinese tradition. The traditional canvas wash leaves room for oil, which cascades with deep monochromatic shades. The artist is inspired by old notions of Chinese philosophy, such as the Taoist vital energy of chi. This energy seems to emanate from Liming's brushstrokes, both powerful and gentle, energetic and precise. Pictorial meditation, the canvas leaves the impression of ethereal vitality.

Zhang Tingqun

Born in Fujian, Tingqun learned how to draw as a child from his father, who was a folk carpenter. After graduating from Sichuan Fine Art Institute in 2002, Tingqun made a personal exhibition in the institution's art museum before moving to Beijing to pursue painting. Tingqun has shown his work in over 31 exhibitions in various countries throughout the world including Shanghai, Beijing, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Zurich, Sydney, Amsterdam, Malta, and Brazil.

Tingqun describes his "net" paintings as records of his thoughts. The process of creating these dynamic paintings begins with a Chinese calligraphy brush and the end product results in a multidimensional composition layered with an assortment of colors and textures. For Zhang Tingqun, his work reflects the external world.

About Crossing Art

Crossing Art was established by Catherine Lee, a New York/Shanghai based art patron and collector with the opening of the original gallery in Queens, New York. It was founded with the

belief that contemporary art can broaden dialogues among cultures and discourses and should be shared with communities not limited to certain locale or audiences.

Since its founding in 2008 to 2014, Crossing Art has exhibited more than sixty exhibitions and public art projects in New York City. It has worked cooperatively with organizations and artists worldwide to broaden artistic discourse, deepen appreciation, and connect audiences and communities. Drawing on its unique position bridging North America and Asia, it serves both artists and clientele through public art installations, exhibition programming, artist representation and various curatorial projects.

During the period that the gallery was in Queens, Catherine lee has contributed to many projects promoting emerging artists and projects. She has served as a trustee of the Queens Council of Arts and Queens Library Foundation, and was awarded the Rising Star Award by New York Mayor Bloomberg.

Since 2014, the gallery shifted its focus on to curating public art projects in New York and China. The gallery subsequently moved to Chelsea, sharing a space with its subsidiary company, Crossing Collective. With representative offices in Shanghai, Crossing Art's ethos is to promote innovative artists and to nurture the best talent from a select group of contemporary artists whose work or roots lie in the tradition and heritage from Asia. Offering a unique perspective on the contemporary art world, its mission is to forge closer ties between the East and West, and to inspire the appreciation and understanding of art and design and its role in society.

Location

559 West 23rd Street, New York, NY, 10011

Hours

July & August Summer Hours: Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10am-6pm

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Press Inquiry

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