## HUNGALLERY QIAN JIAHUA | ANTITHETICAL CURATOR : ZHU ZHU

04/10/2018 - 05/11/2018



Antithetical, 2015



Breathe, 2016-2018



Ferris Wheel, 2016-2018

HdM GALLERY is pleased to present "Antithetical" an exhibition of twelve works by Chinese contemporary artist Qian Jiahua. This exhibition, curated by noted critic Zhu Zhu, will be Qian Jiahua's first solo exhibition with HdM GALLERY.

Born in Shanghai in 1987, Qian Jiahua studied at the China Academy of Art in Hangzhou, where she remained following her graduation to embark on a career as an independent artist. Influenced by the work of Barnett Newman and the principles of minimalism, Qian Jiahua's works with acrylic on canvas to produce abstract geometric compositions that demonstrate a flawless minimalism. The artist seeks to challenge the easy balance of a traditional canvas by delineating large areas of solid colour with stark borders and contrasting lines.

Producing works based on a structural abstraction, the subject of abstraction has a rich history in Chinese culture and aesthetics. Reborn following the end of the Cultural Revolution, abstract art presented a non-political aesthetic that stood in contrast to the political subject matter popular during the Mao Period. Framed almost as the art of rebellion, the abstract artist injects emotional energy into non-figurative forms, expressing new artistic techniques and styles in contrast to traditional visual tradition.

Each canvas stands alone as a single painting but effectively integrates itself into a larger work; directing the viewer's attention between canvases by use of thin diagonals and lines which bind each work together.

Sensitive to the impact of space, Qian Jiahua's works create subtle optical illusions, challenging the physical limitations of the flat medium on which she paints to suggest a third dimension to her pieces. Shapes with painted borders will lean outwards or be layered upon one another, not restricted by the two-dimensional canvass they occupy.

Widely collected and exhibited both domestically and internationally, Qian has exhibited at notable institutions among which are listed: White Cube (London, UK), K11 Museum (Shanghai, CHINA) Hive Centre for Contemporary Art (Beijing, CHINA), Shanghai Gallery of Art (Shanghai, CHINA), Long Museum (Shanghai, CHINA) and Chengdu Contemporary Art Museum, (Chengdu, CHINA).



Beijing space



London space





## HdM GALLERY

HdM GALLERY is a leading contemporary gallery with a special focus on Contemporary Chinese Art. Founded on a passion for Chinese art, the first HdM GALLERY was opened in Beijing in 2009 - the success of which leading to a subsequent gallery opening in Hangzhou in 2013. Founders and partners Hadrien de Montferrand, Laurant Dassault, and Olivier Hervet have garnered over 10 years of experience and understanding of the art market in China, witnessing first-hand China's rapidly evolving art ecosystem.

HdM GALLERY proudly represents a wealth of emerging Chinese artists among which are He An, Chen Han, Hao Shiming, and Wang Yi. Having established a reputation as a leading gallery in the field of Chinese contemporary art - working with established Chinese artists such as Mao Yan and Liu Xiaodong - HdM GALLERY is dedicated to using their expertise to nurture and develop the careers of these new artists. Exhibiting regularly at prominent fairs such as Art Brussels, Photo London and Art Basel Hong Kong, HdM introduces contemporary Chinese artists to a worldwide client base and broadens perceptions, understanding and appreciation of these engaging contemporary works.

Though initially specialising exclusively in Chinese Art, the ethos of the gallery has since seen a development. HdM has evolved to work with noted Western artists – often exhibiting their works alongside their Chinese contemporaries, bridging the Chinese and Western art markets through this previously unexplored approach. The result is an exhibition with a unique and thought-provoking fusion of influences and on this topic, founder Hadrien de Montferrand defines the identity of the gallery as 'an international gallery with strong Chinese DNA'. Western artists such as Martin Kollar, Ivan Messac, Romain Bernini, Manuel Mathieu and Barthélémy Toguo are currently represented by HdM GALLERY.

## FOUNDERS

Hadrien de Montferrand has long served as a bridge between the Art worlds of China and Europe. His more than seven years at various auction houses and Art institutions included roles as marketing director for ARTCURIAL, the largest French auction house, and for the Ullens Center for Contemporary Art in Beijing.

Laurent Dassault, an entrepreneur to the core, helped to found Arquana, continental Europe's leading horse auction house, in 2006. His entrepreneurial spirit extends to his charitable activities as well: Laurent serves as the administrator of the "Friends of Pompidou Museum's Association" in Paris, and heads the development committee for the auction house ARTCURIAL.

Olivier Hervet graduated with an MA in Classics from Oxford University in 2008. After working for Hadrien de Montferrand Gallery since its inception in 2009 where he developed the gallery' s network of young collectors, he became a partner in 2012 with the goal of opening a second space in China.

## **Gallery Contact**

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