

HdM GALLERY

CHARLES SANDISON | ARCADIA
2021.03.27 - 2021.05.08



Arcadia, dimensions variable, 2021



Male & Female, dimensions variable, 2020



Vanitas, dimensions variable, 2021

About the Exhibition

HdM GALLERY is delighted to present a solo exhibition of Charles Sandison entitled “Arcadia” opening on 27 March. It will include 6 works and will last until 8 May. This is the second collaboration with the gallery after his 2019 solo show in London.

The exhibition combines video projections and large screen works that invite the audience to immerse themselves in the digital glow of an alternate universe populated with AI-animated life forms. Words, numbers, signs, and symbols roam freely around the walls. Sometimes, they briefly merge into form human figures and then explode into a storm of letters, at other times they transform themselves from one lexicon to another. Sandison combines his ability to write complex computer programs with a savant-like spatial dexterity that puts into visual form the hidden world of data that surrounds us. The computer for Sandison operates like an oracle.

“At the centre of my works is ‘simulation’, especially scientific modelling of natural systems or human systems to gain insight into their functioning. Simulation can be used to show the eventual real effects of alternative conditions and courses of action. Simulation is also used when the real system cannot be engaged, because it may not be accessible, or it may be dangerous or unacceptable to engage, or it is being designed but not yet built, or it may simply not exist”.

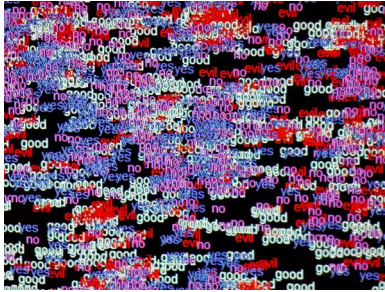
Central to the exhibition are the interrelated themes of environment, identity, morality, and memory. The multi-channel video installation “Arcadia, 2021” is a biological collage that uses artificial intelligence to create an imaginary eco-system that constantly swings between chaos and entropy. The artwork is a self-contained reality that explores the potential for a utopian world where humanity exists harmoniously within nature.

In “Male and Female” (2020) the computer analyses a dataset of historical 2D and 3D imagery for ideals of figurative harmony in the human form throughout history. Using artificial intelligence, the resultant data is re- configured to create visualizations, a series of never repeating hybrid authenticities.

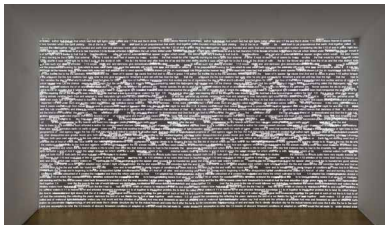
In “GOOD AND EVIL AND YES AND NO” (2018), the words suggest an opposition of type, reflected in the timeless idea of the struggle between extreme opposites. The words are animated using similar genetic codes as found in microorganisms such as bacteria or cancerous cells.



The Reader 2, dimensions variable, 2020



Good And Evil And Yes And No, dimensions variable, 2018

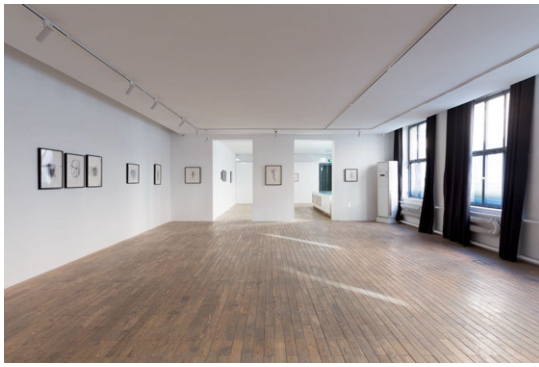


Origin II, dimensions variable, 2018

In all the works the artist seeks to open a dialogue between the viewer and the extraordinarily complex digital society we inhabit. “For some reason I was born with an innate ability to speak to computers in their own language. For me, computer code sounds like poetry”.

About the Artist

Originally from Scotland, Sandison studied at the Glasgow School of Art, graduating in 1993. After moving to Finland almost 25 years ago Sandison has worked mainly with computer generated video projections that combine language, form, architecture, and movement. His installations have been represented in Europe, Asia, Australia, South America, and the USA. Notably in the Venice Biennale (2001) Sandison exhibited his acclaimed work; ‘Living Rooms’ which brought him to international attention. His work is present in major national collections around the world, including Reina Sofia, Madrid, Denver Art Museum, MAXXI Rome, Kiasma, Helsinki, and Bonn Art Museum. From 2003 he was a visiting professor at Le Fresnoy, Lille and has lectured at the Sorbonne Paris. In 2010 Sandison was awarded Finland’s Ars Fennica art prize and in 2012 the Finnish Cultural Foundation Art and Science Culture award.



Beijing Space



London Space



Gallery Contact

+86 10 59789320

press@hdmgallery.com

798 Art District, No.4 Jiuexianqiao Lu
Chaoyang District, Beijing, China

Duration: 27 March 2021 - 8 May 2021

Opening Hours: Tuesday - Saturday from 11am to 6pm
(Or by appointment)

www.hdmgallery.com

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, Laurent 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 Barthélemy Toguero 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 Arquna, 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.



WeChat