

HdM GALLERY

T'ANG HAYWEN | INKS



Untitled, 105.6x74cm, mid 1970's



Untitled, 19.5x19cm(triptych), mid 1970's



Untitled, 42x29.5cm(diptych), mid 1970's

About Exhibition

HdM GALLERY is delighted to announce the opening of “Inks”, the first exhibition of Chinese-born painter T’ang Haywen in London. This is the second exhibition of T’ang Haywen at HdM GALLERY since the 2018 show in Beijing. The exhibition showcases 23 work on papers from the 1960s – 1980s.

An important figure of Modern Ink, T’ang belongs to the group of Chinese painters who settled in Paris after World War II. This background is reflected in his works, which straddles the two cultures – amalgamating traditional Chinese ink painting and Western Abstract Expressionism.

The “abstract” concept of Western Art and aesthetics of Oriental Art

“Ink” and “brush” is the basic language of Chinese Ink – and its essence is to emphasize the expression of the spirit, but to give ample consideration to both form and emotion. Most traditional ink paintings before T’ang were figurative representations. T’ang and his contemporaries, such as Zao Wou-ki and Chu Teh-Chun, were the first to combine the “abstract” concept of Western Art with the aesthetics of Oriental Art. T’ang is considered to be one of the pioneers that brought Chinese Abstract Ink to the world stage.

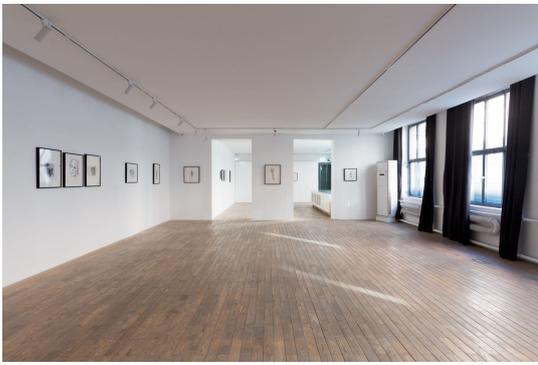
The Taoist Influence

Briefly trained in Figurative oil painting at the Académie de la Grande Chaumière, T’ang strived to move away from the former elements of his earlier works to become more abstract. He defined his intention ‘to go beyond the conscious world, to identify with the forces of nature and materialise them through painting.’ The artist seeks to capture emotional expression – rendered in a few brushstrokes. T’ang’s works are the reflection of the Taoist ideal – of one’s life in complete harmony with the universe. The unpretentious simplicity in T’ang’s works came from his unrestrained inner-energy and state of calmness. It is intensely personal – T’ang’s works are a testament to his belief that ink painting is the embodiment of energy: dynamic, spontaneous and natural.

About the Artist

Born in 1927 in Xiamen, Fujian Province, China, T’ang’s early education was influenced by his grandfather who ingrained in him an understanding of the principles of both Taoism and traditional Chinese calligraphy. In 1948, T’ang moved to Paris, initially to study medicine. He then became passionately immersed in the cultural environment of the time when studying French Civilisation, Classical texts and the works of Western masters. In 1950, he began to take some drawing lessons at the Académie de la Grande Chaumière and spent most of his time visiting museums and galleries. Unlike his contemporaries Zao Wou-Ki and Chu Teh-Chun, who formally studied under Lin Fengmian – a Chinese painter and art educator that wanted to reconcile Chinese traditional art with Western Modernism, T’ang was a self-taught painter that combined Eastern Taoist tradition with a more lyrical Western aesthetic – producing homages to artists amongst whom were Cezanne, Monet, and Turner – while continuing to exemplify the simplicity and elegance typical of the Chinese artistic style.

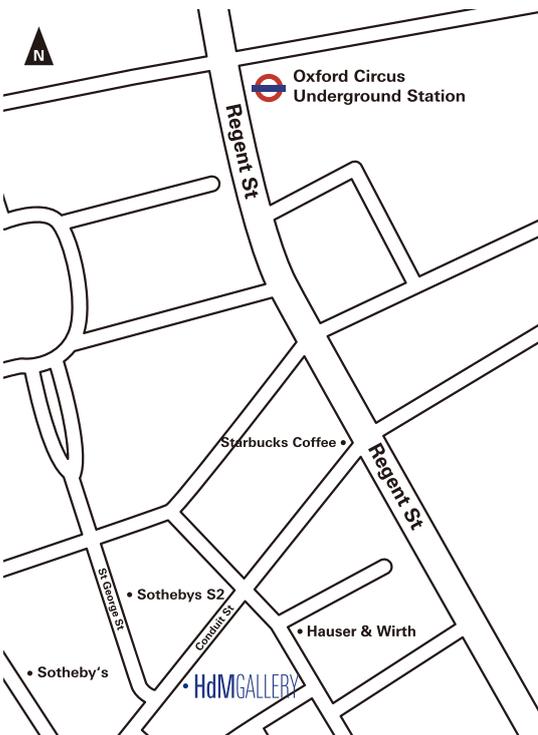
T’ang has been widely exhibited – in 2002, two solo exhibitions of his works were held at the Musée Guimet and the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Chambéry, France. In 1999-2000, his works were included in a joint exhibition with artists Zhang Daqian and Zao Wou-ki at the Musée de Pontoise in France. His works have also been collected by institutions including the Museum of Modern Art, Paris City Museum (Paris), the Art Institute of Chicago (Chicago), Cernuschi Museum (Paris), Guimet – National Museum of Asian Art (Paris), the M+ Museum (Hong Kong)...



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 Barthélemy Togo 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.

Gallery Contact

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Opening Hours: Monday - Friday from 10 am to 6pm

(By appointment)

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