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Press Release

"Ways of Seeing": A Groundbreaking Exhibition Exploring Visual Perception Through Contemporary Chinese Art curated by Zirui Zhuang

Artplus Shanghai Gallery presents **"Ways of Seeing"** a compelling exhibition featuring three distinguished contemporary artists - **Sun Jing, Li Wei, and Chen Wen** - who investigate the complex relationship between perception, culture, and artistic expression.

Drawing inspiration from John Berger's seminal work, the exhibition examines how social forces, cultural codes, and historical contexts shape our visual experiences. Each artist offers a unique perspective on this theme:

Sun Jing's "Sacred Mountain" series masterfully combines minimalist aesthetics with Eastern philosophical thought, creating works that explore the boundaries between individual consciousness and universal being.

Li Wei's innovative exploration of Chinese characters transforms traditional cultural artifacts into contemporary art forms, utilizing aluminum plates and dynamic spatial arrangements to create immersive experiences.

Chen Wen's work investigates materiality through natural elements like wood, resin, and wool, challenging conventional perception while creating intimate dialogues between artwork and viewer

Exhibition Details:

Dates:

Exhibition Duration: March 7th to April 19th, 2025

Venue:

Art+ Shanghai Gallery,
Room 303, West Building, Bailian Fashion Centre - Yan Qing Li,
955 Nansuzhou Lu, Huangpu District, Shanghai, China 200001
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About the Artists:

Li Wei

Li Wei is a Chinese contemporary artist born in 1979 in Harbin, Heilongjiang Province. Her artistic journey began at the High School of China Academy of Fine Arts, where she graduated in 1999. She continued her education at the Oil Painting Department of Nanjing Institute of the Arts, completing her studies in 2003, before pursuing and obtaining her Master's degree from The Mural Department of The Central Academy of Fine Arts CAFA Beijing in 2007.

Throughout her career, Li Wei has established herself as a significant voice in contemporary art, with an exhibition history spanning multiple continents. Her solo exhibitions showcase the evolution and depth of her artistic practice. Notable among these is her 2020 exhibition "Whisperings," curated by Michel Baudson at Galerie Alice Mogabgab in Brussels, which marked a significant milestone in her international recognition. Her relationship with Art+ Shanghai Gallery has been particularly fruitful, hosting important solo shows including "Affect/Effect - Transformation in The Work of Li Wei" (2015) and "On the Horizon" (2013).

Her group exhibitions demonstrate her versatility and engagement with diverse artistic contexts. From prestigious venues in China to international platforms, Li Wei's work has been featured in significant exhibitions across Asia, Europe, and America. Her participation in events such as Art Paris Art Fair at the Grand Palais and exhibitions at the Meridian International Center in Washington D.C. highlights her global reach.

Recent notable exhibitions include "How much 华 do you feel today" at Highlight Art in Singapore (2023), "Lumières!" at Alice Mogabgab Gallery in Beirut (2022), and various shows exploring themes of contemporary Chinese art and culture. Her work has been particularly well-received in group exhibitions focusing on emerging Chinese artists and contemporary interpretations of traditional themes.

The artist's work has garnered significant institutional recognition, being collected by several prestigious institutions including: Guan Shan Yue Art Museum, Nantong Central Art Museum, Deutsche Bank Collection, DSL Collection, Cheng Du Contemporary Art Museum

Her early promise was recognized when she received the First Prize of The Central Academy of Fine Arts Graduation Exhibition, an accolade that set the stage for her successful career in contemporary art. Through her work, Li Wei continues to contribute to the dialogue between traditional Chinese artistic sensibilities and contemporary global art practices.

Sun Jing

Sun Jing is a contemporary Chinese artist known for her distinctive approach to landscape painting. After graduating from the Vocational and Technical College of Design Arts at the



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China Academy of Art in 1997, she continued to refine her artistic practice, later pursuing advanced studies in landscape painting at Shanghai Normal University's Chinese Painting Department from 2014 to 2017.

Her artistic journey has been marked by a series of notable exhibitions, primarily in Shanghai. Beginning with her participation in the Shanghai Zendai Group Exhibition in 2012, Sun Jing has gone on to present multiple solo and dual exhibitions at FQ Projects. Her solo shows include "Is This Life Really Mine?" (2015) and "The Viewer on the Mountain Top" (2016), while her collaborative exhibitions "Once Upon a Mountain" (2017) and "Why Landscapes?" (2019) have further established her presence in the contemporary art scene.

Through her work, Sun Jing explores the relationship between traditional Chinese landscape painting and contemporary artistic expression, questioning the role of perspective and personal experience in landscape interpretation.

Chen Wen

Chen Wen (b. 1987, Guangdong) is a contemporary Chinese sculptor whose evocative wooden sculptures have drawn significant attention in China's art scene. His masterful manipulation of wood serves as a medium for exploring themes of existential absurdity and the complexities of human experience.

After graduating from Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts in 2012, he obtained his master's degree in sculpture from the Central Academy of Fine Arts (CAFA) in Beijing in 2027.

Working from his Beijing studio, Chen has developed a distinctive artistic language rooted in his deep connection to woodworking. His practice combines philosophical inquiry with craftsmanship, transforming raw materials into compelling commentaries on contemporary life.

Chen's work reflects his unique perspective on existence, as he explains: "My choice of wood as a medium reflects both my personal affinity for the material and my artistic vision. Through my sculptures, I seek to capture and express the inherent absurdities of life, creating forms that challenge viewers to contemplate their own relationship with the world around them."

About Art+ Shanghai Gallery:

Art+ Shanghai Gallery was founded in October 2007 by four partners with a shared passion for art. The gallery showcases established and emerging contemporary artists from China and Asia, dedicating itself to the exhibition, promotion, and development of contemporary art.

Art+ Shanghai Gallery is housed in a historical building along the Suzhou River, keeping its finger on the pulse of the contemporary Chinese art scene.



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Echoing Shanghai's forward-thinking international spirit, Art+ Shanghai Gallery presents conceptually stimulating projects that approach art as more than mere decoration. The gallery views art as a record of cultural perspectives and individual stories, pushing boundaries to share and inspire the ever-evolving contemporary scene. By touching on themes accessible to both local and international audiences, Art+ Shanghai Gallery curates exhibitions in the United States and Europe through its network of partner galleries and participates in international art fairs.

Since its inception, Art+ Shanghai Gallery has expanded its services to include art advisory, art management, and documentation. The gallery aims to inspire audiences through thought-provoking projects and intimate gatherings, continually striving to push the boundaries of contemporary art.