

Press Release

Curator: Ping Jie Zhang

Program Director: Yu-fu Hsu

Exhibition title: Zhang Zhaohui: Lubrication

Opening: May 25th 2019, 6:30– 8:30pm

Venue: Eastover Eco-village Add: 430 East St. Lenox MA 01240

Tel: 1-800-264-5139

<https://recfd.tumblr.com/post/185276593043/zhang-zhaohui-lubrication-the-opening-ceremony>

Zhang Zhaohui: Lubrication

Zhang Zhaohui is a mid-career, Beijing-based artist, who has been deeply involved in the curation and practice of Chinese art over the last three decades. Zhang studied traditional Chinese ink painting and calligraphy during his childhood, with the desire to become an artist. His education at NanKai University in the Museum Studies program in allowed him, in 1988, to acquire the position of assistant curator at the National Museum of Fine Art. During his 7 years of service at China's top art institution, he acquired a great deal of first hand experience observing the ongoing Avant Garde art movement and numerous traveling international exhibitions.

In 1995, a grant from the Asian Cultural Council brought him to study curatorial practices at Bard College in up-state New York. Around the turn of the new millennium, he returned to Beijing to start his new career as a freelance curator and independent artist. In 2006, he quit the Art History PhD program at CAFA (Central Academy of Fine Art), and devoted himself to the reinvention and transition of ink painting into a new expression of Chinese contemporary art.

Over the last decade, China's art world has witnessed the emergence of contemporary ink art. Zhang Zhaohui is one of the leading practitioner sactive on this new horizon of Chinese art. Based on his in-depth research of traditional art history and theory as well as modern and contemporary art, Zhang gradually developed his own art language. This is a new style of Chinese ink painting with "selected elements of Western modernism, thus producing a hybrid form that revitalizes his culture's single most representative medium". His repertoire is an organic integration of abstract, optical, and minimal elements, with ink-on-rice-paper, refreshing the ideologically charged stereotypes of Chinese contemporary art.

The upcoming solo show, entitled Lubrication, is Zhang's first major presentation in USA, showcasing 23 pieces over a span of 8 years. The exhibits can be roughly divided into three categories. The first, presents another worldly pristine territory, a picture of Daoism's key tenet: the world's automatic operation before and after humankind's activities. These spirit-drenched landscapes remind viewers of Caspar Friedrich's pictures of open nature, signifying a statement of the sublime. The second category is comprised of semi-abstract works inspired by poems from the Tang Dynasty (618-

907A.D). This creates a dialogue with sentimental natural surroundings, such as clouds, wind, rain, bamboo, and foliage. The third section features linear abstract works, which are highlights of the show. Patterns are constructed from different layers of ink lines with varied saturations of water, creating a grayish light, which penetrates the surface, softens conflict, and sheds a moist luminosity. All images are a study of light and shadow.

Duration: May 25th–June 30th2019

Gallery Hour: 10:00am-6:00pm

Presented by Eastover Project

Co-organizer: REC Foundation

Sponsor: Ten-Po Art

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About Anne Katrine Senstad

Senstad works in the multi-disciplinary intersections of installation art, photography, video, neon sculpture, light environments, and land art with a focus on the phenomena of perception, space and the sensorial realms of light, color and sound. She often creates works that are socially engaged as well as philosophical and poetic text based works in the public realm.

Senstad has exhibited internationally at galleries, museums and institutions including the 55th and 56th Venice Biennale (IT), Bruges Art and Architecture Triennale (BE), Kunsthall 3,14 (NO), Trafo Kunsthall (NO), Octavia Art Gallery (USA), Zendai Moma (CN), He Xiangning Art Museum (CN). She has participated in numerous video and light art festivals including Rencontres Internationales (FR), ISEA Dubai (UAE), Dallas Aurora (USA).

She is the recipient of artist residencies at Marble House, Vermont(USA) and Abu Dhabi Arthub (UAE), and numerous artist grants from Arts Council Norway, OCA (NO), FFF (NO), NBK (NO),FCA (USA). Public Art Commissions include Snøhetta Architects; Wolfe Center for the Arts and Penn University Engineering Building with TWBT Architects (USA).

Anne Katrine Senstad was raised in Singapore and Norway, today she lives and works between New York and Oslo, Norway. She received her art education at Parsons School of Design and The New School for Social Research in New York 1994 and 1999, and Berkeley University, CA in 1989.