

Press Release
September 15, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Forking Paths

Shanghai
September 15 – October 31, 2018



Fu Site (b. 1984), *Twilight*, 2017, Acrylic on canvas, 55 1/4 x 82 5/8 inches (140 x 210 cm)

GAWA Shanghai

Opening Reception: September 15, 2018, 4:00 PM
Rm. 504, Zhongshi Building, No.130 East Beijing Road, Shanghai
Open Tuesday – Saturday, 09:30–18:00

“There is a possibility that I am looking for another kind of ‘order’ in conceiving such chaotic constructions. To me, ‘justifiability’ is merely a trick in terms of orders on a superficial level. I see the process of creating paintings as an exploration of special connections among chaotic pieces, which is under control by my consciousness and balance.” - Fu Site

GAWA is honored to present **‘Forking Paths’**, a solo exhibition from Chinese-French artist Fu Site presenting his paintings from recent years. Located in our Shanghai showroom, the exhibition is curated by senior curator and art critic Joseph Cui from Paris, France.

Fu Site is best known for extracting and reorganizing seemingly counterfactual yet justifiable scenes from ubiquitous media and characters of the real world. In Fu's paintings, images of fragmented architecture, portraits, and landscapes, all come together to form layers of stories and narrative scenes. By eradicating the significance of the reality with fabricated constructions, the artist creates another kind of 'reality', with the visual elements in the paintings usually expressed through fragments or abstraction.

The paintings in the exhibition offer the strong presence of narrative scenes and storytelling. Fu finds inspiration for his characters through different combinations of fragments and space on the canvas. The many details, while muted, create intimate and hidden tensions as well as dramatic conflicts. These paintings demonstrate the coexistence of contradictions by juxtaposing entity and fragmentation, order and chaos, as well as light and gloom, creating a strong visual impact for the viewer. Meanwhile, the parallels and intersections between reality and fantasy, with multiple layers overlapping external space with internal secrecy, suggest a touch of strangeness within familiarity, mystery within revelation. By providing space for thinking and imagination, Fu's paintings allow the viewer to fully interact with the ideas and develop their own unique interpretation.

About the Artist

Born in Zhuanghe, in Liaoning Province, Fu Site received his BFA from Tsinghua University in 2006 and continued his studies in France the same year. He also holds MFA degrees from the École des Beaux-Arts de Versailles (2011) and École Supérieure d'Art du Nord-Pas de Calais (2014). Since 2014, Fu has had two solo exhibitions and numerous group exhibitions in Paris. His oeuvre has received a number of awards in France.

About the Curator

Joseph Cui is a French-Chinese curator and art critic. He has lived in France since 2002, and received a PhD degree from the Université Paris Sorbonne-Paris IV with a major in Comparative Literature. Cui also studied with François Cheng of the Institut de France, Zhao Wuji, and Zhu Dequn. Cui founded the VIA Paris Contemporary Art Association in 2013, and has held many events for Asian art masters in Paris and throughout France, supported by the French Presidential Palace and the China National Embassy in France. Cui has been invited multiple times to lecture at schools including the Academy of Arts & Design in Tsinghua University, Peking University, Xi'an Academy of Fine Arts. Cui also organizes tours for French artists to create, exhibit, and collaborate in places such as Shanghai, Ningbo, Changsha, Shenzhen, and Dezhou in China.

About GAWA

GAWA was founded in 2017 by TCT and Co. and W.Ming International to showcase exceptional international modern and contemporary art. Through exhibitions, educational initiatives, and collaborations, GAWA presents the ideas, issues, creativity, and culture of our time with openness, integrity, and social responsibility. GAWA engages local and international audiences through its branches in Shanghai and New York. We welcome you to come explore with us.
www.gawa.art

About TCT and Co. (TeaCoffeeTea)

Founded by Angela Bi after more than a decade working with Visas Consulting Group, TCT aims to bring diverse lifestyle services to its clients, and to share inspiration and treasures from modern life. TCT has offices in Vancouver and Shanghai.

www.tctandco.com

About W.Ming International

W.Ming International is a private art advisory and consulting company founded in 2010 by Xiaoming Zhang. W.Ming represents artists for exhibitions and sales, and provides private sales and art advisor services for private and institutional clients globally. W.Ming has professional team members in Europe, America, and Asia; the company specializes in modern and contemporary art, especially in the field of Asian modern and contemporary works. W.Ming has two office spaces, one in Beijing and the other in New York.

www.wmingart.com

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