

39⁺ ART SPACE

Fang Wei (b. 1968)

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Born and based in Shanghai, China, Fang Wei (b. 1968) completed his studies in Shanghai Arts & Crafts Institute. He is known for his dream-like paintings. Fang does not draw from a pre-existing repository of subjects and themes. Instead, he allows his imagination to run wild and manifest itself in his colorful palette, using vivid colors to express the depth and emotionality of the characters and scenes he portrays. He focuses on the essence of human nature; embracing the excitement, fear, loneliness, ecstasy and alienation that is an integral part of the human condition. Through his command of the absurd, he creates fantastical landscapes by employing surrealist techniques and a skillful application of vibrant swaths of paint.

The characters that Fang creates are of utmost importance. Men, women, statues or idols are transformed by the touch of his paintbrush. He seamlessly blends the colors that stain his canvas, fostering an atmosphere of chaos and ambiguity. His large-scale creations are dominated by multiple human forms that melt into the saturated landscape. These seemingly random forms are actually meticulously constructed - creations of a genius who uses paint to articulate what he sees in his mind's eye. These busy paintings are overflowing with primitive mysticism, boasting an array of dizzying psychedelic hues that lull observers into a state of hypnosis.

The artist resolutely believes that subjective interior truths are often more accurate than objective reality. Drawing upon the notion that our perception of reality is an interaction between personal memory and external physical sensation, he invites us to contemplate the connection between people and the space that they occupy. As time passes, these tenuous connections will eventually strengthen, serving as a conduit for new possibilities. His sculptures are, hence, physical specimens that denote this process of becoming.

As an artist, Fang captures the rhythm of life in a unique visual language. He locates the figures that dominate his composition in the colorful wilderness, articulated by solid streams of bright color. His work takes on an almost hallucinogenic quality, as distorted forms seem to writhe on the surface of the canvas, translating an outpouring of nervous energy into a vital life force. Light and dark, reality and illusion, advancement and decline, life, and death, are just two sides of the same coin, ringing true of the immortal words of Gilles Deleuze, "When abjection becomes splendor, the horrors of life take on a quality of pure intensity and brilliance."

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EDUCATION

1986 Shanghai Arts & Craft College

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021 *The Shadow's Leave-Taking*, AIKE, Shanghai, China

2018 *Morningtide*, AIKE, Shanghai, China

2016 *Hidden Earth*, Richard Koh Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

2014 *Fangwei: Assassin*, BANK, Shanghai, China 2012 Fang Wei Solo Exhibition, Shanghai Gallery of Art, Shanghai, China Group Exhibitions

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022 *Group show*, 39+ Art Space, Singapore

2019 *Condo Shanghai*, AIKE, Shanghai, China

2017 *City as Museum - The 2nd Shenzhen Biennale of Contemporary Art*, Shenzhen, China

2016 *New Order-Altermondialisme*, Just Space, Sanya, China

2015 *Small Is Beautiful*, Jewellery Art & Boutique, Shanghai, China

2013 *Studio*, M50 Art Space, Shanghai, China

Paint(erly), BANK, Shanghai, China

Revel, Shanghai MoCA, Shanghai, China

MAXIMA+, Shanghai Gallery of Art, Shanghai, China

39+ ART SPACE

39+ Art Space is a Singapore-based art gallery that focuses on showcasing internationally established and emerging contemporary artworks and collections.

“We see 39+ Art Space as a nouveau platform to introduce and promote international artists across Asia, and to springboard Asian artists to the global stage - as well as to be a player in the secondary art market. We are delighted to collaborate with these artists to feature contemporary art pieces, as part of the opening premiere to new possibilities and engagement in art in Singapore from 39+Art Space.”

- Liu Ying Mei, Founder and Director of 39+ Art Space

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Tuesday - Friday: 11–7pm
Saturday & Sunday: 12–6pm
Closed on Monday & Public Holidays

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