

Time Out

Beijing
in English

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BEIJING'S ESSENTIAL
LISTINGS MONTHLY
OCTOBER 2005
No.13 FREE

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BEIJING 2010

Look out, the future's coming fast



MIDI FESTIVAL

A dummies guide to the bands
who'll be performing

Listings

● Advice for readers

► Before a day denotes the closing date; after a day denotes a starting date.

● Advice for Contributors

Please submit exhibition information by mail, email (TClisings@cing.com.cn). Information must include dates, times, address of venue, telephone number, and admission price, if any. Deadline for submission is the 18th of each month.

Dashanzi

3+3 Space (8435 9942)

4 Jiuxiangqiao Rd, Dashanzi Art district, Chaoyang district (www.3+3space.com). Open Tue-Sun 10.30am-9.30pm. 3加3空间, 朝阳区酒仙桥路2号, 大山子艺术区。

Deng Jianlin Oil Painting Exhibit: According to the gallery, Deng is credited as the pillar of Chinese realistic oil painting. The knotty brushwork is very explosive and more like a monologue. ► Nov 5

3818 Cool Gallery (8688 2525)

2 Jiuxiangqiao Rd, Dashanzi Art district, Chaoyang district (www.3818coolgallery.com). Open Tue-Sun 10.30am-6.30pm. 3818 库画廊, 朝阳区酒仙桥路2号, 大山子艺术区。

'Journey': Hock-Aun Teh Solo Exhibition This Malaysian-born, Glasgow-based Chinese artist is not just another abstract expressionist. His work is done entirely in acrylics and he meshes down onto the canvas using a traditional calligraphy method known as 'Mad Grass.' These paintings document the painter's trip to Northeast China earlier this year. Although much of the work does seem imitative of American abstract expressionists (Hock-Aun Teh began his art studies at the Glasgow School of Art in the early 70s when abstract expressionism was in), the paint is applied generously thick and reflects a primal excitement with the painting process. ► Oct 29

798 Photo Gallery (6438 1784)

4 Jiuxiangqiao Rd, Dashanzi Art district, Chaoyang district (www.798photo-gallery.com.cn). Open Tue-Sun 10am-6.30pm. 798 影像画廊, 朝阳区酒仙桥路4号, 大山子艺术区。

The first art gallery in China devoted to photography. 798 Photo Gallery also occasionally holds workshops for photography enthusiasts.

Kingdom of Bicycles: Black-and-White Photographs by Wang Wenlan The exhibit intends to remind people of an 'unforgettable emotion and freedom' and that 'a lot of our wishes and ideals were realized on bicycles.' ► Oct 10

Beijing Tokyo Art Project (8457 3245)

4 Jiuxiangqiao Rd, Dashanzi Art district, Chaoyang district (www.tokyo-gallery.com). Open Tue-Sun 10.30am-6pm. 北京东京艺术工程, 朝阳区酒仙桥路4号, 大山子艺术区。

Zhao Xiangyuan and Song Dong: Dual Exhibition: Organizers say the work at this show expresses a uniquely Chinese approach to the materials of life 'by making use of everything.' The artist is Song Dong, who uses objects that his mother, Zhao Xiangyuan, collected over the years. Installing the works and then removing them are essential in this process-oriented exhibit that, almost nostalgically, echoes the objects of the twentieth century. Whether or not the show impresses, it underscores a conspicuous divide between highbrow and low-brow approaches to art. ► Oct 23

China Art Seasons (6431 1900)

2 Jiuxiangqiao Rd, Dashanzi Art district, Chaoyang district (www.artseasons.com.cn). Open Tue-Sun 11am-7pm. 北京季节, 朝阳区酒仙桥路2号, 大山子艺术区。

Keep in Silence: Xiang Jing Solo Show

This Shanghai-based sculptor works mostly in fiberglass. The high ceilings at China Art Seasons provide space enough for the more towering of the pieces, many of which are super-sized female nudes. Xiang Jing, who teaches at Shanghai Normal University when she's not sculpting, strikes a sympathetic combination in her characters: they seem at once to have graduated from the School of Hard Knocks and the Halls of the Wounded. Naked, suffering, street-smart and likeable, these lost souls are worth a visit. Organized by hotshot curator Feng Boyi. ► Oct 16

Chinese Contemporary (8456 2421)

4 Jiuxiangqiao Rd, Dashanzi Art district, Chaoyang district (www.chinesecontemporary.com). Open daily 11am-7pm. 中国当代, 朝阳区酒仙桥路4号, 大山子艺术区。

Impressive collection of contemporary Chinese art, including performance and installation art. This is a branch gallery of the original which opened in London in 1996 and was the first gallery in the West devoted to contemporary Chinese art.

From Jingdezhen to PVC: Group Sculpture Exhibit The show includes works from leading contemporary Chinese artists: Huang Yan, Li Mingzhu, Lu Hao, Ma Han, Ma Lierring, Sheng Qi, Su Jiantuo, Wang Jin, and Zhang Dalu. What makes this exhibit appealing is the variety of materials the sculptors use to mould their subjects: porcelain, bronze, and yes, even PVC. One of the sculptures by Lu Hao is mere grains of rice on which a story is written and viewers will need to magnify glass to read it. Meanwhile Zhang Dalu's famous hanging human bodies are suspended from the ceiling. ► Oct 25

Wei Dong: Solo Show Shutting back and forth between New York and Beijing, Wei Dong has established a sound international reputation. This exhibit, combining ink-and-wash and watercolor paintings, marks his first solo exhibit in Beijing. ► Oct 29 (Opening reception from 3 to 7pm also on Oct 29)

Galleria Continua (6436 1005)

2 Jiuxiangqiao Rd, Dashanzi Art district, Chaoyang district (www.galleriacontinua.com). Open Tue-Sun 11am-5pm. 常青画廊, 朝阳区酒仙桥路2号, 大山子艺术区。

This newly opened branch of the famous Italian Galleria Continua promises to bring to China some of the best contemporary European art. The major gallery also aims to foster and facilitate communication and exchanges between Chinese and Europeans. One of the most talked about new arrivals in the city.

Chen Zhen: Solo Exhibit Perhaps no other artist passing through the city this month can match the sophisticated installations of Shanghai-born Chen Zhen. And perhaps no other artist has done more to synthesize East and West (Chen's 2002 show at Galleria Continua's Italian space was entitled 'Field of Synergy'). One highlight of the exhibit is 'Zen Garden,' a maquette (that is, a model) of a city park. The piece includes large hollowed-out chunks of smooth alabaster that resemble human organs which are connected by surgical instruments and illuminated. The work not only recalls the mortality of the artist but also emphasizes how parts of the whole have to work in harmony to survive. Through October.

Hanno Art Gallery (8248 6361)

4 Jiuxiangqiao Rd, Dashanzi Art district, Chaoyang district (www.hanno.com.cn). Open Tue-Sun 9am-5.30pm. 北京世纪翰墨画廊, 朝阳区酒仙桥路4号, 大山子艺术区。

A long established gallery with a fine collection of contemporary and avant-garde Chinese art.

Feng Yan Solo Photography Show Feng Yan's colour photography depicts the loneliness of places where people have been. ► Oct 6

He Wenjue Solo Exhibition The paintings of He Wenjue seem remarkably academic at first glance. He's been painting

Artist Q&A

Public Intimacy

Visiting Beijing on the Red Gate residency programme, Danielle Roney is one of thirty artists participating in Convergence at East Latitude 116.65 and North Latitude 40.13. Her installation 'Navigating the Invisibility Series' will be displayed at Platform until October 7. Visitors interact with the installation by navigating through warped plexi-glass sheets that hang from the ceiling. The exercise is designed to make people realise the complex layers of influences that surround them.

Time Out: Will the plexi-glass sheets be moving?

Danielle Roney: The movement will be subtle. As people will find as the space fills, the sheets can be quite invisible and as the time of day changes and the light changes, the sculpture really is undetectable, so they will bump into it a little bit, but that's part of the point. These pieces are really about undetectable influences and how there are these subtle things around you in your environment and the people around you are affecting you. And so this will cause people to have to really slow down, and slow down how quickly they're moving and think a little bit more about each movement that they're taking within the piece, which is really a metaphor for globalization, particularly in this city, the changes in Beijing right now.

TO: So when did you conceive of this piece? Was it after you knew you were coming to Beijing?

DR: No, I've been working with several series about undetectable influences, and questioning your perception of reality is where the foundation of my work always is, no matter what the piece is. By creating abstract realities, I'm making people stop and question what they're reality is and where they are and where they choose to be.

TO: That's almost an oxymoron, abstract realities, because we usually think of them as total opposites. These 'invisible forces' -- maybe

they're not always invisible but aren't they so complex that we can't possibly focus on all of them at once? **DR:** No, we can't focus on all of them, and it is very complex, I mean, the layers of ideas: that's anything from the energy of the person standing next to you to the quality of living that you have to the quality of environment that you're in. The layers are complicated, so you can't choose to focus on one section all the time. I think one of the critical points about these types of pieces is that they're unfamiliar territory. So what I find when I create these types of works is that there becomes a type of public intimacy that happens, because people are sharing an unfamiliar experience together, so that really brings random people together in a new way.

TO: So your work is meant to be a shared experience?

DR: Definitely. That's a very big part of it. I would say between the two, pushing your perception of reality and creating public intimacy. **Stacey Duff**



bathers for years now. But rather than fall into a repetitious rut, the painter has managed to modify his theme enough to make it interesting. Oct 9 ► 23 See reviews.

Hart Art Centre (6526 5045)

4 Jiuxiangqiao Rd, Dashanzi Art district, Chaoyang district. Open daily 3pm-midnight. 哈特沙龙, 朝阳区酒仙桥路4号, 大山子艺术区。Features occasional exhibitions and frequent film screenings and other events.

Long March Space (6438 7107)

4 Jiuxiangqiao Rd, Dashanzi Art district, Chaoyang district (www.hart.com.cn). Open daily 3pm-midnight. 长征空间, 朝阳区酒仙桥路4号, 大山子艺术区。Same owner as the 25000 Cultural Transmission Centre, this newer and smaller space specializes in experimental local art.

'Zhong Shuo': Installation Project from Iain Mott and Ding Jie Australian Iain Mott and China's Ding Jie have collaborated to make a small garden that surrounds a shack-turned-phonebooth. Visitors on the outside of the booth will hear 'street-scapes' sounds as well as previously recorded stories. Once inside, participants pick up a phone and hear a pre-recorded message that invites them to tell a story about living in Beijing. Mott says that the booth is meant to give people a sense of privacy so they'll feel comfortable telling it all. 'Zhong shuo' is Chinese for 'People Say.' Learn more about the project at www.zverberant.com. Through October. See reviews.

Who is Guo Fengyi?: Solo Exhibition A fifteen-year retrospective. Using non-traditional materials, Guo often scribbles on cheap rice paper to make an array of highly cryptic and decidedly spiritual artworks from embryos to dragons to empowered women. Mother and qigong mistress both,