

A Wink for Billion Years – Sino-French Artists Exhibition TNNUA 2019 Sustainable Ecological Culture Forum

Preface I For a new enchantment of Nature

In 2000, at the fresh beginning of the new millennium, the centre of the city of Cuernavaca in Mexico was in the stifling heat air. A famous geologist was talking about the 'Holocene' from 11700 years ago to the present. Suddenly the Professor Paul Josef Crutzen, a laureate of Nobel in Chemistry, glumly said: 'Stop saying the Holocene! We have entered a new geological epoch, the Anthropocene.' Climate warming, glacial retreat, air, sea and land pollution, species extinction, biosphere rupture, energy crisis, earthquakes and tsunamis... Experts depreciate the term, politicians ignore it, but the first affected are ordinary people and artists. Through the daily life and artist's subtle nerves they deeply feel the pain of the wounded Earth. They begin to think about why the pursuit of happiness is reversed into an accomplice of life destruction?

This exhibition is therefore unique. The key point is neither a proposition nor a painting class, or a deliberate choice by the curator, but painters with an ecological civilization consciousness automatically gather in Tainan, the former Taiwanese capital city. Not only to eat a bowl of traditional Taiwan tofu pudding, but also to participate in the construction of the fourth cultural pillar for the sustainable forum. Ten artists from the Eurasia two poles: French oil and ink painter Francois Bossiere, Mainland scenic designer, sculptor and ink painter Liu Fenghua, multiple medium abstract oil painter Yang Yongzhi, photographer and ink painter Liu Aimin, Taiwan calligrapher and ink painter Chang Shude (aka Yuanrong Shude), novel writer and ink painter Hong Kuang-yu, acrylic and ink painter Ho Jui-Ching, colour ink painter Lan Huang Yu-Feng. There are also two winners of the Xiao Qin Art Award: the art connoisseur theorist, calligrapher and oil painter Chan Hisen-kun (Abugy) and oil painter Wu Ying-hai. Most of them are serving as teachers and come to Tainan National University of the Arts with passion to think with teachers and students and define what could be a possible ecological art.

The participating artists vary from material media, artistic language, physical practice and spiritual realm. Cross-border and *communitas* is another feature. Cross-border is reflected in the 'Oriental' – 'Western' convergence, the diverse art fields, the spiritual and material nature, thus the exhibit itself constitutes a forum of aesthetic intentionality. 'Floating zero, 'reverse of the narrative', the evolution does not leave its essence, 'flying white' (飛白) fulfill the cosmos, 'images translated leisurely wander between the spiritual imagery and the abstract writing performance.' (Abugy) As a result, the arbitrarily cultural border is becoming a hazy liminal zone, and the 'heterogeneous culture' encounter allows to see 'me-other'. The works communicate silently, and the viewers stopped facing them are aware by their mystery. The concept of 'people-oriented' is quietly subverted, passing from homocentrism to biocentrism, to highlight the cosmic law of symbiosis and for a new enchantment of Nature.

'The single brushstroke is all things', 'the artist shapes ten thousand beings in the world', the Bitter Gourd Monk Shih-t'ao spoke for the painters. Francois Bossière says that 'every input leads us into a deviation'. Paint is a life struggle and an extension of mind and body. Imagination, memory, expectation, seeking, angry limbs or quiet minds, have been silently transformed by the powerful transcultural generativity, roaming in past - present- future synchronicity. Abugy, who blends the minimalist spirit of the East and the West, says that 'Always there', a gorgeous word! Yes, the universe is infinite, we need to wager for the ecological sustainable art, always there!

(Preface of the Curator, Shuo Yu-Bossiere)

主辦 Organisers: 台南藝術大學 Tainan National University of the Arts (TNNUA)

法国國際生態文明大學 International Campus for An Ecological Civilisation (CiCe)

亞洲生態發展聯盟 Ecological Development Union, Asia

协办 Co-Organiser: 亦創藝藝術空間 YICHUANGYI Art Space

展覽時間地點 Venue: 2019年11月10-15日 國立台南藝術大學藝像空間

展覽開幕筆會 Opening Ceremony: 11月10日15點30分 圖資大樓4樓 策展人 Curator: 于碩 Shuo Yu-Bossière

國立台南藝術大學 TNNUA



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