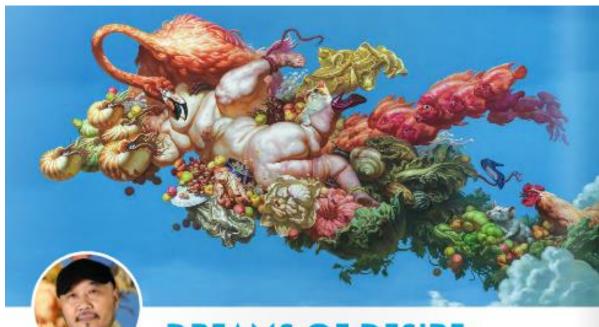
Title Fu Lei: Dreams of Desire

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### FU LEI



## DREAMS OF DESIRE

BORN AT THE DAWN OF THE CHINESE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, VISUAL ARTIST FU LEI HAS SEEN THE TUMULTUOUS AND RADICAL CHANGE OF CHINA'S CULTURAL AND POLITICAL LANDSCAPE, FROM CALAMITY TO PROSPERITY, MOTIVATED BY CHINA'S NEWFOUND AFFLUENCE, THE BAROQUE-REVIVALIST'S ESCAPIST SCENES CAPTURE THE MODERN WORLD'S PROPENSITY FOR EXCESS AND DESIRE. WHILE THE ARTIST MAINTAINS BEAUTY IN HIS PORTRAYALS OF VICE, IT'S CLEAR THAT EVEN FU IS UNSETTLED WITH THE TRAJECTORY OF OUR IMPULSES.

### ens of Desire 7

The thome loaning into artwork has always been about desire and escess. That's why the humans. are all very big and fat. From one figure, l'activel another, and then l'attinted throwing in a latt of different, are not send objects. This symbolises desire in its artificity. Everybody has desire. whether you're a human, an animal, or an abject. Even coarroaches and flowers desire something. Desire is somet.

When I started learning how to paint and draw. I was reposed to allow of classical styles. [prefer This style brood are it specific forms more than anything else. I tried to refer to contemporary and abstract art. but I wigay baroque the most. To express my ideas and philosophies, I must use desired styles. I imply it so much, end I would like to have risk own interpretation of it.

This classical style is very literal, if you see a chadren, them this a chadren Brut II don't in a way that forces you to put it tragether. It's the concept that

Many of your subjects are depicted with rapes. Red around their critics, sometimes bed to finitures and other times untied. Does this signify being bound or being from? E represents the grey shad between being their and being trapped – that's why than and both terations. The rapes represent control and the relationship of being controlled, or controlling others. As with interpresional relationships or trafing continuited by accordy. It changes are the procees of larealing free.

### Beijing's 768 Clistrict, what are your thoughts on its transformation into allowish, excessive loosle? Ex been more than 25 years stope lives based there and as an artist it's definitely not a good.

thange Kis regulated by the government, so thereis nothing I can do about it. A lot of artists. used to be based there, but a lot at them felt uncomfortable about the changes, so many of them moved it has become a marketplace for tourists and art adjectors, it is disruptive to th work, the way the place is commercialised. All of China has became commercialised - you con't control it.

artist need to be oble to be inspired to create? There are two types of hapticities. You find Repiration from what happens in your daily life, and then you doo find happens in within yourself. - as an artist. There are some artists in Drina. that chasse to observe others, rather than

observe themselves Of course this is one way to be repried, but for contemporary critists, it is more important to observe what's heate of you Nertray of sonitragility (24) bits

# avoilable of our lingeritys. What are your throughts an technology hieling excessive behavior through instant gratification?

The advancement of technology is the result of desire. There says really a joractical need to have everything reduntly. New we use empts hidead of snairmat so when you receive snairmal, you feel exceptionally tauched.

We stauld let nature take its course and go with the flast without disrupting the presse Mable phones disrupt interpersonal relationships. biocause instead of having real convenience, we nove virtual conversations. That's not going with

There's a phicosphy in China You don't du anything but you're doing everything Like a cup of water - If the cup is notified the water will be trained in shape. If the cup to reclaring Job. Then II. will become rectangular. But no matter it as you. Dit this waller, the level will always law flat because. it dealers work to go against natural Sequet let what happens happens A

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