

REGARDS CROISÉS:
A SELECTION OF ASIAN
CONTEMPORARY ART

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Foreword

Art Plural Gallery is pleased to present its second exhibition entitled Regards Croisés: A Selection of Asian Contemporary Art, a comparative dialogue among selected artists from Asia.

Timely and timeless, the gallery displays today's most intriguing questions and thought provoking art. More than an exhibition, an eye opener to complex interactions bathed in politics, industrial and environmental issues immersed in our endlessly changing consumer society. The artists use metaphorical and symbolical mediums to voice these dilemmas in a global world, by facilitating coexistence and constructive interaction between different countries. As a highlight of the show, French artist Fabienne Verdier's stroke endows us with the cross-cultural articulation of Chinese traditional ink painting woven with Western influence.

The exhibition pays a tribute to the rich cultural diversity of Asia and its two world powers: China and India that have fuelled creativity and ignited the minds of these artists. The loss of heritage and tradition in a growing interconnectedness is compelling in art as it embraces human existence.

We are grateful to all the artists for their endless talent.

Frédéric de Senarclens



CHOI Xoo Ang

Choi Xoo Ang shows us the realism of the human emotion frozen in an instant. The flow of life through polymer clay figures breathes the difficult reality we face today if Man does not confront the outer world. Choi personifies what he feels inside canalized by every emotion in a multidimensional way. He works through the whole body or a part, focusing on the intensity of sensation as he crystallizes life filled with so much severity and darkness. His artistic intuition suggests that Man hides behind his body but that the soul is so powerful that skin speaks a language of its own, howling when it hurts and playful when peaceful. However, when continuously fighting against society and the burden of existence, the quintessence of numbed flesh dies even though the blood flows and the heart still beats.

Born in South Korea in 1975, Choi holds a BFA (2002) and a MFA (2005) in Sculpture from the Seoul National University. His works have been exhibited in museums and galleries in Seoul such as The National Museum of Contemporary Art, Gimhae Arts Centre, Seoul Museum of Art, Gwangju Museum of Art and the Museum of Art Seoul National University, Dukwon Gallery, Doosan Art Center, Gallery Sangsangmadang, Alternative Space Choong Jung Gak, Kwan Hoon Gallery and Gallery Espace Sol. Internationally, Choi is taking his first steps into the contemporary art world in Paris, Beijing and Singapore. The artist lives and works in Seoul, Korea.

CHOI Xoo Ang

CHU Teh-Chun

FENG Shuo

GAO Xingjian

LI Tianbing

M Shanthamani

Paribartana MOHANTY

Jagannath PANDA

QIU Jie

SHI Jinsong

THUKRAL & TAGRA

TIAN Taiquan

Hema UPADHYAY

Lochan UPADHYAY

Fabienne VERDIER

The Dreamer Red 2007

Oil and acrylic on resin

Edition 2/3

76 x 36 x 31 cm



CHOI Xoo Ang

CHU Teh-Chun
FENG Shuo
GAO Xingjian
LI Tianbing
M Shanthamani
Paribartana MOHANTY
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CHU Teh-Chun

Chu Teh-Chun's poetic landscapes lie at the gateway of his own fantasies. Travelling in the imaginary, Chu rides the depth of his interior symphony, limitless. The constraints of his cross-cultural influence are abolished with a non-perspective limitation driven by intuition. The breathtaking views of his endless promenade through China and key locations brought about the dialogue between art and nature. Influenced by Nicolas de Staël, Chu explores an abstract style. His technique and generous strokes evoke the subtlety of art as a universal language in lyric abstraction. The canvases are filled with a choice of oil paints, watercolours as well as calligraphy searching and discovering the pervading truth of the vision. The perspectives are infinite in a synthesis of Chinese philosophy and Western tradition, combining as well as superimposing the four elements; air, water, earth and fire.

Chu Teh-Chun was born in 1920 in Baitou Zhen, Jiangsu Province, China. He graduated from the National Academy College of Art, Hangzhou, directed by Lin Fengmian in 1942. Chu was invited to be a professor in both the Central University of Nanking and Taiwan University before moving to Paris in 1955. In 1956 he received the Silver Medal at the Salon of French Artists. In 2001 he was granted Chevalier de l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques and Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur. Chu exhibited at both private and public institutions throughout Europe and Asia, his work graces the permanent collections of over fifty museums worldwide. An important milestone in Chu's exposure was being invited in 1964 to show his work at the International Art Exhibition at the Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh. Other important exhibitions include: Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris; Fonds National d'Art Contemporain, Paris; Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris; Musée Cernuschi, Paris; Musée d'Art Contemporain de la Ville de Liège, Belgium; Olympic Museum, Lausanne, Switzerland; National Museum of History, Taipei; Taipei Fine Art Museum, Taiwan and the Taiwan Museum of Art, Taichung. In 2005, a major exhibition was held at the Fine Arts Museum in Shanghai and in 2009 at the Suzhou Museum of Art, Suzhou, China. In 2010, Chu Teh-Chun received an important retrospective by the National Art Museum of China in Beijing. The artist lives in Paris.

In 2005, a major exhibition was held at the Fine Arts Museum in Shanghai, in 2009 at the Suzhou Museum of Art, Suzhou, China and the Musée Guimet, Paris. The artist lives in Paris, France.

CHOI Xoo Ang
CHU Teh-Chun
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Lochan UPADHYAY
Fabienne VERDIER



Contraste 2006
Oil on canvas
73 x 92 cm

FENG Shuo

Feng Shuo explores the complexities of human nature with the magic of allegory. Imagination intertwined with world truth is the artist's figurative artistic balance. The annihilation of morals, the extinction of principles and the destruction of freedom feed Feng's lonely inspiration. Striving to abolish power and corruption on earth, multiple myths are used in a mocking manner. Immersing from the canvas, symbolic animals and individuals are portrayed in strange situations, such as; a fox wearing boots, a toad signing a contract in a bow tie, a guilty fallen angel; all representing the human condition but also the continuum of life in a greedy, money hungry environment. In the ideal psyche, mankind will live in harmony with nature, in the cathartic construction of ultimate self-awareness.

Feng Shuo was born in Beijing in 1970. He graduated in 1994 from the Central Academy of Fine Arts, (CAFA), Beijing and in 2003 from the Central Academy of Drama with a master's degree. He is currently teaching at the Central Academy of Drama in the Stage Design Department, and is a working associate professor and tutor for master students. The artist's group and solo exhibitions include: Marlborough Gallery, New York; Central Academy of Fine Arts Gallery, Beijing and Hanmo Art Gallery, Beijing to name a few. The artist lives and works in Beijing, China.

CHOI Xoo Ang

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SHI Jinsong

THUKRAL & TAGRA

TIAN Taiquan

Hema UPADHYAY

Lochan UPADHYAY

Fabienne VERDIER

Coming of age 2007

Oil on canvas
250 x 190 cm

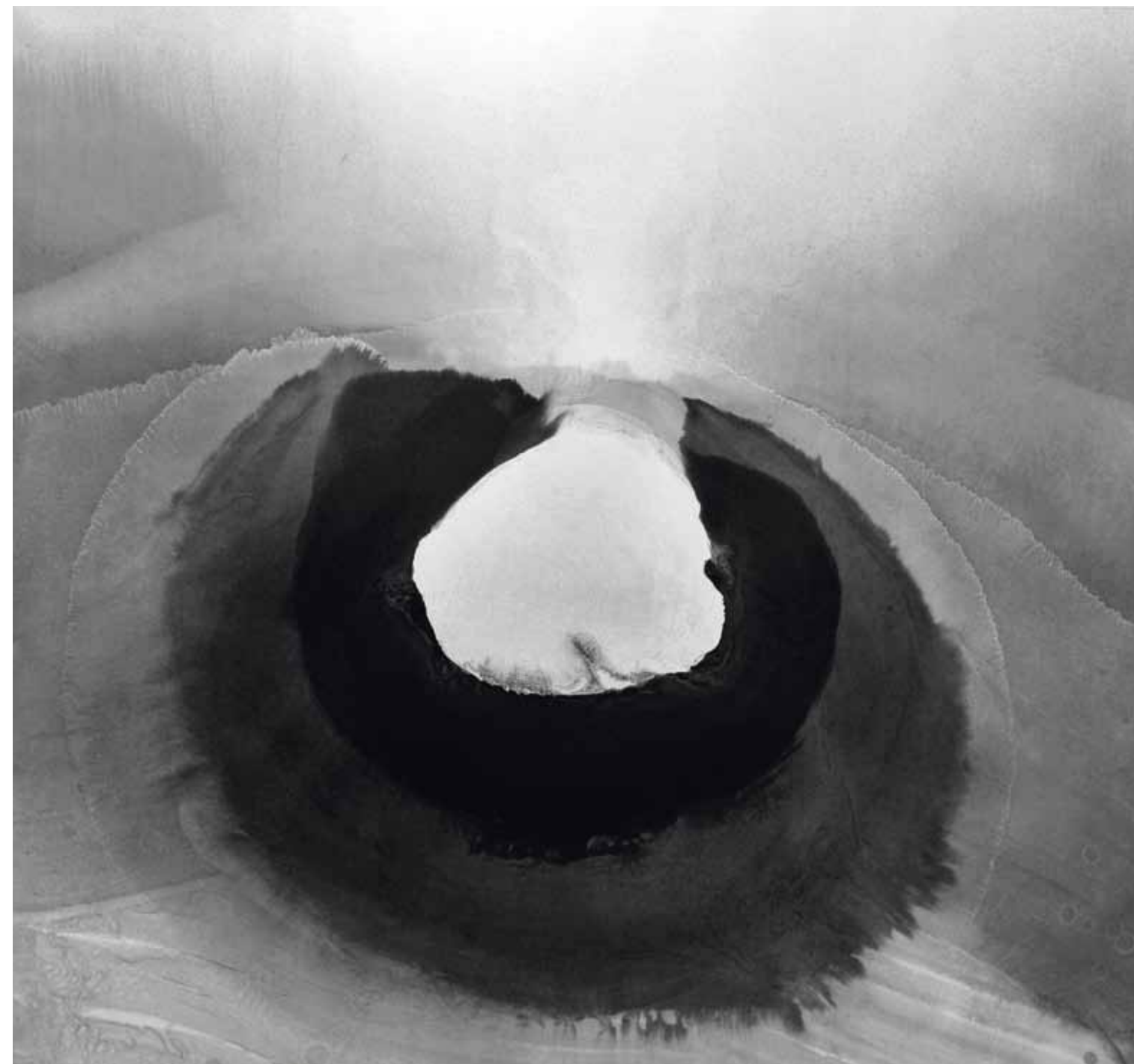


GAO Xingjian

Gao Xingjian is eager to go beyond himself, to surpass his intellect in total integrity with his soul, constantly searching for his own profound development amidst his fragility. In his art, there is an intense power, one combining modernist techniques and the traditional Chinese brush strokes. Every artistic means of expression is explored and fused as 'painting begins where language fails'. The contemplative and narrative images in his works show his journey in our unexplainable world and human condition, using many shades of black and white tones. Gao is weary of the intersection between 'spiritual pollution' and western modernism ultimately believing that being an individual is like a lost paradise. He lives in the determination of not indoctrinating himself with ideologies, imposing his own personal and unique style. His multifaceted work is extensive; literary theorist, playwright, writer, critic, dramatist, director and artist as well as being the distinguished translator of a number of important published works.

Gao Xingjian was born in Ganzhou, China in 1940. Gao Xingjian was awarded Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres in 1992 and Nobel Prize in Literature in 2000. His art exhibitions include: Museum ZKM, Karlsruhe; SENEDA Gallery, Barcelona; Galerie Claude Bernard, Paris; Musée des Beaux-Arts, Bern; Singapore Art Museum, Carousel du Louvre, Paris; Goedhuis Contemporary, New York, Asia-Art Center, Taipei; Alisan Fine Arts, Hong Kong, Grand Palais, Paris, Trejnikov Galerie, Moscow to name a few. His works grace the public collections of: Morat-Institut für Kunst und Kunstwissenschaft, Freiburg, Germany; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, USA; National History Museum, Taipei; Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taiwan; The Chinese University of Hong Kong, University Museum and Art Gallery, University of Hong Kong, Singapore Art Museum, Artothèque de Nantes, Musée Guimet, Paris, Théâtre Molière, Paris, Maison de la Culture de Bourges, La Ville de Marseille, France; Nobel Foundation, KrapperrusKonsthall, Malmö, Museum of Modern Art, Stockholm, Ostasiatiska-Museet, Stockholm, Sweden and Leibniz-Gesellschaft für kulturellen Austausch, Berlin, Germany. Gao Xingjian is now a French citizen living in Paris, France.

CHOI Xoo Ang
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Fabienne VERDIER



L'Écoulement de Lumière 2005
Ink on paper
145 x 158 cm

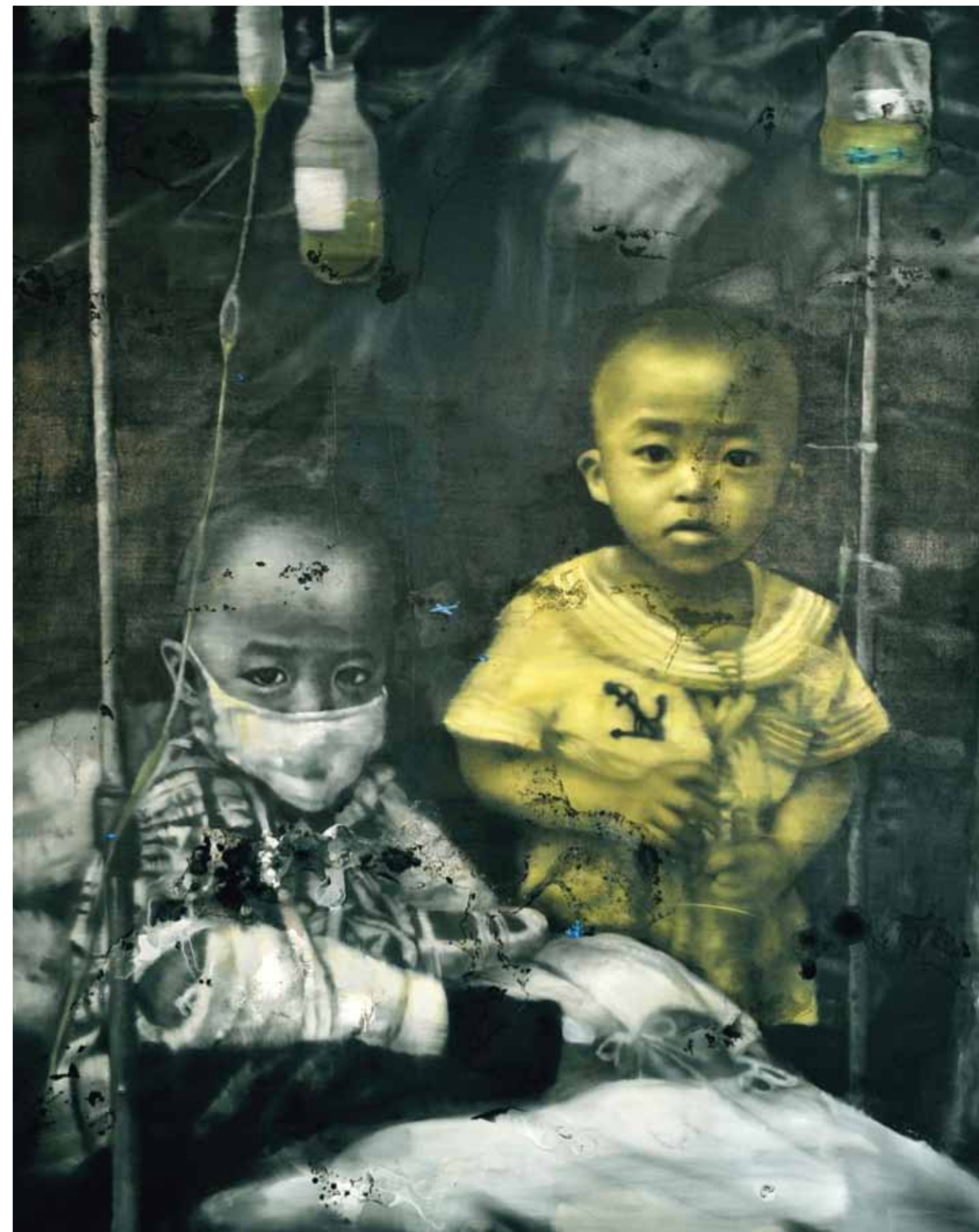
LI Tianbing

Li Tianbing explores fiction and reality haunted by selected childhood memories in a suffocating society and charged political setting. Using photographs as a medium to illustrate his reflections on the past and his multicultural experiences, Li layers the present using oil painting in a timeless duality. Reflections on loneliness are addressed in a symbolic fashion across Li's art, suffering instilled by the single child policy. This state of confusion engulfs the artist and he loses the frontier between his own authenticity and invention. The interpretation of his work incorporates personal identity and drama in a tale with the infiltration of multicultural factors. His composition interweaves the contrasting themes of China today: East and West, communism and capitalism, ancient culture and modern consumerism.

Born in Guilin, China in 1974, Li Tianbing studied at the Institute of International Relations in Beijing before graduating in 2002 from the Ecole Supérieure Nationale des Beaux-Arts in Paris. His solo exhibitions include: L&M Arts Gallery, New York; Galerie Albert Benamou, Paris; Galerie Loft, Beitou; Kashya Hildebrand Gallery, Zurich; Galerie Deborah Zafman, Paris. A selection of group exhibitions include: Today Art Museum, Beijing; Museum of Contemporary Art, Shanghai; National Museum of Fine Arts, Beijing, China and Instituto Valenciano de Arte Moderno, Spain. The artist lives and works in both Beijing and Paris, France.

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Me and My Brother in the Hospital #2 2008
Oil on canvas
200 x 160 cm



CHOI Xoo Ang
 CHU Teh-Chun
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Devant la Propagande 2011
 Oil on canvas
 200 x 200 cm

CHOI Xoo Ang
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Fabienne VERDIER



Chez Bacon 2011
Oil on canvas
200 x 200 cm

M Shanthamani

M Shanthamani explores the aftermath of transition and transformation through cultural impacts. As growing materialism creates a loss of values, the artist reminds us that happiness does not cost a thing. She shows us that life is removed from existence, the spiritual is forgotten, culture is lost, traditions are history, and everything is reduced to a label 'made somewhere'. Shanthamani uses fragmentation in all mediums and symbolism in order to help man recognize and understand what is changing, that we are at the last stage before ashes. Her use of charcoal represents the depletion of our natural resources and the destruction of industrial development. Shanthamani's sculptures are rustic charcoal bricks combined as an allegory on the passage of existence in a sensual figure. Shanthamani's works are introspections on the inner consciousness as it mutates with time and slowly becomes a pile of pieces burned by the combustion of life.

Shanthamani was born in 1967 in Mysore, Karnataka. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting from CAVA, Mysore and her Master of Fine Arts in Painting from M S University, Baroda. She has also completed a papermaking Course in Glasgow, Scotland. Shanthamani has received many awards such as the National Junior Fellowship from Ministry of Tourism and Culture, New Delhi for 2006-08 and the Charles Wallace Scholarship to work in Glasgow, UK for the year 2004. Shanthamani's recent solo exhibitions have been 'Frozen Phoenix' at Gallery Sumukha in 2008, 'Silent Speak' at Chemould Prescott Road, Mumbai and 'Gestures Speak' at Gallery Sumukha, Bangalore & Chennai. She has participated in many artist camps, workshops and group shows in India and abroad including a show curated by Prof. Prem Singh for Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi in Sri Lanka in 2006, 'Turning Wheel -Tradition Unbound', curated by Dr. Alka Pande at India Habitat Center, New Delhi in 2005, as well as the 46th National Exhibition, New Delhi in 2003. Shanthamani's works are part of many prestigious private collections in India and abroad including the Venkatappa Art Gallery-State Government Museum, Bangalore. The artist lives and works in Bangalore, India.

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SHI Jinsong
THUKRAL & TAGRA
TIAN Taiquan
Hema UPADHYAY
Lochan UPADHYAY
Fabienne VERDIER



Buste 2011
Charcoal, cotton sheet, polyurethane
Edition 1/2
190 x 102 x 60 cm



Paribartana MOHANTY

Rising talent, **Paribartana Mohanty** works with a variety of mediums including video, performance, painting and sculpture. The artist's subject matter is often a visual representation of figures, places or situations that have deeply inspired him. His vibrant colours and description are supernatural, creating new life scenarios for the theme of everyday life in India. Mohanty's essence is ludic, dramatically staging a contradictory reality; the artist's uncanny universe is unique. The fictive dialogues pay attention to typologies through detail, which speak with multiple voices and have enabled him to engage in public and community art projects accessible to all audiences.

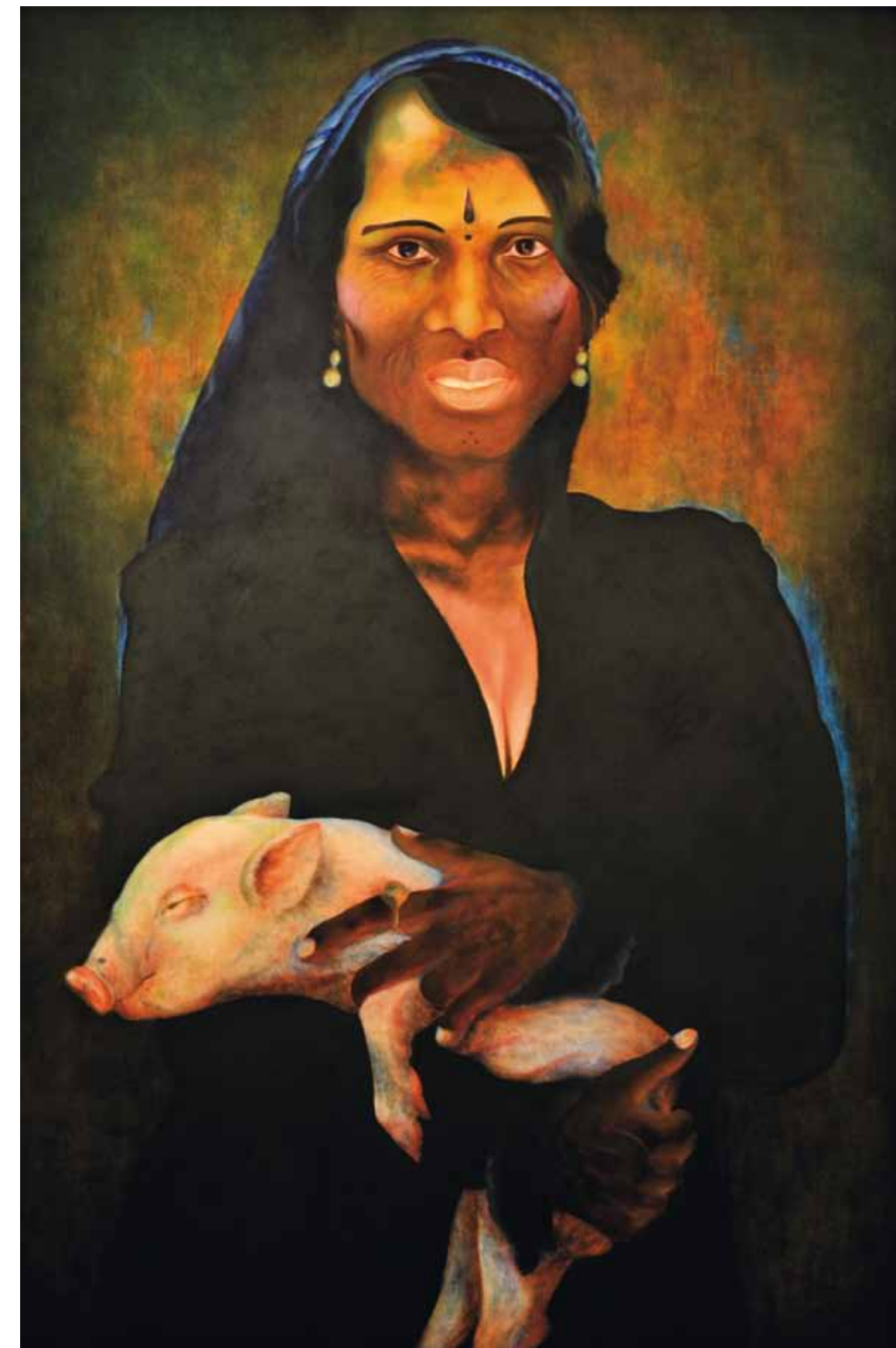
Born in 1982 in Bhubaneswar, Orissa, Paribartana Mohanty pursued his BFA in Printmaking at the Dhauli College of Art and Craft and his MA in Art History at National Museum Institute in New Delhi. He has participated in several group exhibitions including 'To be continued...' at Volte Gallery in India, 'Outset The Present is Now' on an online art space for college students, besides partaking in residencies at Sandarbh in India and at PROGR in Switzerland. Mohanty was a recipient of the Foundation of Indian Contemporary Art (FICA)'s Emerging Artist Award in 2010 and the Sarai CSDS City Studio Fellowship. Mohanty has also won a three-month residency in Switzerland to hone his skills; all his paintings were sold before his solo show began in Delhi upon his return. His video works have been screened at multiple film festivals. The artist lives and works in New Delhi, India.

CHOI Xoo Ang
CHU Teh-Chun
FENG Shuo
GAO Xingjian
LI Tianbing
M Shanthamani

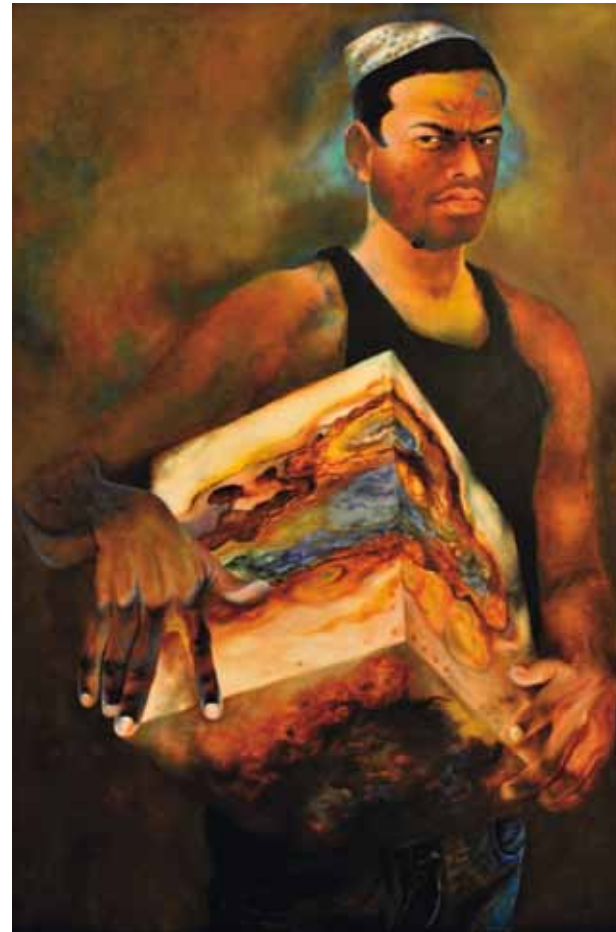
Paribartana MOHANTY

Jagannath PANDA
QIU Jie
SHI Jinsong
THUKRAL & TAGRA
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Lochan UPADHYAY
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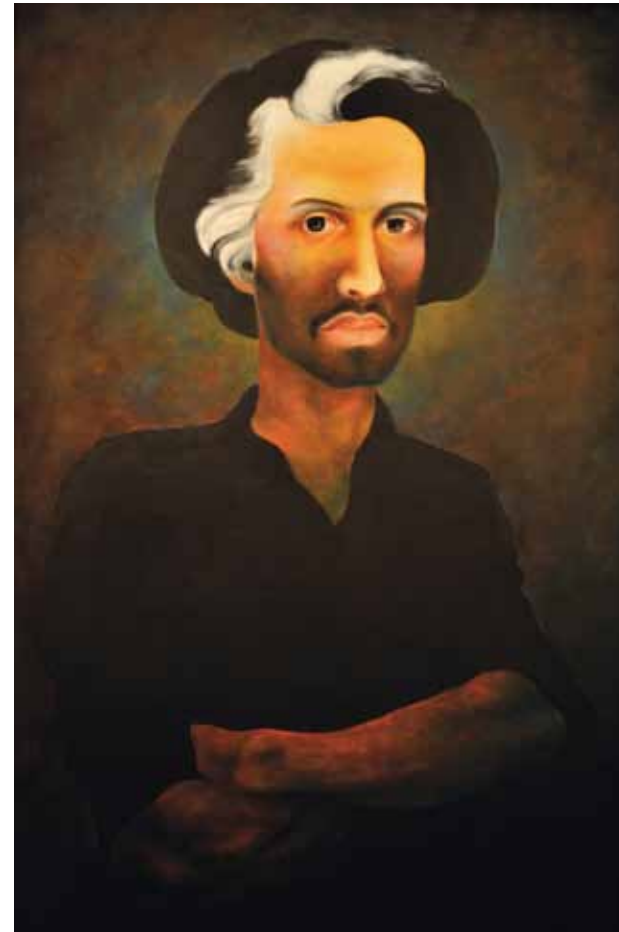
The Gypsy with a Pet 2011
Oil on canvas
137 x 92 cm



CHOI Xoo Ang
 CHU Teh-Chun
 FENG Shuo
 GAO Xingjian
 LI Tianbing
 M Shanthamani
Paribartana MOHANTY
 Jagannath PANDA
 QIU Jie
 SHI Jinsong
 THUKRAL & TAGRA
 TIAN Tai Quan
 Hema UPADHYAY
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 Fabienne VERDIER



Kabadiwala 2011
 Oil on canvas
 137 x 92 cm



The Famous Wig 2011
 Oil on canvas
 137 x 92 cm



Old Man with a Muffler 2011
 Oil on canvas
 137 x 92 cm



Found object, Kabadiwala and Conservator II 2011
 Oil on canvas
 137 x 92 cm

Jagannath PANDA

Jagannath Panda conducts through oppositional fundamentals a study of co-existence. A system of symbolisms illustrates the manifestation of what is happening today flowing with the past. Panda uses the evident dualities of life: nature and culture, the urban and the rural, tradition and innovation, the figurative and the abstract. This subtlety in the artist's work uses animals for people in our growing urban environment. The ambiguity of his own culture fused with this world of co-habitation, is reflected in his themes pertaining to ecology and development, nature and technology. Panda's realism believes in the existence of fantasy, in this ancient and modern time which is seen in his colours; white, red and black 'Sattva', goodness and happiness; 'Rajaher' passion and movement; and 'Tamas': darkness and ignorance. Panda often uses brocade textile as an artistic signature while his work stages a conjugation with reality in a multidimensional message to our earth.

Jagannath Panda was born in Bhubaneswar, Orissa in 1970. He received a BFA from the B.K. College of Art & Crafts in Bhubaneswar (1986-91) and then an MFA in Sculpture at the Faculty of Fine Arts M.S University in Baroda (1994). He was a visiting researcher at Fukuoka University of Education, Japan, and completed an MFA in Sculpture from the Royal College in London in 2002. His paintings were also featured in "Chalo! India," in 2009 a group exhibition of contemporary art from India organized by the Mori Art Museum in Tokyo, Japan, that travelled to the National Museum of Contemporary Art in Seoul, Korea and the Essl Museum in Vienna, Austria. In 2011, he was part of the touring exhibition "Indian Highway IV", Lyon, France. Panda has exhibited at many international venues. He has won the Lalit Kala Akademi Award in 1990 and All India Fine Arts and Crafts Society Award, Delhi, 1996. The artist lives and works in New Delhi, India.

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Fabienne VERDIER



The Being 2008
Acrylic, fabric and glue on canvas, two panels
213 x 304 cm

CHOI Xoo Ang
CHU Teh-Chun
FENG Shuo
GAO Xingjian
LI Tianbing
M Shanthamani
Paribartana MOHANTY
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Fabienne VERDIER



Immersion 2011
Acrylic, fabric, glue on canvas
183 x 244 cm

QIU Jie

Qiu Jie, the solitary artist who calls himself “the man who comes from other mountains” grew up in China before moving to Switzerland in 1989. As a child during the Cultural Revolution, he produced propaganda drawings for the local newspaper in a province near Shanghai. His intricate autobiographical work combines the realism of references to both the Chinese and Western cultures. Qiu is scarred by the political indoctrination that he underwent in China. However, he uses derision to counterbalance the revolutionary fiction in his art. Qiu Jie’s style could be described as ‘political pop’; his imagery confronts the history of Chinese society with that of contemporary Western popular culture.

Qiu Jie was born in Shanghai in 1961. He graduated from the School of Decorative Arts in Shanghai in 1981 and pursued a career as a designer and decorator for a state company. During those 6 years, he travelled productively across China feeding his imagination, which grew to be his well of inspiration. In 1985, he presented his first solo art exhibit at the Palace of Culture Xu Hui of Shanghai. Qiu moved to Geneva, Switzerland to attend the School of Fine Arts and graduated in 1994 with a degree in multimedia. His prizes and distinctions include, 1st prize in the Visual Arts of Geneva competition (1994), Federal Prize of Fine Arts, Geneva (1995), granted a studio by the town of Geneva (1996), Simon I. Patino scholarship granted by La Cité des Arts, Paris (1995) and a portrait of the artist on the TSR (Swiss Television) (2003). His exhibitions include: Museum of Contemporary Art, Basel, Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Geneva; Rath Museum Geneva, Kunsthalle, Bern, Switzerland and the Museum of Fine Arts, Shanghai, Shanghai Biennale, Museum of Contemporary Art, Shanghai, China. The artist lives and works in Geneva, Switzerland.

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Enfance 2010
 Pencil on paper
 100 x 63 cm

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La Longue Marche 2011
 Pencil on paper
 100 x 140 cm

CHOI Xoo Ang
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Fabienne VERDIER



Le Lac des Lotus 2011
Pencil on paper
82 x 120 cm

SHI Jinsong

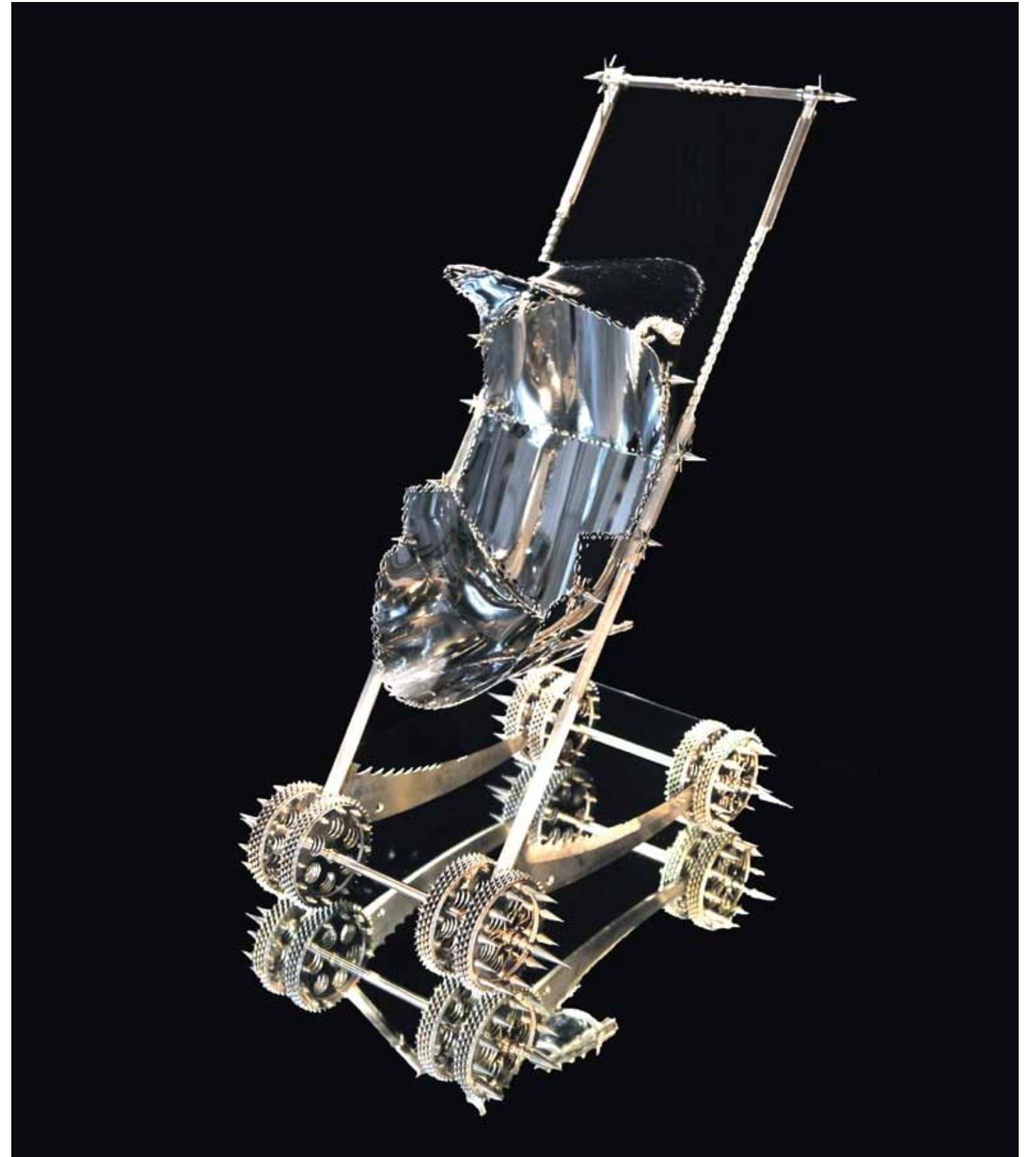
Shi Jinsong dissects life in the socio-cultural environment through solid stainless steel. Spurred by the resistance of humanity, he uses traditional craftsmanship as a medium and the juxtaposition of meaningful modernity and industrialization in a mechanical society. The visual culture of contemporary China that Shi creates in his works is the mirror of danger disseminated in globalization today that drives our lives. Contradictions cause changes in all dimensions, Shi shows us a new angle with his metaphors. The disguise of protection in our present civilization is seen through the reality of socio-control of consumer objects in Shi's work. His creations are inspired by fatherhood and Foucault's *Madness and Civilization*; the artist illustrates the real perils of existence. In our global world, the baby, like the Na Zha warrior, has to fight to survive and must be armed to face the competitiveness of the capitalist world.

Shi Jinsong was born in Hubei Province, China in 1969. In 1994, he earns a BA from the Hubei Academy of Fine Arts, China. Shi has exhibited in China 46, HuokeArtGallery, Shanghai, Taipei, and Melbourne, He Xiangning Art Museum and Sculpture Academy, Shenzhen, China, Shanghai Duolun Museum of Modern Art, Sanhe Art Center, Today Art Museum and Long March in Beijing, Chambers Fine Art, New York, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, Hangar-7, Salzburg Austria, Chengdu Biennale China and the Kunstmuseum, Bern in Switzerland. The artist lives and works in Wuhan and Beijing, China.

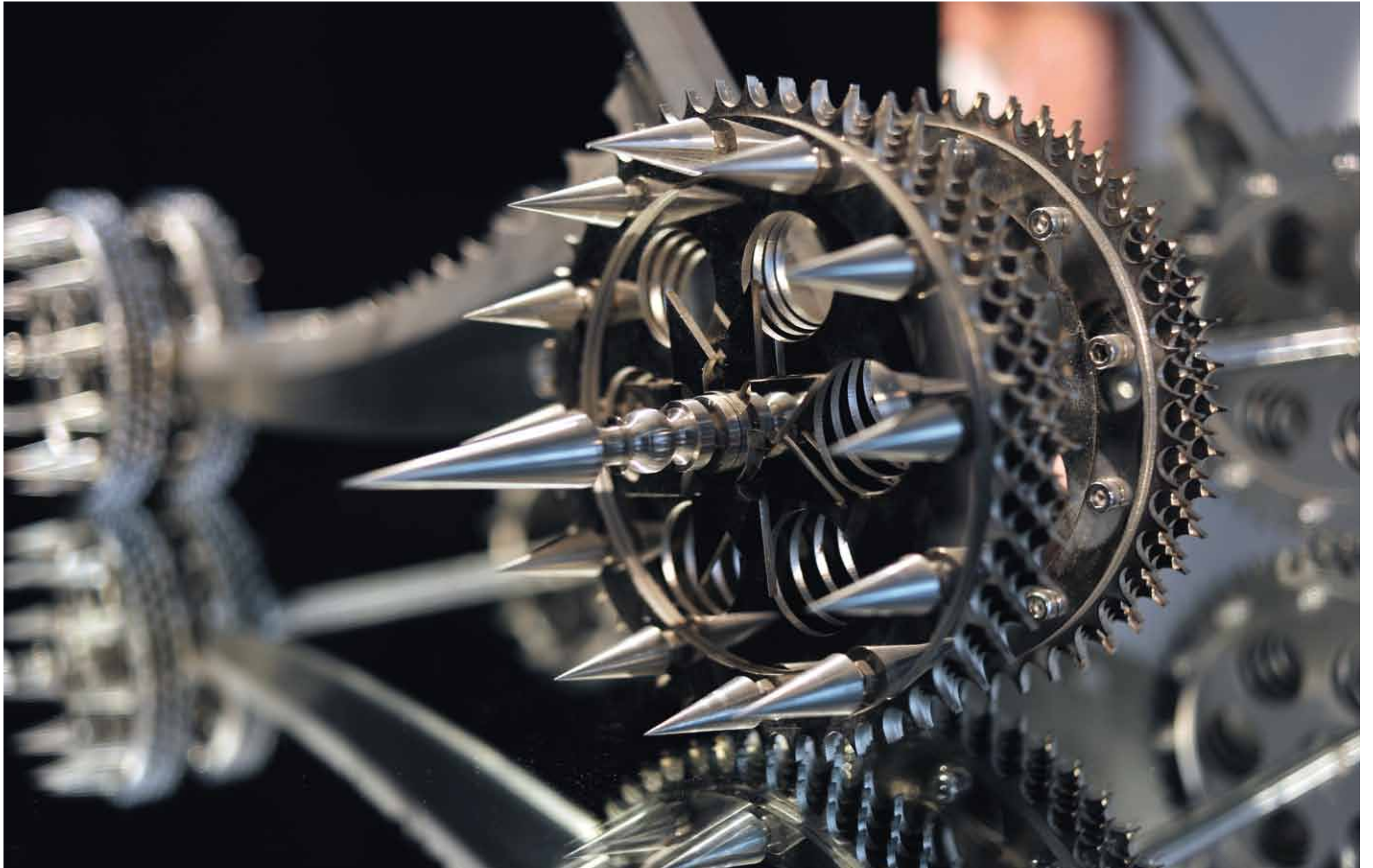
CHOI Xoo Ang
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Baby Carriage 2007
Stainless Steel
Unique Piece
119 x 76 x 47 cm



CHOI Xoo Ang
CHU Teh-Chun
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THUKRAL & TAGRA

Thukral and Tagra have been working collaboratively since 2004. Their inspiration begins with the reality of old values mixed with their ideas on modern times in the Punjabi culture of Northern India. These versatile artists play on the refined symbolism between advertising, branding, and domestic retail through painting, sculpture, installations and video. T & T project the visual culture of young Indian dreams and aspirations today. From popular heroic imagery to consumer products, many underlying messages in their art tackle important issues of our era in a humorous manner.

Jiten Thukral

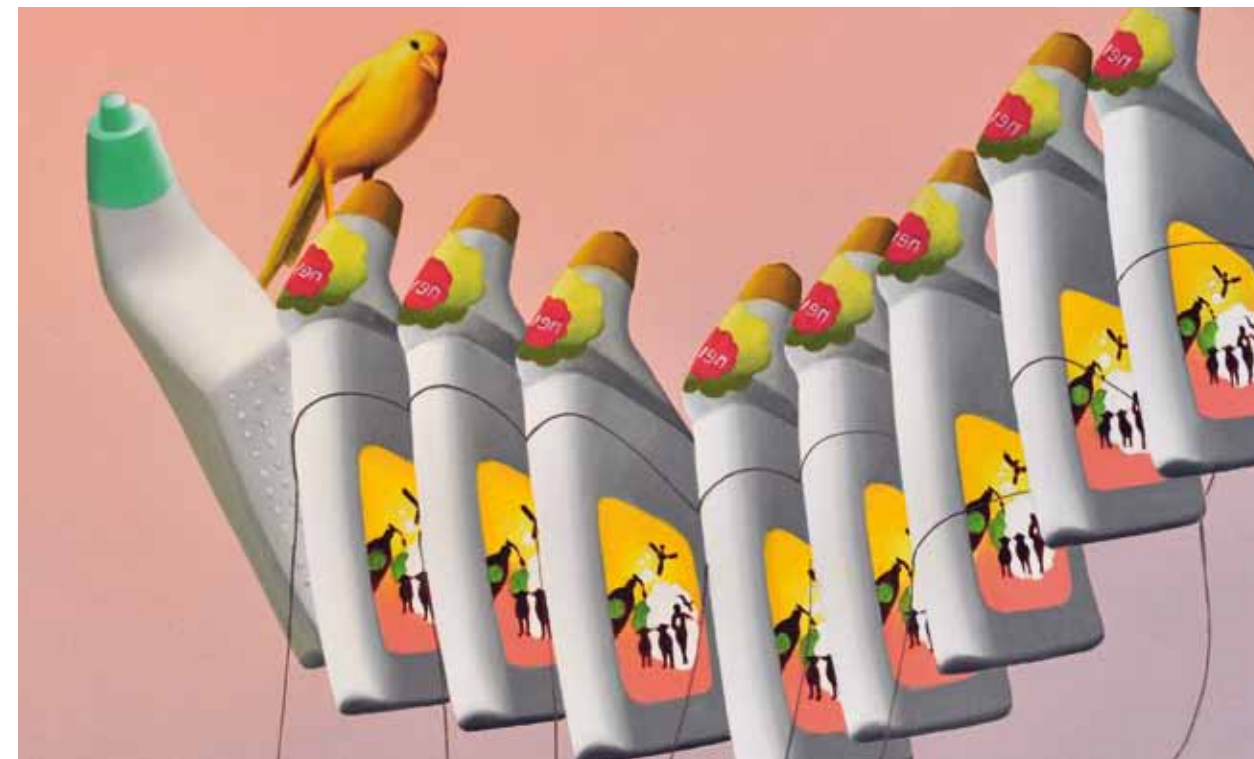
Born in 1976 in Jalandhar, Punjab, India, Jiten Thukral graduated with a Bachelor in Fine Art from Chandigarh Art College and a Masters in Fine Art from New Delhi College of Art.

Sumir Tagra

Born in 1979 in New Delhi, India, Sumir Tagra earned a Bachelor of Fine Art from New Delhi College of Art and a Post Graduate degree from the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad.

Thukral & Tagra have held solo exhibitions at Art Summit in New Delhi (2011), Singapore Tyler Print Institute (2010), Nature Morte in New Delhi (2005 & 2007), Chatterjee & Lal in Mumbai (2008), Bose Pacia, New York (2007) and the Barry Keldoulis Gallery in Sydney (2008). In 2007, Nature Morte and Bose Pacia presented their solo installation entitled "Adolescere-Domus" in the Art Statements section of Art Basel. They were included in a large exhibition of contemporary art from India at the Mori Museum, Tokyo, which travelled to the Essl Museum in Vienna in 2008. T & T were also represented at the Vancouver Sculpture Biennale and the Asia Pacific Triennial at the Queensland Art Gallery in Brisbane, Australia. In 2011, T & T were part of the touring exhibition "Indian Highway IV" at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Lyon, France as well as "Paris-Delhi-Bombay..." at the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris. The artists live and work in New Delhi, India.

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 Lochan UPADHYAY
 Fabienne VERDIER



Delightfully Dreadful - 2 (project basedk) 2009
 Acrylic and oil on canvas
 183 x 183 cm

CHOI Xoo Ang
CHU Teh-Chun
FENG Shuo
GAO Xingjian
LI Tianbing
M Shanthamani
Paribartana MOHANTY
Jagannath PANDA
QIU Jie
SHI Jinsong
THUKRAL & TAGRA
TIAN Tai Quan
Hema UPADHYAY
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Immortalis 10 & 11 2009
Acrylic on fibreglass in two parts, with accessories
70 x 46 x 38 cm, each

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Somnium Genero - Monologue 1 2008
Oil on metal
Diameter 165 cm, Depth 31 cm

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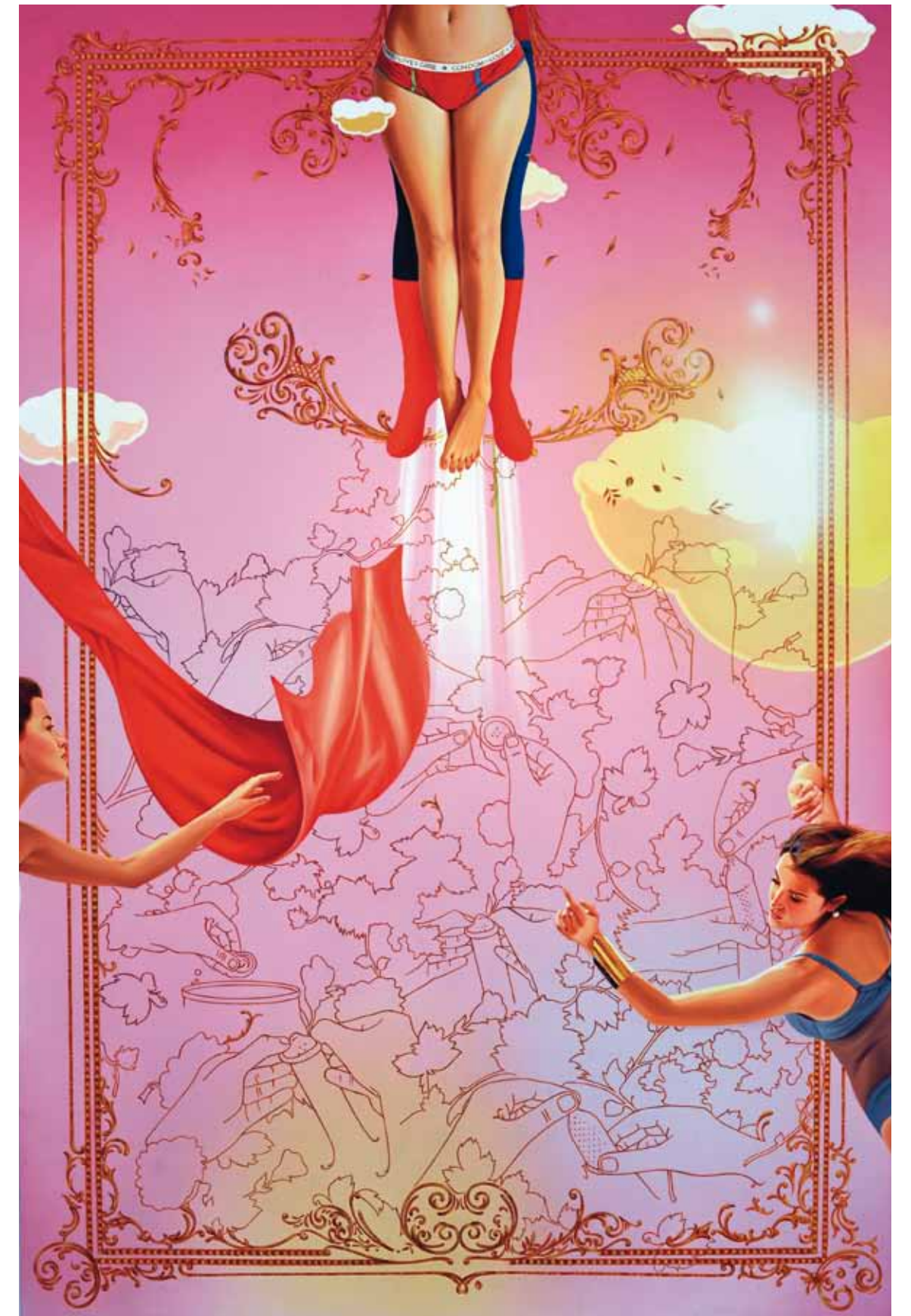


Wonder Woman III (flying girl) 2011
 Acrylic, oil on canvas
 183 x 122 cm



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Wonder Women IV (three girls and superman) 2011
Acrylic, oil on canvas
183 x 122 cm



TIAN Taiquan

Tian Taiquan weighs the factual truth about the Cultural Revolution in China through his art. The strength and reality of what he experienced in the political and cultural realm of his life is depicted in a visual manner through digital technology. He uses photography to capture the instant and yet stages the elements that accurately represent the cultural and political scenario in a fictitious way. Tian's works metaphorically represent violence, destruction, suffering, confusion, and darkness in contrast with vivid colors and endless sensuous movement. The artist's images simultaneously bring together the historical past and present creating a powerful conclusion in a sharp and detailed composition.

Tian Taiquan was born in 1960. He graduated in 1988 from the Sichuan Fine Arts Institute. His solo exhibitions include: the Cultural Arts Museum, Beijing, China; 'Tears of Eros', England; Gibsone Jessop Gallery, Canada; 'Nature', Shanghai, China, Shijiazhuang Contemporary Art Gallery, Hubei Province, China, 'Lost', Chongqing, China; 501 Art Space, Chongqing, China, Sichuan Fine Arts Institute, China. His group shows include: Art Plus Shanghai, China; Art Asia Miami; Dialogue 2008 China, Beijing; Gathering under Olympic Rings, Beijing; Kitai Pveriod China Forward, Moscow; Seoul International Media Biennale, Korea to name a few. The artist lives and works in Chongqing, China.

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Totem Recollection No. 2 2007
Chromogenic print on aluminium and mounted on plywood
59.5 x 183 cm

Totem Recollection No. 3 2007
Chromogenic print on aluminium and mounted on plywood
109 x 335 cm

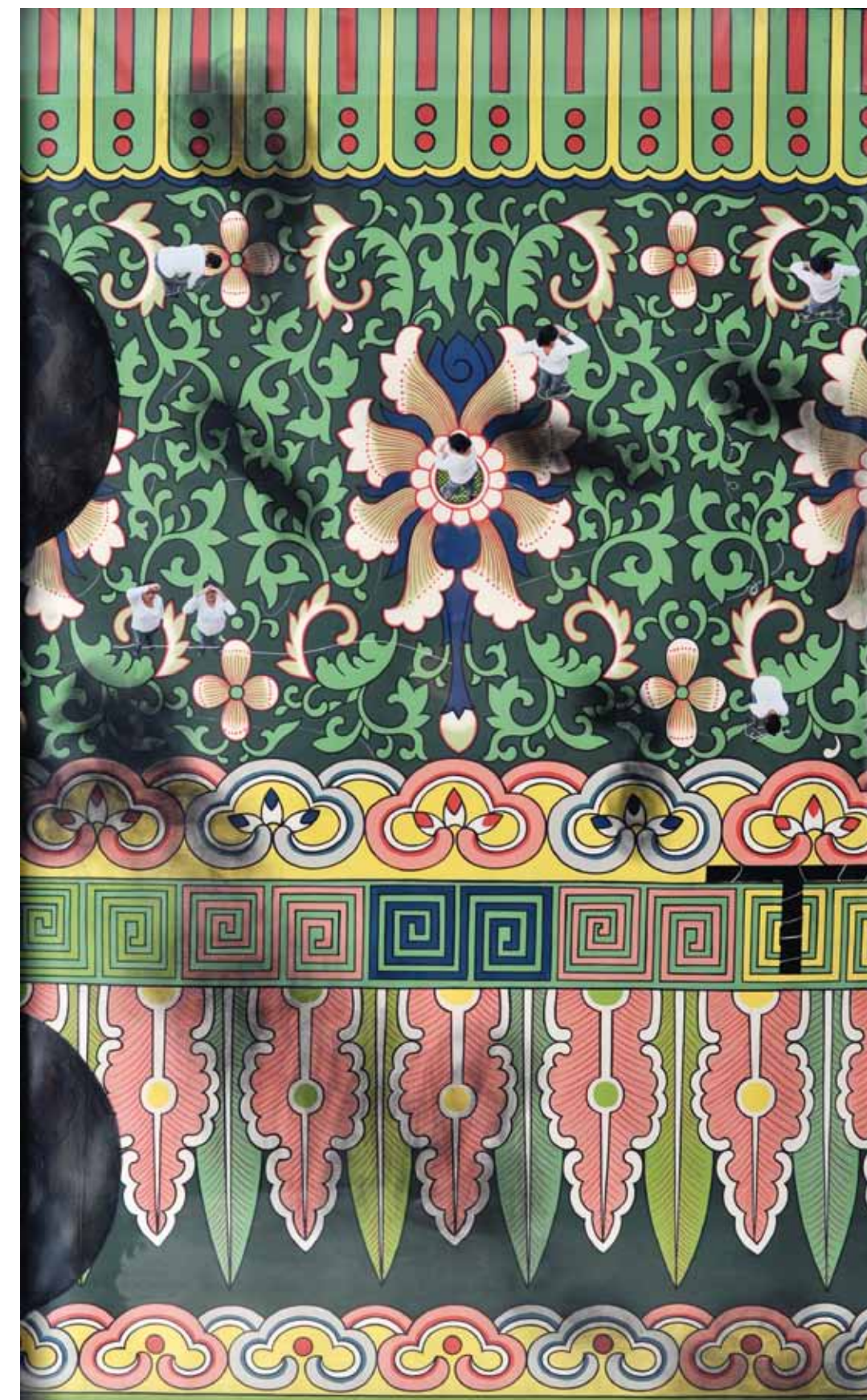
Hema UPADHYAY

Pakistani at heart, **Hema Upadhyay** migrated to India at an early age, the notion of exile, dislocation and personal recognition are at the center of her artistic exploration. Using photography, collage, sculptural installations and painting to express her torn identity, she constantly seeks to belong, whether literal or metaphorical. The artist's autobiographical works on creation and destruction pertain to a dichotomy of senses, in a home of its own. Art is the place where she can let go of all that sorrow and feeling of alienation, loss, nostalgia, excitement, memories, repression, and let the energy become building. Ironically like in the urban cities of India, Upadhyay's art is filled with the idea of transfer and change, where the textures are multiple, the layers are plenty, elements of shade are present, and protruding symbolism is massive, toppled with cultural rituals, all come alive.

Hema Upadhyay was born in Baroda, India in 1972. She graduated in 1995 with a BFA in painting and in 1997 with a MFA in printmaking from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Baroda. Selected exhibitions include; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, Helsinki Art Museum, Aichi Triennial 2010, Nagoya Japan, Herning Museum of Contemporary Art, Oslo, Norway, Saatchi Gallery, London, Museum on the Seam, Israel, Orangery Lower Belvedere, Vienna Austria, Museo d'Arte Contemporanea di Roma, IVAM Valencia Spain, Bodhi Art Gallery, Mumbai, Stux Gallery, New York, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Japan Anant Art Center, New Delhi, Mart Museum, Italy, Espace Claude Berri, Paris, Sakshi Gallery and Soka Contemporary Art Center, Taipei, The Zimmerli Art Museum, and Chicago Cultural Center, USA, Nature Morte, New Delhi, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane, Art Space Sydney, Australia to name a few. Upadhyay received the National Scholarship and the Gujarat State Award in 1996 and won the Tenth Indian Triennial in 2001. She was also part of the Art Space residency in Sydney in 2001 and Vasl Residency in Karachi in 2003. The artist lives and works in Mumbai, India.

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Yours Sincerely #4 2009
Acrylic, dry pastel, gouache and photographs on paper
183 x 122 cm

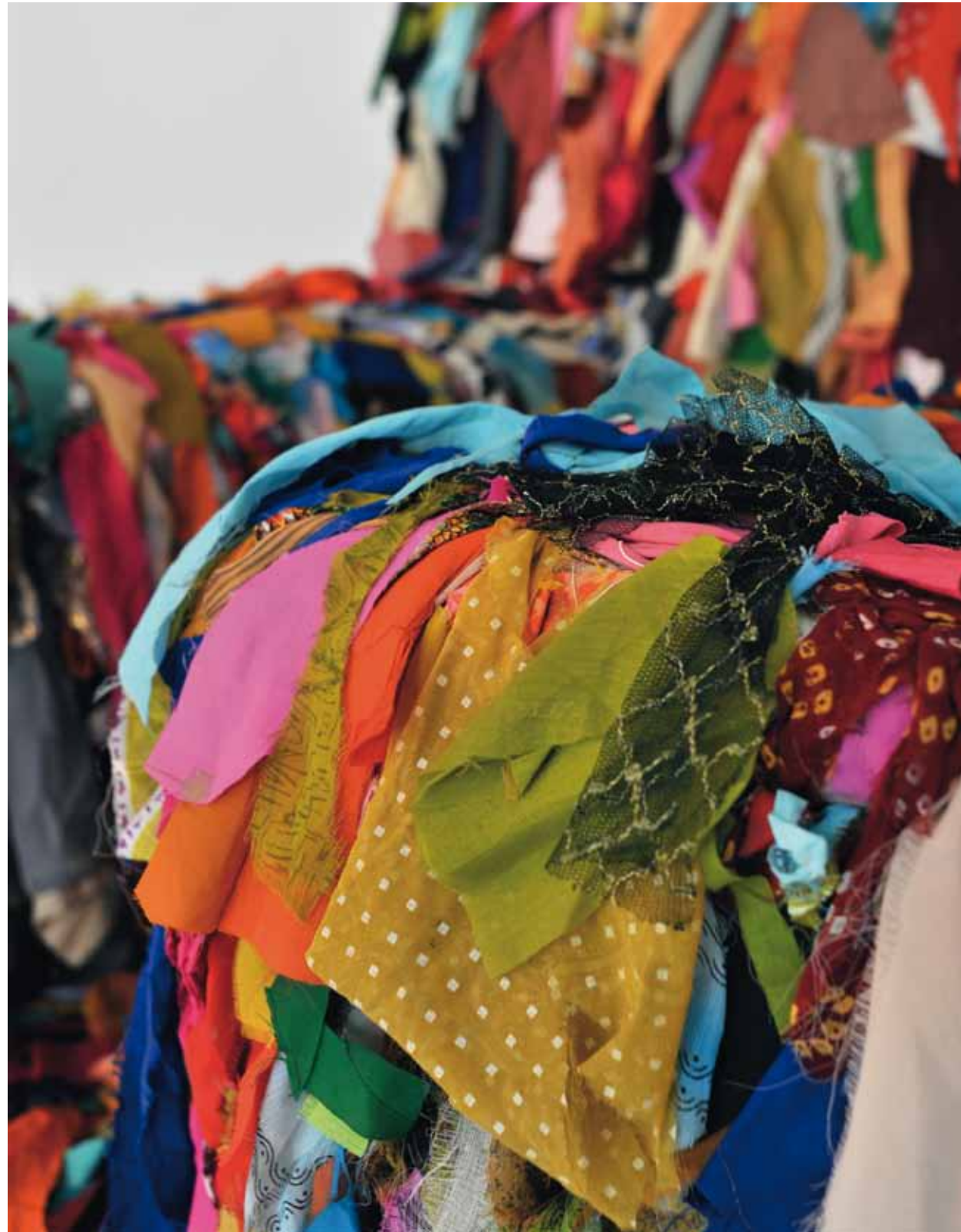


Lochan UPADHYAY

Lochan Upadhyay is torn between tradition and globalization; he is a child of modern India today; from a small village with an ancestral twist all the way to the mobility of the 'nobody' in the hustle and bustle of the big city. Inhabited by cultural rituals in rural societies, urban development and rising pollution with endless waste products, Upadhyay mixes all these elements in a playful manner, celebrating life amidst legends for all scales of society. Influenced by various mediums in his aesthetic quest, he also uses pieces of sari fabric that are given by all the village women for his large wedding chairs, the whole energy creating the power of cloth. Like a symbolic dowry, the wife's family has to pay the future husband; this ritual often ruins the entire community, resulting in the repression of females at a very young age. The artist raises these old traditional questions and their remaining influence while on a broader scale, the world is overpowered by materialism and the instinct of consumption in a metaphorical manner.

Born in Rajasthan, India in 1983, Upadhyay graduated with a BFA from the Faculty of Fine Arts from the M.S University of Baroda where he is presently undergoing his MFA. He was awarded the Rajasthan Lalitha Kala award for three consecutive years as well as the FICA Public Grant Award. The artist has showcased his work in various exhibitions across India and featured for the first time in New York at the Tamarind Art Council in 2009, and in Paris. The artist lives and works in Baroda, India.

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Wedding Chair 2009
Iron, wood, foam and recycled fabric
Edition 1/4
240 x 120 x 120 cm

Fabienne VERDIER

Fabienne Verdier uses space to capture the intrinsic forces of life in a perfect stroke. It is a complete dialogue through the chosen spiritual elements transcending to the material world that drives her creations. The cosmic power of existence is expanded through her art in a philosophical manner at a given instant, beyond boundaries. Verdier works vertically using gravitational forces as tools to enhance the transmission of the matter through movement, captured into a moment's time in the essence of equilibrium. Painting with animal brushes such as horsehair or rooster feathers, her instruments funnel energy onto the work from their own living spirit. The canvas arena is occupied by incandescent colors that bring the artist back to her western sparkle and black, to the ultimate power: "the color by which all is materialized". Ten years in China working with masters in traditional ink painting and a lifetime of inspiration through the icons of art history, have led the artist's innate East-West spirit to be driven by the quest of oneness with the universe.

"Most recently I have been impelled to explore the genesis of living matter, the spontaneous emergence of structures, movements, folds, the natural dynamics of the birth of land forms. With my brush as my companion the flow of matter becomes a landscape, the canvas a physical map, a kind of geography of the spirit which brings us to perceive the hidden framework of the world."

Born in Paris in 1962, Verdier graduated from the Ecole des Beaux-Arts of Toulouse in 1983 while studying Chinese at the Institut des Langues et Civilisation Orientales in Paris. Verdier's solo exhibitions include the Chongqing Fine Arts Centre, China, Peking Fine Arts Centre's international calligraphy exhibition, The French Embassy Beijing, Maison de la Chine, Paris, the Center for Contemporary Art, Hong Kong, Galerie Joyce, Palais Royal, Paris, the Pacific Cultural Foundation, Taiwan and Galerie Alice Pauli, Switzerland. Verdier has created several important private commissions as well as having works in important private and public collections such as Francois Pinault, Barbier-Mueller, the H. Looser Foundation, Centre Pompidou, and Cernuschi Museum in Paris. The artist lives and works in France.

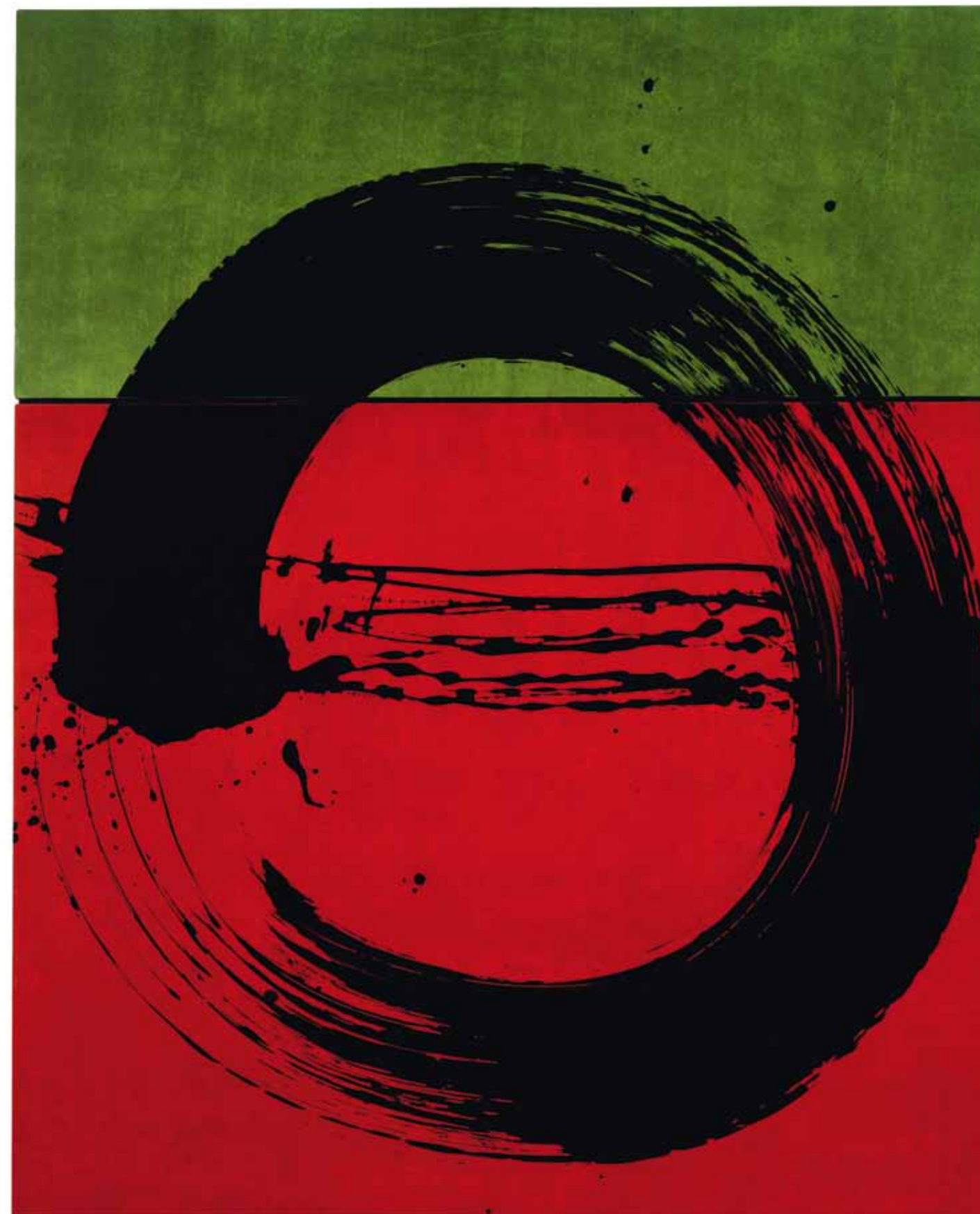
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Ascèse VII 2011
 Pigments and ink on canvas, vertical diptych
 186 x 160 cm

Ascèse VIII 2011
 Pigments and ink on canvas, vertical diptych
 186 x 160 cm

Ascèse IX 2007
 Pigments and ink on canvas, vertical diptych
 186 x 160 cm



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L'un 2011
Pigments and ink on canvas, horizontal triptych
150 x 312 cm

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