

PARKVIEW ART HONG KONG

**PARKVIEW ART Hong Kong proudly presents
“Beijing Abstract”**

Curated by esteemed scholar Peng Feng

Pioneering exhibition reconsiders the emergence of abstraction in Modern China

March 26 - May 12, 2018

Media Preview: March 26, 11am



Mao Lizi, *Abstraction*, 1980, Oil on canvas, 195x130cm

[1 March 2018 – Hong Kong] Debuting in Hong Kong this March, PARKVIEW ART Hong Kong is pleased to present “Beijing Abstract”, a groundbreaking exhibition that is curated by the esteemed scholar and curator Peng Feng. Showcasing the works of eight prominent Chinese artists including Mao Lizi, Ma Kelu, Ma Shuqing, Yuan Zuo, Tan Ping, Meng Luding, Feng Lianghong and Li Di. The exhibition was developed from Peng’s thesis and research on the period. As one of the most influential curators in China today, Peng’s research on modernism in China, and background in traditional Chinese aesthetics, has given him insight into the maturation of abstract art in China and its distinctive framework. Together, these artists, who each began in figurative art before turning to abstraction as their sole practice for the past 30 years, form the foundation of the artist group, “Beijing Abstract”, pioneering the path for Chinese abstract art in the nation’s art historical canon. The exhibition will run from March 26 - May 12, 2018.

“Beijing Abstract” seeks to demonstrate how Chinese abstract art developed in the last three to four decades into a stylistic movement. The works can be viewed within a framework that is independent to developments in the West and even counterparts in East Asia. The abstract art of China was derived from Eastern philosophies and developed during a period of historical introspection, where access to information, from outside of Modern China was limited. Peng argues that abstract art in Europe and the United States can be separated into three generations: Metaphysical Abstraction as inspired by theosophy, Abstract Expressionism that stemmed from theories of the unconscious and Minimalism, which is influenced by theories of Zen Buddhism. On the other hand, abstract art in the East was just beginning. From South Korea came Dansaekhwa, while from Japan came the Mono-ha artists and the Gutai Art Association. Concurrently in China, a new kind of abstract art was forming, one which was founded on a different understanding of Zen Buddhism to Minimalism and thus, forming a new type of abstraction.

The artists featured in this exhibition all arrived at their distinct language of abstract art by first breaking free from the tenets of Chinese visual culture. The artists each pursue vastly differently artistic directions, yet they have all experienced the major changes that have taken place within China in recent decades and stayed for extended periods of time abroad, thus the group is not founded on a unified goal, but a shared spirit.

“After almost two decades operating in the global art market, we strongly believe that now is the right time to bring to Hong Kong and Mainland China, the international masters and the most prominent emerging artists of abstract art. The artworks presented in the upcoming “Beijing Abstract” exhibition reveal the strength of Chinese abstraction which embraces a globalized vision of abstract art, while simultaneously staying true to its traditional cultural roots, through the usage of calligraphic lines, repetition of motifs, and philosophies stemming from Zen Buddhism. We are very honored to have Peng Feng, the esteemed Chinese curator and professor at the Peking University's School of Arts, curate our first exhibition after we have relaunched to focus on Chinese abstract art. We believe the collectors of the region will enthusiastically respond.”

Alberto Annesi, Director, PARKVIEW ART Hong Kong

For more information, please visit <http://www.parkviewarthk.com>.

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Exhibition Details

“Beijing Abstract”

Artists: Mao Lizi | Ma Kelu | Ma Shuqing | Yuan Zuo | Tan Ping | Meng Luding |
Feng Lianghong | Li Di
Curator: Peng Feng
Media Preview: March 26, 11am
Dates: March 26 to May 12, 2018
Venue: PARKVIEW ART Hong Kong?/span>27 Old Bailey Street, Central, Hong Kong

Notes to editors

About Beijing Abstract

Beijing Abstract is an artist group composed of Mao Lizi (b. 1950), Ma Kelu (b. 1954), Ma Shuqing (b. 1956), Yuan Zuo (b. 1957), Tan Ping (b. 1960), Meng Luding (b. 1962), Feng Lianghong (b. 1962) and Li Di (b. 1963). Founded on a shared spirit, the group believe in the liberty and power of abstract art to go above and beyond the established conventions of art in China. Each of the founding members has been pursuing abstract art in their individual practices for the past 30 years or thereabouts, seen the major changes that have taken place in China and each have spent time abroad studying, working and

exhibiting. Now the artists have come together and are recognizing their collective experiences, in both art and life.

About Peng Feng

Peng Feng is professor of aesthetics and art criticism at School of Arts Peking University. He has been a member of the executive committee of the International Association for Aesthetics since 2009. In 2016, Peng was selected as the Changjiang Scholars Distinguished Professor of China's Ministry of Education. His research interests include contemporary aesthetics, art theory and art criticism. Peng is also an academic writer, playwright and independent curator. He has curated over 200 exhibitions including the China Pavilion at the 54th Venice Biennale in 2011.

About the Gallery

PARKVIEW ART Hong Kong is Hong Kong's leading gallery specializing in abstract art from Asia and abroad. Since its establishment in 2014, the gallery has been solely committed to bringing museum-quality exhibitions to its visitors and clientele. A key focus of PARKVIEW ART Hong Kong is working with some of the most important and influential masters of Chinese contemporary abstract art. While equally, the gallery is dedicated to bringing to the forefront, pioneering works from international emerging and established artists.

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