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May 9 - June 7 2008

Opening Wednesday, May 7th, 4 - 9 pm

Yan Lei

A Chinese Season Closing exhibition

In partnership with Galleria Continua (San Gimignano, Beijing, Le Moulin) Galerie Paul Frèches will be presenting new paintings by Yan Lei (1965-) as the closing of the "Chinese Season" series of exhibitions.

Yan Lei is a key figure of the Chinese avant-garde and his work is now recognized on the international art scene.

A new project has been specially commissioned for this exhibition, closely linked to Montmartre.*

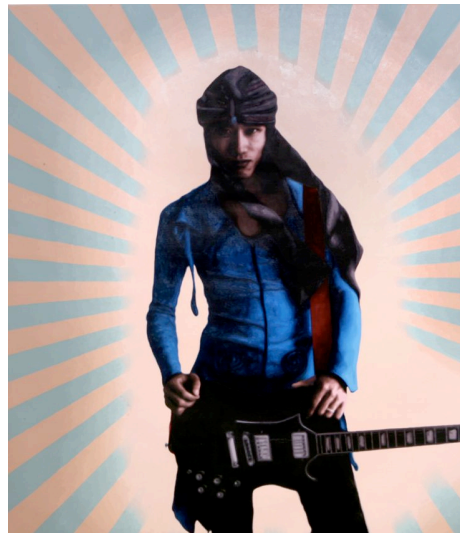
In 1997, Yan Lei's fake invitations to **Documenta X**, sent to a hundred Chinese artists and curators raised a big scandal. Ten years after, he was officially taking part in the quinquennial exhibition.

A punk/pop diary

"Yan Lei has been painting since 2000. But he has in his own way: laying on the canvas pictures of what he seems to *sightsee*: cities, monuments, an airport (...) its immediate environment, people. **These pictures are those of life, those of his own experience (...)**"

Michel Nuridsany
L'Art contemporain chinois, 2004
(Chinese contemporary art)

Subjects willingly seem to be anecdotal; still his paintings express his social or moral concerns, like, for instance, **the value of art** a recurrent issue in his work.



Sparkling-Dogzstar Party-3 - 2007
Court. Galleria Continua, San Gimignano - Beijing

Photo to painting

The technical process has always been the same: the photograph is shot most of the time with a digital camera, then slightly blurred ("filtered" shall one says) by the mean of a retouching software with which the artist divides the picture into several zones that are given colours drawn from a 500-colours pallet (a paintings-manufacturer created the equivalent of Yan Lei's digital pallet on its demand). Next, the outlines of the coloured zones are drawn on a large format canvas. Yan Lei's assistants use these zones to "complete" the painting, giving each zone its attributed colour.

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A Chinese Season:

○ ShContemporary
09.06.07 / 09.09.07

○ Liu Jianhua, *Unreal scene*
12.07.07 / 02.09.08

○ Xiang Liqing, *Relations*
02.14.08 / 04.12.08

● Yan Lei, *Paintings*
05.09.08 / 06. 07.08

* Galerie Paul Frèches is located in the Butte Montmartre. (Abbesses side)

Wednesday to Saturday, 2 - 7 pm
And on appointment
Closed on Bank holidays

Yan Lei: several dates

1994 Action: *1500 m*

1997 Intervention: *Invitation*

2003 50th Venice Biennial, Italy

2007 His paintings are exhibited in Documenta VII, Kassel, Germany

The exhibition partners are:

GALLERIA CONTINUA
PARISart

*Yan Lei was born in Hebei, China.
He works and lives between Beijing and Hong Kong.*

Education

1991 Graduated from the Zhejiang China Fine Arts Academy, China
1982 Graduated from the Handcraft School of Hebei, China

Exhibitions

Solo shows

2008
Galerie Paul Frèches, Paris, France
Sparkling Aspen, Aspen Art Museum, Colorado, US

2007
Yan Lei, Robert Miller gallery, New-York, US
Dogzstar project, Galleria Continua, San Gimignano, Italy

2005
Super Light, Galerie Urs Meile, Lucerne, Switzerland

2003
Climbing Space, Galerie Urs Meile, Lucerne, Switzerland
Alors, la Chine? Centre Georges Pompidou, MNAM, Paris, France

2001
International Scenery, China Art Archives & Warehouse, Beijing, China

1999
Alleluia, Museum of Site, Hong Kong, China

1995
Invasion, Beijing Junior Art Theatre, China

Group shows

2007
Opening, Galleria Continua / Le Moulin, Boissy-le-Châtel, France
12th Documenta, Kassel, Germany
10th Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul, Turkey
A Continuous Dialogue, Galleria Continua, Italy

2006
Mahjong, Kunsthalle Hamburg, Germany
MOCA Envisage 2006, MOCA Shanghai, China
Art Basel, Switzerland
Xin Beijing Art Gallery First Exhibition, Beijing, China
One Work: Hong Hao and Yan Lei, Taikang Top Space, Beijing, China
On the Edge: Contemporary Chinese Artists Encounter the West, Davis Museum and Cultural Center, Wellesley Collage, Massachusetts, US
On the Edge: Contemporary Chinese Artists Encounter the West, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indiana, US
A Continuous Dialogue, Galleria Continua, Beijing, China

2005
Guangzhou Triennial, Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangzhou, China
Out of Sight, De Appel, Amsterdam, Holland
Mahjong - Chinesische Gegenwartskunst aus der Sammlung Sigg, Kunstmuseum, Berne, Switzerland
China: as seen by Contemporary Chinese Artists, Spazio Oberdan, Milan, Italy
Competition, The CourtYard Gallery, Beijing, China
Pictorial DNA made in China, Galerie Urs Meile, Lucerne, Switzerland
On the Edge: Contemporary Chinese Artists Encounter the West, Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University, California, US

2004
A l'est du sud de l'ouest, Crac - Centre National d'Art Contemporain, Sète, France

Beyond boundaries, 3 of Band, Shanghai, China
Open Sky, Shanghai Duolun Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai, China

2003
50th Venice Biennial, Italy
Alors, la Chine? Centre Pompidou, MNAM, Paris, France
Left Wing, Left Bank Community, Beijing, China
The Fifth System: Public Art in the Age of Post-Planning 5th Shenzhen Contemporary Sculpture Exhibition, Hexiangning Art Museum, Shenzhen, China

2002
Cidades, the 25th Sao Paulo Biennial, Sao Paulo, Brazil
Guangzhou Triennial, Guangzhou, China
Pause, 4th Biennial of Gwangju, Gwangju, Korea

2001
Polypolis Contemporary Art from South East Asia, Kunsthaus, Hamburg, Germany
City Slang, the First Annual Contemporary Art From Zhu Jiang Delta, the Gallery of Artist Commune, Hong Kong, China
Chengdu Biennial, Chengdu Biennial Museum, China

2000
Unusual & Usual Contemporary Art Exhibition, Yuangong Modern Art Museum, Shanghai, China

1999
The Contemporary Art Exhibition China, Korea and Japan, the Museum of Pusan University, Korea
Fast Forward - Video Art Exhibition from China, Hong Kong and Taiwan, Macao Contemporary Art Centre, Macau, China
Unveiled Reality, Contemporary Chinese Photography, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
Art Beatus Gallery, Vancouver, Canada
Annie Wong Art Foundation, Hong Kong, China
China Maze, Gallery OTSO, Espoo, Finland

1998
Images Telling Stories, (Beautiful like Materialism), the art Museum of Shanghai University, China
It's me, Tai Temple of the Forbidden City, Beijing, China

1997
New Asia, New City, New Art '97, China - Korean Contemporary Art Exhibition, Shanghai Contemporary Art Museum, China

1996
Phenomenon and Image, the Gallery of Zhejiang Academy of Fine Arts, China

1995
Post' 89 China New Art Exhibition, Vancouver Art Gallery, Canada

1994
Exhibition of Contemporary Photography from Mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan, Hong Kong Art Centre, Hong Kong, China

1993
Post' 89 China New Art, Hong Kong Art Centre, Hong Kong, China

1989
China Avant-garde Art Exhibition, China Art Museum, Beijing, China