

Hou Yong Water*

February 27 – March 28, 2009

Opening: Thursday, February 26th, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Galerie Paul Frèches is pleased to announce the exhibition of the « Water » series by Hou Yong, marking the start of a collaboration between the gallery and this young Pekinese painter recently noticed by the eminent Chinese art critic and curator Pi Li. Both hyperrealist and abstract depending on the distance between you and them, his paintings either express calmness – though the intrinsic moving nature of the depicted element – or plunge us into the anxious apprehension of their evasive reality.

Hou Yong (1976- , Beijing)

1999 Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing, painting section

2005 *Different Perspectives Without Distance*, New Millennium Gallery, Beijing, China

2006 *Diffusion of International Contemporary Art Exhibition*, Boseong-Gun, Korea

2008 Pi Li curates his first solo show: *Drowning*

New paintings from the « Water » series exhibited in Paris

Water uses a **photorealist** vocabulary by representing moving water sections out of a specific context (*all over*). This *sharp focus* confers them an **abstract strength**. However, a human referent – a swimmer – sometimes brings us back to the surface...

Here photographic **medium** is the first step in the re-making of reality.

Hou Yong's perfect master of light shows an obvious technical virtuosity (painting is literally breathing) while this should not distract us from a subject that gives all its poetry to the series: **water**. An anti-pattern repeated and prolonged over and over again by Hou Yong, from a canvas to another. He says:

Under the pattern of waves, powerful latent forces are moving. I copy the appearance of the photographs; the repetitious and time-consuming process brings me a sense of calmness. Each wave pattern is an endless and ever-changing enigma. Each form of wave looks similar to the one next yet completely differs from it. I am engulfed.

Besides, this theme shows us the still very strong Chinese's commitment for traditional **philosophies** such as Taoism, all the more tangible in contemporary art, like, for instance, in Chen Zhen or Cai Guo-Qiang's Works...

Meeting & lecture about the "4/7: Slavoutich" exhibition by Guillaume Herbaut in January, 2009

The exhibition will be prolonged until January 31st. A meeting will be organized about the 4/7: *Slavoutich* series and will take place in **Galerie Chappe** in the beginning of January while a *Cahier* with new contributions will be specially published for the meeting.

Show room Antoine Petitprez around a brunch: end of January, 2009 (contact the gallery)

April – May, 2009

Carte blanche given to Matthew Stone

June – July, 2009

CoExpo II – Invited curator: Florence Ostende

*Nothing is suppler and weaker than water,
But to take away hardness and strength, nothing surpass
and nothing should replace her.
(At. to Lao Tseu, Dao de Jing)*

Galerie Paul Frèches
12, rue André Barsacq
75018 Paris
Stations Abbesses or Anvers
www.paulfreches.com

Wednesday to Saturday
2 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Bank / Holydays
The gallery will be closed
from December 24th, to
January 3rd, 2009 included

Press contact
Joana Anisten
00 33 6 64 43 12 35
joana@paulfreches.com

Untitled 07
Diameter 60 cm
Acrylic on canvas

PARISart
www.paris-art.com

* Temporary title