

“Wang Xingwei”

Exhibition: 13 April 2012 – 7 July 2012

Opening: Friday, 13 April 2012, 6 – 8 pm

Wang Xingwei (*1969 in Shengyang, China; works and lives in Beijing) does not come from an artistic family. It was a natural-born love of painting, rather than his background, that led him to become an artist. The end of 1980s marked the official start of his career as a painter. Since the mid-1990s, his artistic practice, which is rich in subtle cultural and historical references, has been defined by the concurrency of diverse conceptual, stylistic and formal experimentations.

Wang Xingwei is no longer the artistic youth that was known for wearing hand-knitted woollen trousers. He has constructed an exquisitely unique and picturesque language of seemingly disconnected elements - conceptual entries from his own “visual dictionary”. These elements are juxtaposed in order to purposely dismantle the acknowledged logic of thinking and create, by means of their disruptive power, new and unpredictable interpretative possibilities.

The exhibition will show a collection of approximately 12 of Wang Xingwei’s paintings from 2009 up until the present day. The exhibition has been divided into two parts - Indoor Views and Outdoor Views. The latter will present audiences with “Big Tree by the Film Museum No. 2” (2011), a traditional life study. This is a rare opportunity to view such works, given the artist’s usual approach of working from readymade images. The Indoor Views space will investigate the continuous evolution and progression of the artist’s “Old Lady” series, which consists of a number of very similar works. As the curator Zhang Li said: “They present a lively, complex art form, the one we call ‘painting’.”