

PRESS RELEASE

'Night, Shanghai' Fung-Wah Man

Transition

31 January to 25 February

Open Tuesday – Thursday 11-6 or by appointment

Private Viewing: Saturday 28 January 2006 4-6 pm

Afternoon Talks with Artists: 4 and 25 February, 4-5:30

Transition features a selection of innovative and sometimes challenging work which reflects the diversity of artists coming out of China and its scattered Diaspora living in London. The exhibition examines the results of shifting perspectives, whether stemming from dynamic economic or political development or exposure to new or unfamiliar cultures.

The seven Chinese-British artists featured, each with a different aesthetic approach and utilising varying media, expound upon the subtle shifts in influence and imagery that permeate our contemporary world. This disparate group of UK-based artists working at various stages in their artistic careers are brought together in a mixed media exhibition as part of the Mayor of London's China in London season 2006. The artists include:

Voon Bartlett, an artist and lecturer currently studying for her PhD, has constructed an experimental photo-media wall-hanging, which references specific historical periods of China in order to elicit further inquiries by the uninitiated into China's rich culture.

Chang-Duo Gou, trained in both China and in the U.K., underpins his work on the common ground between the artistic traditions of China and the West. He utilises his watercolour and mixed media illustrations to elucidate for a wider audience issues important to ordinary Chinese people.

Queelan Foo-Kune has produced a selection of controversial paintings depicting Japanese-Chinese relations prior to World War II.

Grace Lau, a well-established artist with an upcoming exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery, constructs powerful photographs exploring the hidden fears and fantasies in our minds. By using familiar surroundings such as a beach or a basement, Lau hints at the darkness that lurks within the apparent serenity of nature and our normal lives.

Fung-Wah Man, a new graduate and up-and-coming artist recently travelled to China and through evocative photographs captured the day-

to-day lives of the people there. By examining the quotidian, Man hopes to distance the viewer from politics and help clarify how living in China at this time of dramatic transformation affects the individual.

Karen Tang, an emerging artist who has been awarded a residency at the Chinese Arts Centre in Manchester. She recently exhibited her work at Art Futures. She presents constructed sculptural objects comprised of often industrial structures overlaid with a hybrid of cross-cultural references with Baroque architecture being a particular influence.

Shen Ying, an artist who has been quite successful in China, is becoming more recognised as an 'important' artist with a residency at the Gasworks and several major commissions with Westminster council and GLA. Shen Ying is a traditionally-trained Chinese artist whose work has used a traditional Chinese format of rice paper scrolls and created exquisitely coloured expressionist works.

Clarion Contemporary Art was founded in March 2005 and specialises in the work of contemporary artists both from the United Kingdom and abroad. With monthly exhibitions, Clarion hopes to bring a changing selection of new talent to the community presenting the aspiring collector with a variety of artwork to suit individual tastes and budgets.

The exhibition has been curated by Valerie Chang and Deborah Dupre and is part of the East West Arts Trail.

Selected images available in Jpeg
Artists available for interviews
All works are for sale.

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Part of the Mayor of London's

China in London season 2006