



ACROSS THE DIVIDE
穿越分界

2016 NewsLetter

Dear artists and colleagues,

Welcome to the 2016 newsletter from Forum of Across the Divide - Association of Chinese Artists in American Academia (ACAAA)!

This year our forum members have featured their works in prestigious exhibitions in diverse venues, published in prominent journals and magazines, gave well-received conference talks and academic presentations. Their scholarship continues gaining national and international recognitions. The ACAAA Executive Committee would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our members on their incredible achievements.

Meanwhile we are working on the next exhibition *WORDS IN CHARACTERS, BOOKS AS VEHICLE* - 字為體, 書為輿: *A Visual Examination of Chinese Han Characters and Vehicles of Dissemination* at Stanford University's East Asia Library and Oklahoma State University Museum. This exhibition is organized by Professor Shaoqian Zhang of Oklahoma State University, and is in the reviewing stage by the exhibition's juror, Mr. Jeff Kelley, an Oakland, California based art critic and curator. We hope to see many of you at Stanford University when the exhibition opens in 2017.

Editor

Rebecca Ruige Xu



XUN CHI

Design + Digital Media,
Laguna College of Art + Design

In May 2016, Prof. Chi curated "American Contemporary Portrait Photography Exhibition" for the 16th International Photographic Art Festival in Zhengzhou, China.

In August, He held a solo photography exhibition in Contemporary Art Museum of Ningbo, China, curated by Scarlett Lin.

In September, Chi co-curated "Gone Fishing - Corey Arnold's photography exhibition" in Pingyao International Photography Exhibition, China. Chi won the *Excellent Curator Award* with Co-curator Li Di for this exhibition.

In summer 2016, Prof. Chi gave a number of guest lectures in various universities and associations including: Graduate School of Education, Beijing University; China Central Academy of Fine Art; Shengda Art Center, etc. He also did a workshop at Beijing Design School (Xiaoyong Studio) and a 4 day workshop with members from ACAA Prof. Ji Yu and Prof. Zhou Hongtao at Gengdan school, Beijing Industry University.

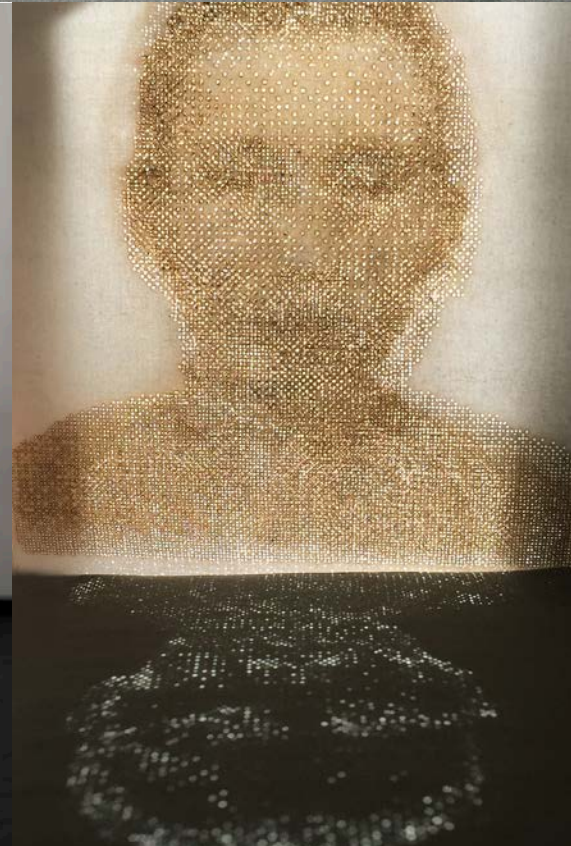
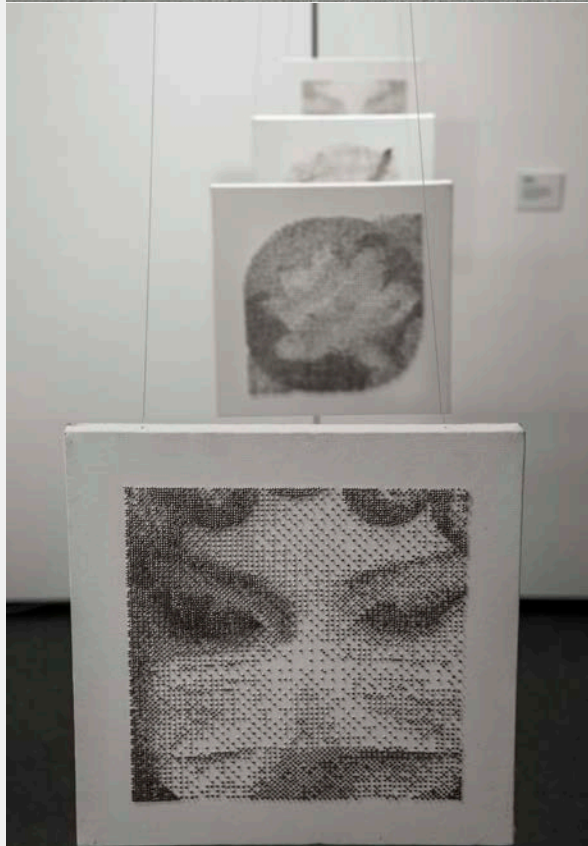
He published an interview and a featured article about antique cameras, both are in *Harper's Bazaar Men China*.



XIA GAO

Art, Art History & Design, Michigan State University

2016 marks a year of transitions both in term of professional development and work topic. I would like to slow down a bit to get a healthier work /life balance with various reasons to look at something that have been overlooked. The efforts on work dissemination are ongoing, I keep participating national/international shows in my field and beyond. In this year, my works have appeared at Tatra Gallery in Poprad, Slovak Republic, Museum Histryczne in Bielsko-BiaLa, Poland, Rómer Flóris Művészeti és Történeti Museum in Gyor Hungary, and Moravian Museum in Uherske Hradiste Czech Republic in a traveling exhibition, and other museums and art centers like Milwaukee Art Museum in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Dennis Museum in Traverse City, Michigan, Maryland Federation of Art in Annapolis, Maryland, Yeiser Art Center in Paducah, Kentucky, and Marshall University Visual Arts Center in Huntington, West Virginia etc. Meanwhile, I am working on preparing a solo exhibition at the University of Northern Colorado Mariani Gallery in Greeley, Colorado next year and exploring ideas for a new body of work.



Yu Ji

School of Art, California State University, Long Beach

During the Spring semester 2016, Yu Ji held a solo exhibition at the Art Gallery of South Lake Tahoe College and served to the Ryman Young Artist Program as a visiting artist in Los Angeles. Traveling to China for his research in late May, Yu Ji worked in his studio and exhibited his drawings at the Chinese Art Institute of Oil Painting in Beijing. In June, Yu Ji participated in the Grad Seminar Program and painting workshop at Art Department of Beijing Normal University. Also, he taught a life drawing workshop at the Li Keran Painting Institute in Beijing. As a team member representing the *Chinese Artists in American Academia*, he joined Professor Chi Xun and Dr. Hongtao Zhou in a visit to the Gengdan College of Beijing University of Technology in late June.

In July, Yu Ji took a trip to the Trinity College at the University of Cambridge in UK, attending an academic lecture given by the Nobel Laureate Peter Diamond in celebration of Sir James Mirrlees' birthday anniversary. During this visit, Yu Ji conducted a museum study at the National Gallery of Art and at the British Museum in London, then at Musee du Louvre, Musee d'Orsay in Paris, and at Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. Returning to the United States in August, Yu Ji began his teaching in life drawing and painting classes and made a museum study at the Getty Center through exhibitions of *London Calling*, *Unruly Nature: The Landscape of Theodore Rousseau*, and *Cave Temples of Dunhuang: Buddhist Art on China's Silk Road*. In addition, Yu Ji has been working with the Executive Committee of the *Chinese Artists in American Academia* on several projects, including the upcoming exhibition of *Words in Character, Books as Vehicle*.



LIN XIA JIANG

Fine Arts Department, School of Arts and Humanities, SUNY Buffalo State

In May 2016, Lin Xia Jiang visited the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO) in Toronto Canada to see the major exhibition of Vilhelm Hammershøi's painting titled "Painting Tranquility". "One of the greatest Danish artists of all time, Vilhelm Hammershøi is internationally renowned for his spare, sunlight-infused interiors. Rich in atmosphere and light, it was for these that he earned the title "de stille stuers maler" (the painter of tranquil rooms). Born in Copenhagen in 1864 and trained at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Hammershøi's enigmatic portraits, unpopulated cityscapes and grey-toned domestic scenes set him at odds with his contemporaries. Described by the National Gallery of Denmark's Director Mikkel Bogh as a "painter of pauses, silences and in-between spaces," Hammershøi's reclusive personality and contemplative works made him a favourite amongst poets and writers." According to the museum. The Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO) (French: Musée des beaux-arts de l'Ontario) is an art museum in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

The Front façade of the museum is designed by Frank Gehry.

Lin Xia Jiang's painting "The back view" has been accepted in "The Nude Figure: a juried this international fine art exhibition at the Wayne Art Center, near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



LAMPO LEONG

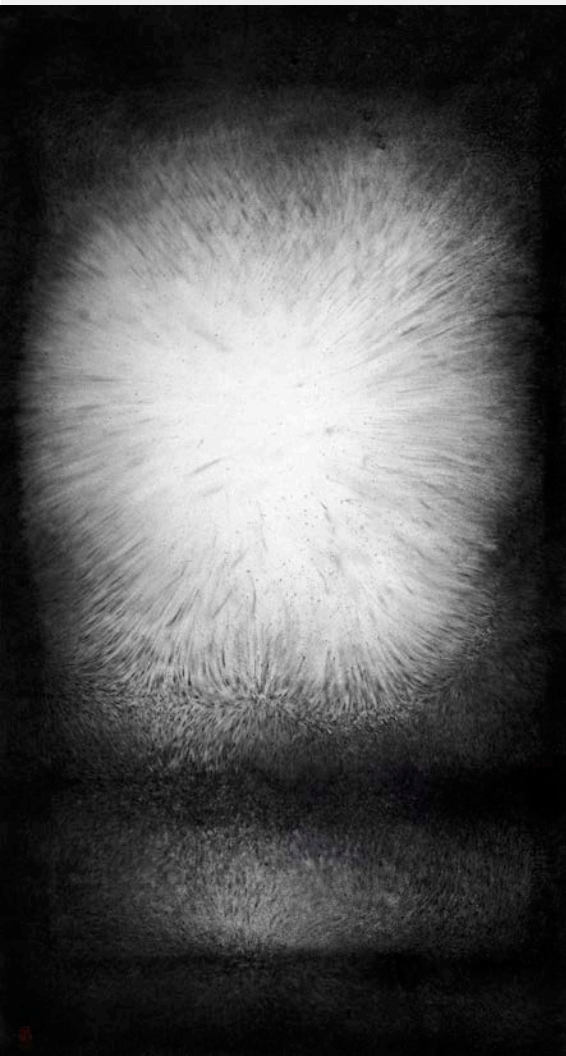
Art Department,
University of Missouri-Columbia

Professor Lampo Leong's paintings and calligraphy were featured in the following auctions in 2016: **Christie's Chinese Contemporary Ink** auction in Hong Kong on May 29, 2016 alongside the works of Daqian Chang, Wenda Gu, Dongling Wang, etc.; **Modern and Contemporary Art: Ravenel Spring Auction 2016 Hong Kong** alongside the works of Antoni Tapes, Marc Chagall, etc.; **Literati: Quiet Affection, Ravenel Spring Auction 2016 Hong Kong** alongside the works of Andy Warhol, Pablo Picasso, etc.; and Poly Auction's **Inkprovis: Modern and Contemporary Ink Art** in Hong Kong alongside the works of Fengmian Lin, Inoue Yuichi, etc..

In 2016, Leong's solo exhibition, **Inkscape**, was featured at the **Central Academy of Fine Arts Art Museum** in Beijing and **Imago Gallery and Cultural Center** in Columbia. His works were also selected for the **Singapore Contemporary Art Show** at the Suntec Convention and Exhibition Centre in Singapore, **Asia Contemporary Art Show** in Hong Kong, and **Encountering Shichahai: 2016 Beijing Design Week** Shichahai event series in Beijing.

Professor Leong has also been invited for lectures in eighteen universities, including: **Sichuan University, Wuhan University, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Huazhong Agricultural University, Wuhan University of Technology, Hubei Institute of Fine Arts, Guangdong University of Technology, South China Agriculture University, and Shanghai Academy of Art at the Shanghai University**. He has also curated an exhibition entitled **East-West Dialogues III: Artworks by Chinese Visiting Scholars and Their Hosting Art Professors** at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

A 48-page, 10"x10", monograph of Leong's ink painting entitled **Lampo Leong: Inkscape** is published in Taipei by Artists in Taiwan (ISBN: 978-986-84287-7-5).



LIQIN TAN

Department of Fine Arts, Rutgers University-Camden

As an art researcher, professor Tan has focused his book writing on "Singularity Art—How Future Technology Singularity Will Impact Art," as well as major paper publications in magazines and newspapers since 2013. He established the "Singularity Art" curriculum in digital art major at Rutgers University which may be the first of its kind in USA. Besides, Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts launched a unique art institute named "Singularity Art & Design Research Center" which was supported through Tan's experiences inclusively, and he also gave frequent "Singularity Art" lectures at international conferences and universities last few years. Under his supervision, there were four MSc students whose major on Singularity Art have been graduated from Beijing University.

In terms of his artwork, Tan continues his creation on animation installation with digital prints which have been exhibited nationally and internationally.



NAN LIU

Department of Visual Arts, Florida A&M University

My solo art exhibition titled "Nan Liu's Paintings- Cross-cultural Perspective" was opened at LeMoyné Center for the Visual Arts, Tallahassee, Florida on July 8th. This show includes about 60 paintings I created during the past ten years. It includes not only traditional Chinese ink painting, but also oil paintings. The subject matters include figure painting, still life and landscape painting. (Picture 1-2) Meanwhile, an interview, "Nan Liu: An Artist's Cross-Cultural Journey", conducted by John Seed was published on The Huffington Post on July 11, 2016.

One of my Chinese brush painting titled "Glancing", won the Best in Show award at Sumi-e Society of America's 53rd Annual Juried Exhibition September, 2016.

From September 24th-October 4th, I was invited by Oriental Arts Department, Nan Kai University, Tianjin, China as a guest artist and speaker. I did two presentations to the Chinese art students and faculty members. One is on the subject of Higher Art Education in the United States and the other is Chinese Artists in American Academia -case studies.



ZHE REN

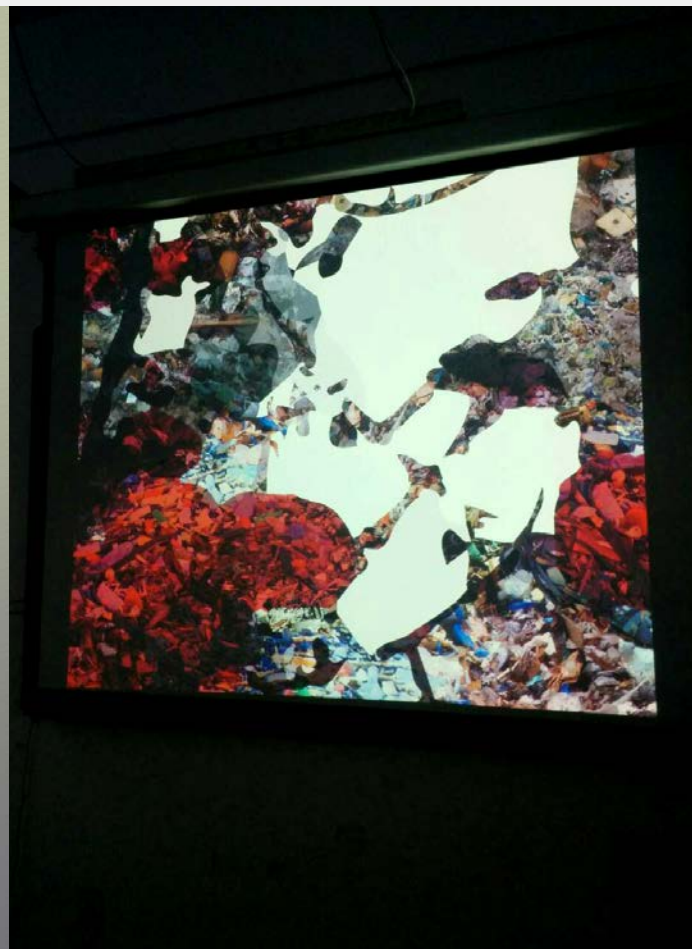
Digital Art and Design, Dakota State University

In June 2016, Zhe Ren was invited to visit drawing class in Visual communication major at Tianjin Foreign Studies University.

In July, Zhe Ren Visited and gave a speak in multimedia class at Tianjin Urban University.

Late July, Zhe Ren was invited to show his series work The Rabbit's Hole at Tianjin Modern Vocational Technology College.

September, the collaborate work "Kiss by A Rose" showed at Group Exhibition - Pattern Play at Expose Art House, AL.



MENG TANG

Department of Art, University of Minnesota

Meng Tang is currently Vice President of the Minnesota Chapter of Women's Caucus for Art and a member of the Central Arts and Culture Committee of the China Association for Promoting Democracy (CAPD), the third largest political party in China. In 2016 Meng Tang teaches two undergraduate courses at the University of Minnesota: [Art and Politics: From Marcel Duchamp to Ai Weiwei](#) and [Documentary Filmmaking: From Moving Image to New Media](#), both Honors Seminars. Meng Tang is also invited by the Dean of Florida School of the Arts as a visiting professor to giving a series of lectures and workshops in November.

In 2016, Meng Tang curated [Innovating Tradition: Contemporary Interpretations of Chinese Core Values](#), an art exhibition at the Katherine E. Nash Gallery, Regis Center for Art in Minneapolis, US; and co-curated [Harmony, an international contemporary art exhibition](#) at Tianjin Museum in Tianjin P.R. China. She is one of the featured artists of [Women and Money Project](#) art exhibition in Minneapolis, which is organized and sponsored by Women's Caucus for Art. One of her video installations "Money of War" is the subject matter of a panel discussion joined by several leading anti-war activists and feminists around the world.



The Women and Money Project

September 6 – December 10, 2016

Hend Al Mansour • Lynnette Black • Carolina Borge • Rachel Breen • Barbara Bridges • Angela Davis
Liz Dodson • Kate Durbin • Lucy Rose Fischer • Camille Gage • Beth Grossman • Andrea Jenkins
Diane Katsikias • Tiffany Ken • Virginia Maksymowicz • Laurel O'Gorman • Priscilla Otari
Mz Direct collaborative (Jeannie Philipp/Judith Huacuja/Susan Bymes/Tess Cortesi) • Shira Richter
Ellen Schillace • Karen Searle • Marcia Soderman/Meng Tang • Torja Torgerson • Suzanne Vigil
Krista Kelley Walsh • Jill Waterhouse • Jennifer Weigel • Karen Wilcox

The Women and Money Project is organized by Ellen Schillace and is sponsored by the Minnesota Chapter of Women's Caucus for Art. The exhibition featured artists from the United States and abroad. It is a collaborative effort of the University of Minnesota, the University of Wisconsin, and the University of Michigan. The exhibition is a part of the Women's Caucus for Art's 20th Anniversary celebration. The exhibition is a part of the Women's Caucus for Art's 20th Anniversary celebration. The exhibition is a part of the Women's Caucus for Art's 20th Anniversary celebration.

chinainsight info arts & c

Contemporary Chinese art exhibition at the University of Minnesota

XiangHong Liu, Wonderful Clouds 6

WuMian Zhao, Genesis

to effective communications and mutual appreciation between the East and the West. Featured artists are Gubo Shen (申古博), China Academy of Fine Arts; XiangHong Liu (刘向红), Taiyuan Normal University; Liyu Zhang (张利语), Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts; Guoxi Sun (孙国鑫), Tianjin University; WuMian Zhao (赵无眠) and Jiangang Han (韩建刚). This exhibition is co-curated by Meng Tang and Howard Oransky.

"Innovating Tradition: Contemporary Interpretations of Chinese Core Values" art exhibition will be at Katherine E. Nash Gallery, from June 1-24. There is an accompanying program on June 2, 6-7 p.m., InFlux Space with Liu Yang, followed by a reception from 7-9 p.m. in the Regis East Lobby. The Katherine E. Nash Gallery Regis Center for Art (East) is located on the University of Minnesota campus, 405 21st Avenue South, Minneapolis.

This art exhibition features representative artists from China who interpret traditional Chinese values in the most innovative ways. Three spiritual systems: Buddhist, Confucian and Taoist beliefs and values are deeply embedded in Chinese art.

In the past one and-a-half centuries, Chinese artists have been exploring innovative and creative ways to reinterpret Chinese tradition while interacting with the outside world. The featured artists in this

Accessibility, cost, and parking
Parking is available nearby on the street, at the 19th and 21st Avenue South ramps, and at the 5th Street South lot, hourly or event rates apply. These parking locations

CHEN WANG

Department of Visual Arts, California State University, Fullerton

This year, I worked as the chief editor and graphic designer for International Photographers Association of Los Angeles (IPALA) to produce its' Tenth anniversary edition book. This book contains of 64 pages that showcases a wide range of topics and aesthetic approaches from IPALA members, advisors and consultants. Selected photographers include Pulitzer prize winner Nick Ut, Associated Press reporter Gia Trung, LA Times photographer Raul Roa, well-known Chinese photographer 王文渊 and 贺延光 etc.

During this summer, I have been working on a company rebranding and Package Line redesign project for Kitchen & Beyond, an international food package distribution company located in California. This project involves redesigning the company identity and it's 7 different products packages.

I have been collaborating with world-class jazz pianist, composer and arranger Bill Cunliffe to design music CDs for his bands. Bill Cunliffe's has been honored with a Grammy Award, a DownBeat Award, multiple Grammy nominations, and several Emmy nominations. This on-going project provides me a good opportunity to seek meaning and emotion from both visual language and music.



IPALA: The 10th Anniversary Edition
International Photographers Association of Los Angeles



REBECCA RUIGE XU

Department of Transmedia, Syracuse University

Rebecca Ruige Xu exhibited her work *When leaving becomes arriving* in this year's ISEA 2016 Juried Exhibition as part of the 22nd International Symposium on Electronic Art in Hong Kong in May, and will be showing *Agitato* in SIGGRAPH ASIA Art Gallery in Macau in December. Both events are considered to be the world's most prominent international arts and technology events, bringing together scholarly, artistic, and scientific domains in an interdisciplinary discussion and showcase of creative productions applying new technologies in art, interactivity, and electronic and digital media.

This year Xu's work also appeared in College Art Association (CAA) Conference Transformers video program in Washington, DC; International Digital Media Arts Association Conference iDEAS Exhibition in Winona, MN (Jury: Christiane Paul and Dene Grigar); Doctorclip-Roma Poetry Film Festival 2016 in Rome, Italy; Dobra - International Festival of Experimental Cinema in Museum of Modern Art in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Latin American & Chinese Women Video Art at Hao Space in Beijing, China; Digital Aesthetics Dome Screening at Colgate University in Hamilton, NY; Digital Nature: Techno-Botanical Art in the Garden at LA County Arboretum in Los Angeles, CA.

Xu co-authored a chapter titled *Chinese Students' Experiences in American MFA Programs in Digital Arts: How to be Prepared and What to Expect* in the recently published book *Design Education for Fostering Creativity and Innovation in China* by IGI Global. In addition, she served as a panelist on New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) Individual Artists Panel this summer.

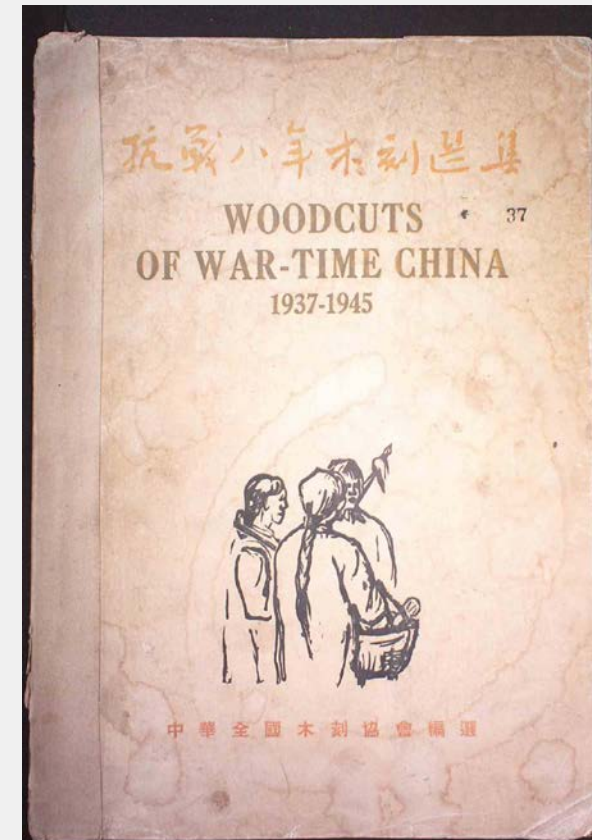


SHAOQIAN ZHANG

Art, Graphic Design and Art History, Oklahoma State University



From Jan to Oct 2016, Prof. Zhang has published three articles: "Visualizing the Modern Chinese Party-State: from Political Education to Propaganda Agitation in the Early Republican Period," in *Twentieth Century China* (Jan 2016), "Dark and Bright Art: Woodcuts of War Time China," in *Art in Print* (Special Issue on Art and Traumatic History) (forthcoming, Jan 2017), and "Political Art and Posters." In *Oxford Bibliographies in Chinese Studies*, Oxford University Press (forthcoming). She also has one article "Reshaping the New Woman: the Dilemma of *Shen* in Modern China," under review with *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy*. Prof. Zhang curated "Redefining the Artistic Canon: Selected Works from 10 Contemporary Artists " at the Jing Shi Gallery of Beijing Normal University. As part of preparation work for the exhibition "WORDS IN CHARACTERS WITH BOOKS AS VEHICLES," she applied and won the Oklahoma Humanities Council's Major Grant for Exhibits in April 2016.



XIAOHONG ZHANG

Art and Design, University of Wisconsin - Whitewater

Xiaohong Zhang was selected in the 2016 Wisconsin Triennial Exhibition at Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, Wisconsin.

The 2016 Wisconsin Triennial, the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art's exploration of contemporary art statewide, will feature works by 34 individual artists and three pairs of artists working in collaboration. Wisconsin Triennial is an important showcase of contemporary Wisconsin visual art. Work from more than 600 artists was reviewed for this exhibit. MMoCA's curatorial staff selected new works of art by established and emerging artists through a rigorous review process, organizing an exhibition that will provide audiences with a visually compelling and thought-provoking experience.

More information is available at:

<http://www.mmoca.org/about-us/press-room/press-releases/2016/07/13>

<http://www.mmoca.org/exhibitions/exhibits/wisconsin-triennial-2016/artists>

March 2016, Xiaohong Zhang was invited to "Redefining The Artistic Canon" Exhibition in Jingshi Gallery at Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China. The exhibition selected artworks from 10 contemporary artists, engaged in negotiations between ideas of "contemporariness" and the traditional artistic canon.



Wisconsin Triennial 2016

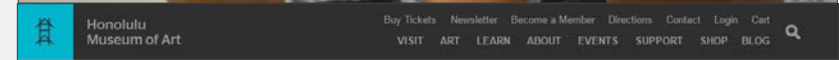
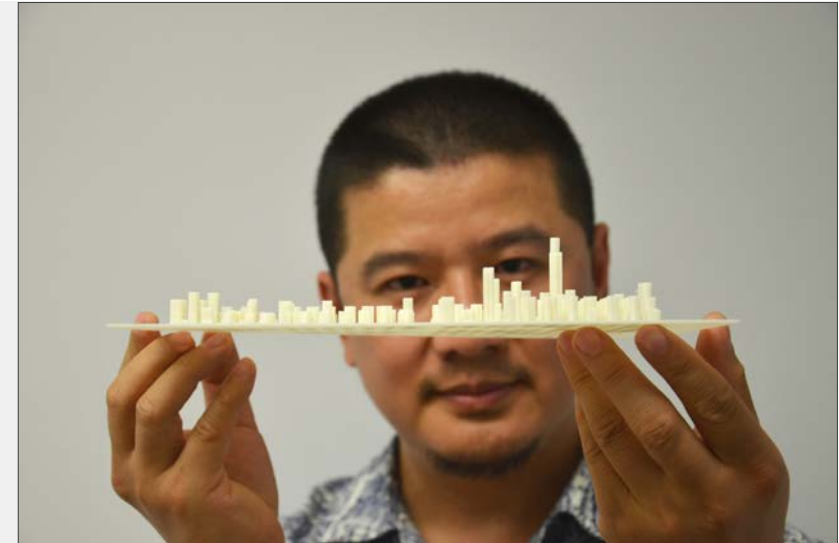
September 24, 2016 to January 8, 2017



HONGTAO ZHOU

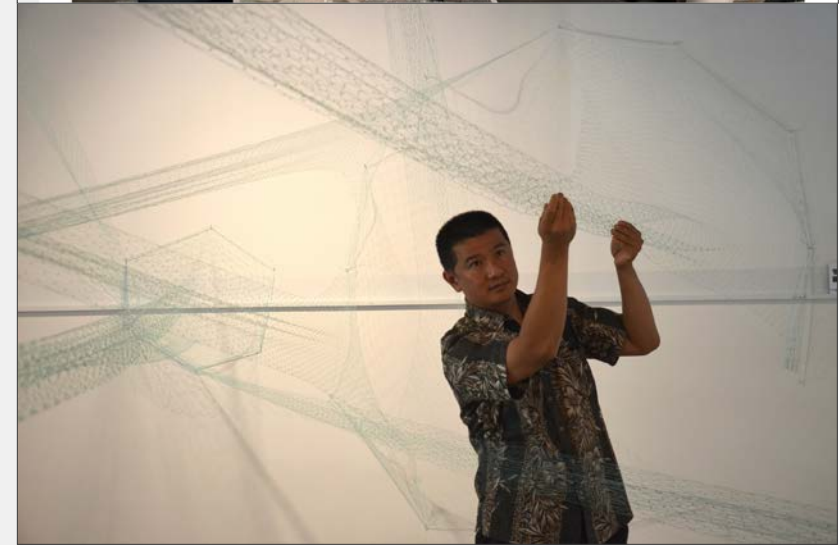
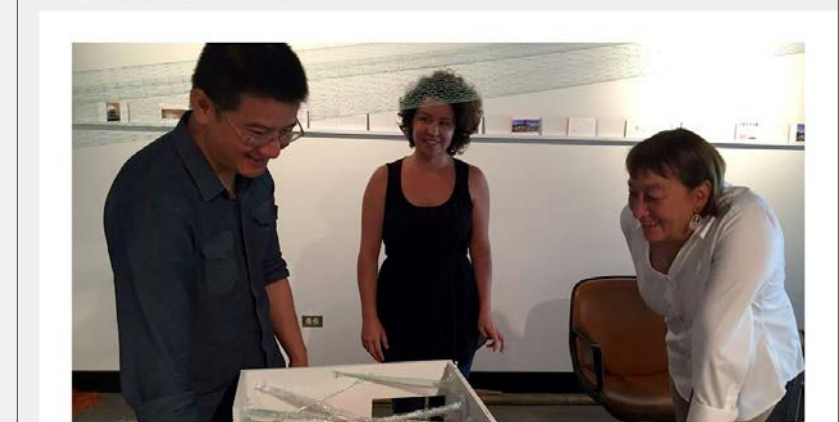
School of Architecture, University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hongtao Zhou is to exhibit at Centre Pompidou in Paris, March, 2017. "Printing the World" is the first launch event of a new annually platform in association with IRCAM, entitled "Mutations-Creations/Innovation-Creations", created for the 40th anniversary of the Centre Pompidou. Artist Hongtao Zhou is selected as top 30 international key designers, architects, artists and scientists to showcase his 3D printed Textscape along with other innovative art work in music, art, design and architecture, related to digital technology. The 2017 Artists of Hawai'i are chosen: Kaili Chun and Hongtao Zhou (O'ahu), Kasey Lindley (O'ahu), and Kaori Ukaji (Hawai'i Island). The prestigious Artists of Hawai'i exhibition has showcased the talents of island artists since 1950. After all these years, the exhibition's curatorial committee assessed its format to see whether it served the arts community in the best way possible. Hongtao Zhou is the only chosen artist from a comprehensive university, given the largest space for an architectural installation. Hongtao conducted also his solo exhibition at Beijing Design Week 2016 in Beijing showcasing his 3D printing work.



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Artists of Hawai'i 2017



JIAYUN ZHUANG

Department of Dramatic Art, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Text. Dramaturge. **RED**, a documentary performance on "The Red Detachment of Women"

-- i-DANCE Festival, Kwai Tsing Theatre, Hong Kong (forthcoming)

-- Beijing - Goethe-Institut China at Factory 798

-- Bok Festival, Macao Cultural Centre

-- GetLost Festival (previously Ervaar Daar Hier Theater)

Playwright, Dramaturge. **Dreamers, An Immersive Theatre**

Shanghai Interactive Festival

Now Factory, Opening (forthcoming)

Playwright, Dramaturge. **One Fine Day, A Full-Length Play** (Revival)

-- ReActor, Shanghai Power Station of Art

Production Consultant. **A Man Who Flies Up to the Sky**

-- Beijing Inside Out Theatre

-- VIE festival 2016, Teatro delle Moline

Production Consultant. **The Tractor, a Dance-Theatre Piece**

The Zagreb Youth Theater (Zagrebačko kazalište mladih)

Rehearsals and Productions are forthcoming in 2017.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS

Invited Speaker. Talks associated with the production of **RED**

Talk on **RED**, the Chinese University of Hong Kong (forthcoming)

Preshow Talk on **RED**, Kwai Tsing Theatre, Hong Kong

Curator. Talks associated with the production of **RED**

Beijing - Goethe-Institut China at Factory 798;

"Revolutionary Model Theatre and a Cultural Phenomenon during the Cultural Revolution,"

"The Body Politics of the Revolutionary Model Theatre"

Invited Jury Committed Member, Sanxingdui Theatre Festival

Invited Speaker, Sanxingdui Theatre Festival

"Why We Don't Call it Spoken Drama Anymore?"

"Four Case Studies on the Integration of Public Space and Theatre"

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Author, "Cao Fei, Agent of the Nontranscendental Performative",

The PARKETT books and editions on contemporary art (forthcoming)

Author, "Remaking the Chinese New Workers: Pi Village and its Home of Migrant Workers."

In *Archive of China's World Factory*, Guangxi Normal University Press (book chapter, forthcoming)



YINGXUE ZUO

Professor/Gallery Director, Fine & Performing Art Department
St. Louis Community College at Forest Park

This summer was an exciting one; besides teaching an experimental art creation class in the College of Visual Art Communication at the Changchun Science and Technology Institute, I spent a month traveling to 10 different Northern Europe cities to experience various histories, cultures, social life, and arts of the region. As a first-time user of the Adobe Sketch app, it was great using an iPad Pro to create digital sketches during my travels. I have found that the iPad is an excellent electronic tool for artists to create works, especially for sketching and drawing. It was also very convenient to take notes, photos, and create quick sketches with different functions in color.

Electronic drawing is quite different from drawing on paper; the artist uses a hard point plastic pencil to make a drawing on a slick glass screen, making it impossible to make regular textures, strokes and lines as if manipulating a pencil or brush. Instead, the new technology requires the artist to establish new concepts in regards to "correct" and "accurate" visual description. Moreover, it creates a shift in artistic mentality that joyfully embraces artistic outcomes that are accompanied by unintentional crooked lines, marks and shapes, etc.

After the trip, I was surprised to discover that I had made more than 80 beautiful sketches from this trip. Since August, the *St. Louis Chinese American News*, one of the major local Chinese newspapers, has been publishing a travel series based on my photos and sketches on a weekly basis. As a result, it has drawn many affirmative reactions from local Chinese readers in the greater St. Louis area.



**Forum of Across the Divide
Association of Chinese Artists in American Academia**

2016 Newsletter

Executive Commtee

Xiaohong Zhang

Rebecca Ruige Xu

Yu Ji

Yingxue Zuo

Shaoqian Zhang

Hongtao Zhou

Xun Chi