NEWS letter 2015 summer activities

Across the Divide



Dear Friends and Colleagues:

It is a great pleasure to report on another banner year for Across the Divide – Association of Chinese Artists in American Academia (ACAAA). In June 2015 an international conference - A Dialogue and Critical Analyses of the State of Art Education in a Globalized Culture - was held at Beijing Normal University in Beijing, China. The conference was co-sponsored by ACAAA, Beijing Normal University's College of Art and Mass Communication, and the Chinese Artists Association's Committee on Art Education. The goal for the Conference was to give ACAAA members the opportunity to share their experiences teaching in American universities with their Chinese counterparts, to reconnect with their cultural roots, and to create a cross-cultural dialogue about the state of, as well as new developments in, current art education at Chinese and American colleges. The Conference elicited positive responses from the attendees including members from professional institutes of art education in China.

Meanwhile, our forum members continue entering prestigious exhibitions, being featured in journals and magazines, giving academic presentations, publishing innovative scholarship, and contributing to the field nationally and internationally. In this newsletter, you will see our artists' summer 2015 academic activities. Please also visit our webpage for a detailed report on ACAAA's conference with Beijing Normal University.

Editor Shaoqian Zhang

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2015 International Conference

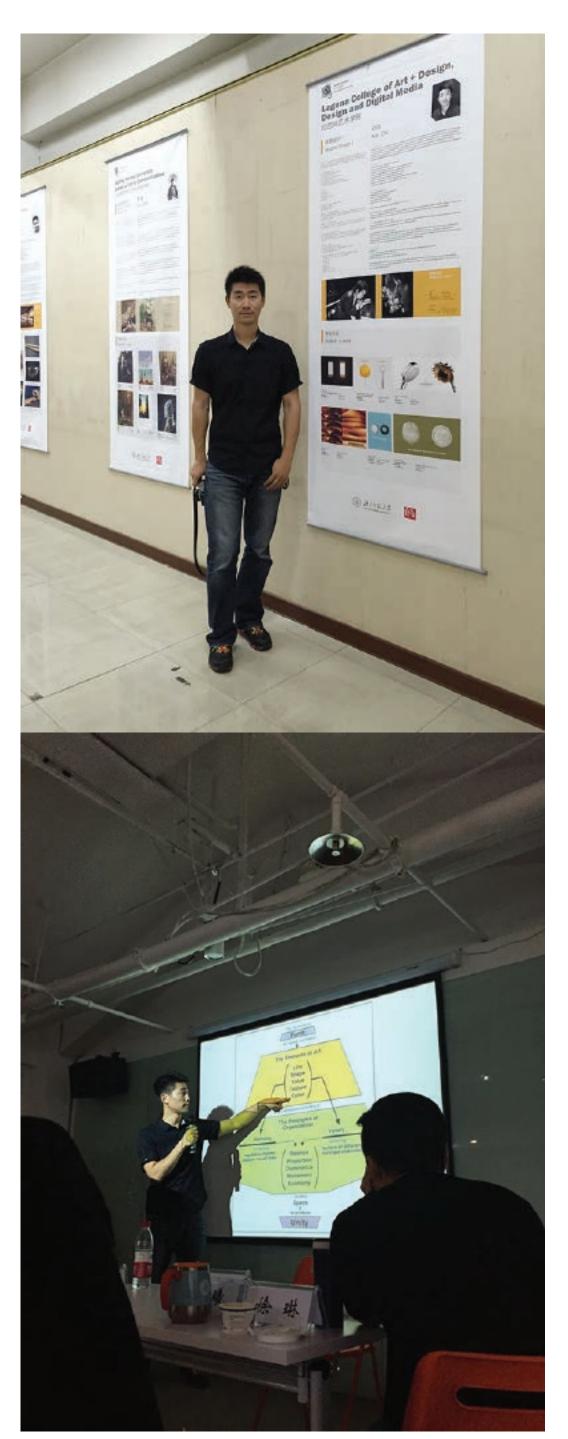
A Dialogue and Critical Analyses of the State of Art Education in a Globalized Culture

> June 6 - 7, 2015 Beijing, China

Sponsors Association of Chinese Artists in American Academia Beijing Normal University



On June 6th and 7th, 2015, an international conference - A Dialogue and Critical Analyses of the State of Art Education in a Globalized Culture - was held at Beijing Normal University (BNU) in Beijing, China. The conference was co-sponsored by the Association of Chinese Artists in American Academia (ACAAA), Beijing Normal University's College of Art and Mass Communication, and the Chinese Artists Association's Committee on Art Education. The conference marks a new venture in the activities of Across the Divide. The Across the Divide forum, established by, and in service to, Chinese artists who teach and research in American universities, reinforced its mission and goal of advocating participating artists' involvement in their academic and creative research. The impetus for the Conference was to give ACAAA members the opportunity to share their experiences teaching in American universities with their Chinese counterparts, to reconnect with their cultural roots, and to create a cross-cultural dialogue about the state of, as well as new developments in, current art education at Chinese and American colleges.



Chi Xun

In summer 2015, Professor Xun Chi gave a number of guest lectures, at Graduate School of Education, Beijing University, China Central Academy of Fine Art, Capital Normal University, Beijing Industry University, and Hebei Technology University. He also taught a workshop at Digital Healthcare Incubators for entrepreneurs in public healthcare field regarding aesthetics and UI design.

Prof. Chi's essay "Visual Juxtaposition Design" was published in Across the Divide, a Collection of Essays on Art Education.Meanwhile, his art works and teaching output were showcased in the 2015 Across the Divide - International Art and DesignHigher Education Exchange Exhibition at Beijing Normal University and Hebei Technology University.

Chi also participated in the 2015 Across the Divide conference and gave keynote presentations at Beijing Normal University and Western Returned Scholars Association, sharing his across cultural experiences with attendees.



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Prof. Xia Gao would like to share with her colleagues her exhibition/summer news: Her solo exhibition " Dwell" will be on display at Lansing Art Gallery October 6-November 11, 2015, with an artist talk at 6:30pm and opening reception 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m, on October 9th. http://lansingartgallery.org/dwell/ The solo exhibition "Dwell" will feature the works from her ongoing project "Changing Urban Landscape", which evolves to addresses issues and happenings of changing urban spaces and their dwellers through art installations. "Dwell" addresses people's living condition under air pollution threat, which has drawn serious national cries particularly from urban dwellers in China's more-developed zones. "Dwell" presents these concerns; it features onsite-build needle installation to materialize invisible harms in the air and express people's feeling and stance.

"Dwell" highlights artwork's social focus and engagement to amplify societal consciousness toward important urban issues that interweave social, political, economical, cultural and environmental concerns. It was partially developed during her artist residencies Casa Masaccio Artist-in-Residence in Italy and Virginia Center for the Creative Arts in 2015 summer.

During past summer, Prof. Xia Gao been engaged in various opportunities both for research and teaching. She participated in the conference "A Dialogue and Critical Analyses of the State of Art Education in a Globalized Culture "in Beijing. And then, she traveled to Como, Italy to see the wonderful exhibition "Everyone to the Table", where she also participated as an invited artist. http://www.miniartextil.it/contents/files/CS%20INVITO%20A%20TAVOLA%20aprile%202015-en_2.pdf After that, she spent the rest of summer attending two consecutive, month-long, intensive but rewarding artist residencies at Casa Masaccio Art Museum artist-residency program in San Giovanni Valdarno, Italy and VCCA in Amherst, VA and created site-specific installations.

Meanwhile, I am grateful to have my works being included in current group exhibitions at museums: "A Dyeing Art-Contemporary Textiles and Fiber Arts Exhibition" -nine-person show at Spartanburg Art Museum, Spartanburg, SC, 9/29, 2015-1/14, 2016; "Textile Art of Today" at Slovak National Museum & Historical Museum in Slovak Republic, Poland, Hungary, and Czech Republic (international juried traveling 2015- 2017); "Extreme Fibers: Textile Icons and the New Edge", at Muskegon Museum of Art,







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HAN DAI-YU SOLO EXHIBITION OF OIL PAINTINGS A PART OF "ENTER THE DRAGON' SERIES EXHIBITIONS



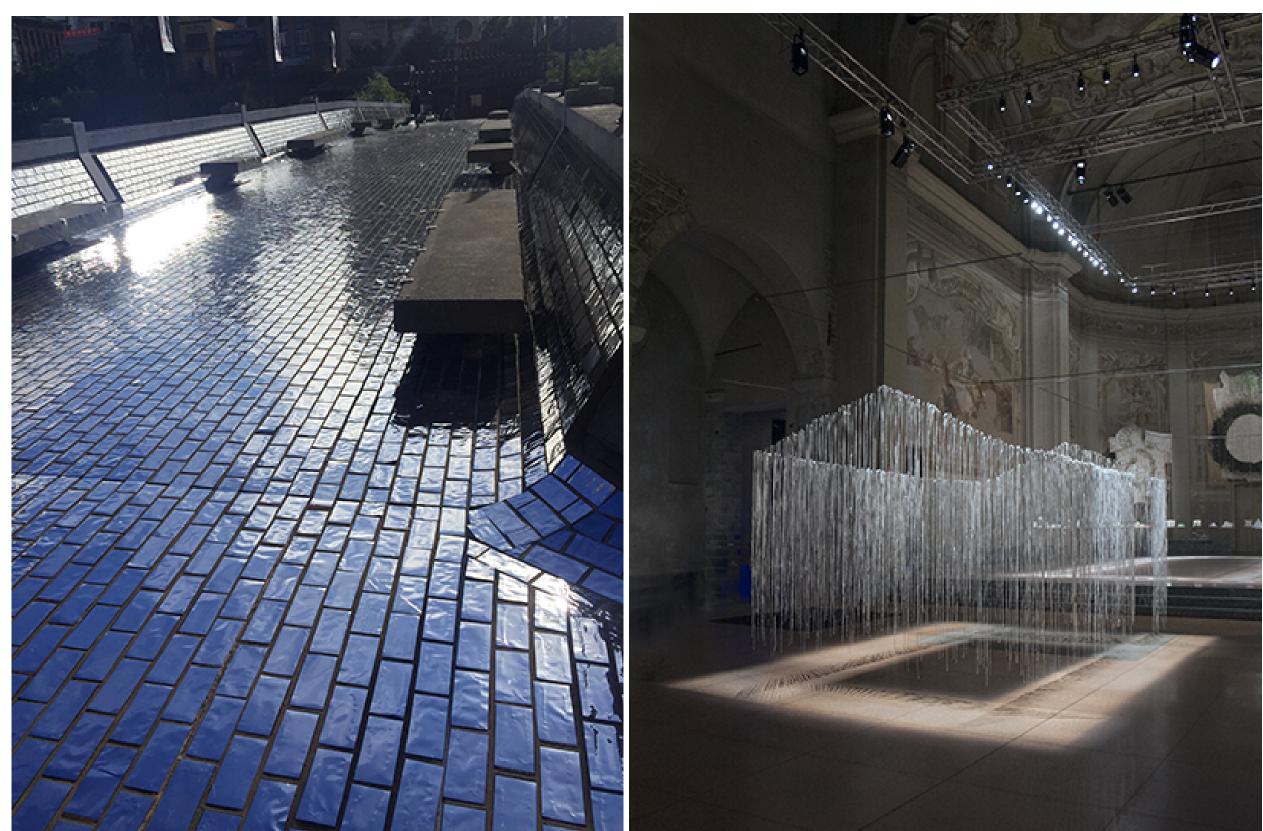
Dai-yu Han

Prof. Dai-yu Han's essay was published in Across the Divide, a Collection of Essays on Art Education. In Mid June, he also participated in the International Conference of Across the Divide held at Beijing Normal University in mid-June. His exhibition, entitled "Han Dai-yu: Solo Exhibition of Oil Paintings," which is a part of "Enter the Dragon" Series Exhibitions, will be held from Dec 1 to Dec 31, 2015 at the Charlotte Museum of History in Charlotte, North Carolina. Copyright © 2015 Across the Divide



Beili Liu

From May 9 –June 21, 2015, Liu Beili's artwork participated in a contemporary international fiber art exhibition, INVITO A TAVOLA / Everyone to the Table. Prof. Liu was also featured in the Summer Issue of Austin Way Magazine, in an essay titled "Cover and Artist Profile: Beili Liu on Her Hauntingly Beautiful 'Thirst' Project & What's Next." The essay was written by Karen Valby and released on Aug 6, 2015. From Aug 3- 31st, 2015, Prof. Liu's work Skybridge, was featured at the Postsmouth Bridge, San Francisco. Sky Bridge is the finale for the Central Subway Temporary Art Project. The multi-year project, "Central Subway, Journey to Chinatown" is one of the first initiatives to bring public art to Chinatown. The installation transforms the pedestrian bridge over Kearny Street, linking the Chinese Culture Center to Portsmouth Square, a landmark in Chinatown.





Yu Ji

Yu Ji visited the Chinese University of Hong Kong after attending the 2015 International Conference of Across the Divide held at Beijing Normal University in mid-June. Prior to his visit in Hong Kong, he also presented a lecture at Beijing Institute of Fashion and Design. Immediately following his return to the States, he joined several American figurative artists in teaching for the California State University Summer Arts Program at Monterey Bay. In July, Yu Ji was invited to be a juror in service for the Art Competition of the Orange County Fair by the Country Fair Organizing Committee. In addition to his position of being a faculty host to three exchange students from Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts and a visiting scholar from Beijing Normal University, he has concentrated on his studio work in preparation for two exhibitions scheduled in September in California.

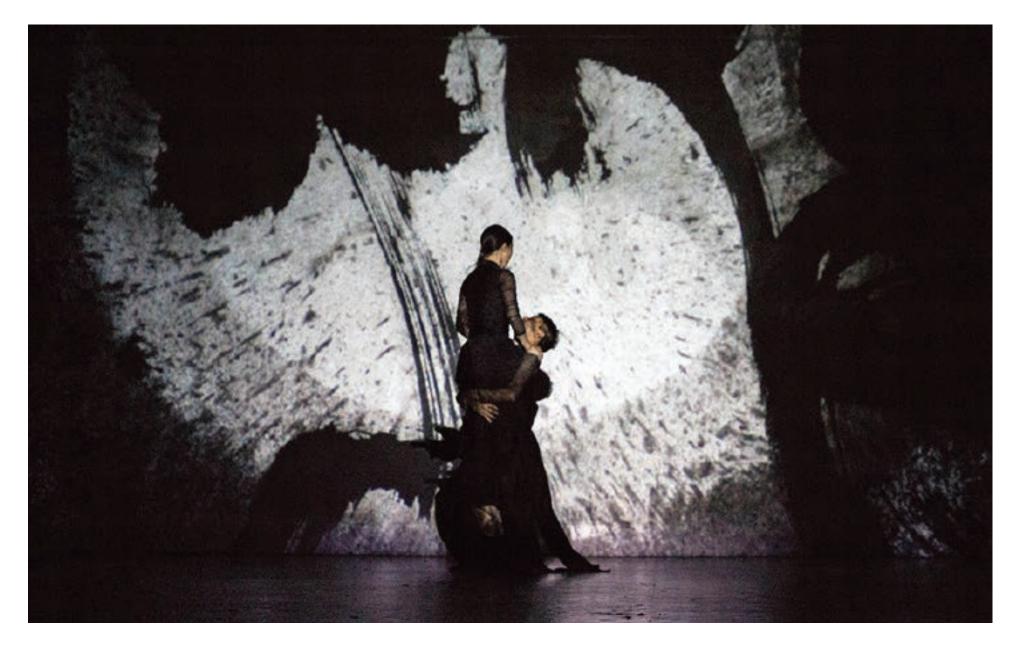


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Lampo Leong

Professor Lampo Leong has a very productive year in research, and his work were included in more than a dozen exhibitions nationally and internationally, including Art Taipei 2015 in Taiwan, The 2nd Overseas Chinese Photography Exhibition in Overseas Chinese History Museum in Beijing, Asia Contemporary Art Show in Hong Kong, Musicacoustica Beijing 2015 at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, 52nd Annual Juried Exhibition by the Sumi-e Society of America, Across The Divide: Thoughts and Dialogues on International Art Education at the Beijing Normal University Art Museum, Literati Sublimation: Oriental Arts for the Chinese Scholars at the Ravenel Spring Auction in Hong Kong, Macao International Film and Video Festival 2015 in Macao Cultural Centre, Paper in Particular National Exhibition in Columbia College in Missouri, Abstract Paintings from Macao Art Museum Collection at the Museu de Arte de Macau, Chanted Poetry: A Multimedia Performance at the Zhuhai Arts College in China, and West Says East Says: Chinese Contemporary Art Research Exhibition at the United Art Museum in Wuhan, China, in which 87 artists from China, Taiwan, France, Germany, Italy and the USA were featured (curated by Hong Lu and Claus Mewes from Germany). Professor Leong is also completing a book of theoretical research entitled Curve: A Prototype in Dynamic Forces in Visual Art, which will be published early next year and he will be a visiting artist in Southern Illinois University Carbondale in 2015.



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Nan Liu

One of Prof. Nan Liu's recent oil p in Gadsden", Gadsden Arts Center October 9-December 19, 2015. Th students' life at Florida A&M Unive One of Prof. Liu's ink paintings tith attachments)were selected in 201 Juried Exhibition, Mobile Arts Cou from October 8 to Oct 30, 2015. Prof. Nan Liu will also be a Demon at The Representational Art Confe November 1, 2015. He was the G Calligraphy and Painting" at Confe

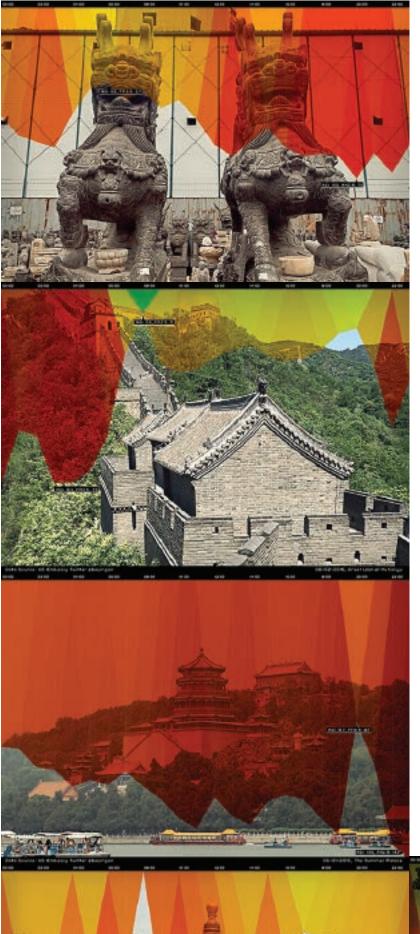


One of Prof. Nan Liu's recent oil paintings titled "Friday" was accepted in the "27th Art in Gadsden", Gadsden Arts Center, Quincy, Florida. The exhibition will be held on October 9-December 19, 2015. This painting was created this year based on the students' life at Florida A&M University. Size 64x64", Oil on Canvas.

One of Prof. Liu's ink paintings titled "Communication" and a calligraphy piece (view attachments)were selected in 2015 Sumi-e Society of America 52nd Annual National Juried Exhibition, Mobile Arts Council, Mobile, Alabama. The exhibition will be held from October 8 to Oct 30, 2015.

Prof. Nan Liu will also be a Demonstration Artist, for "Traditional Chinese Ink Painting", at The Representational Art Conference (TRAC) in Ventura of California, on November 1, 2015. He was the Guest Artist conduct workshops "Traditional Chinese Calligraphy and Painting" at Confucius Institute, Savannah State University, Georgia,

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Yvette Shen

Prof. Yvette Shen's essay "Beyond Tools and Technology" was published in Across the Divide, a Collection of Essays on Art Education. Meanwhile, her art works and teaching output were showcased in the 2015 Across the Divide - International Art and Design Higher Education Exchange Exhibition at Beijing Normal University and Hebei Technology University. Prof. Shen also participated in the 2015 Across the Divide conference and gave keynote presentation titled "Ideas and Strategies to Teach Conceptual Thinking" at Beijing Normal University. On June 7 2015, Professor Shen also gave a guest lecture at China Central Academy of Fine Art. In July, she also taught a workshop at Healthcare Innovation Mall, titled "Visual Design and Mobile App."

Over the past summer, Prof. Shen was working on a project of digital photography and data visualization, "Seven Days in Beijing." This project documents the weeklong trip she took in Beijing during summer 2015. Each photo shows a landmark in the city, along with the hourly changes of the air quality condition of the day. The air quality is visualized by the hourly AQI (Air Quality Index) and PM2.5 data over the twenty-four hours of the day. The hourly AQI and PM2.5 data were retrieved from the U.S. Embassy's twitter account @beijingair. The hourly AQI and PM2.5 are visualized using graphs with different length, size, and color. The length is proportional to the value of the daily AQI. The size is proportional to the circulation amount of the PM2.5 (µg/m3). And the color scale is based on the color code-chart developed by the EPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency). It shows the level of health risk – the more green the healthier and the more red the unhealthier. The highest and lowest points of AQI and PM2.5 are marked in each photo.





Xuhong Shang

Prof. Xuhong Shang delivered a lecture titled "Walking Between the Meaning and Reality - The Language of Contemporary Art" at the Famous Pulpit of the Shanghai Zhang Ning Culture Art Center on July 5th in Shanghai, China. This was an Invitational Lecture Forum organized by Shanghai Government, Shanghai Social Science Society Association, Zhang Ning Municipal Culture Bureau, and hosted by Shanghai Zhang Ning Culture Art Center. In July, Prof. Shang also presented a solo exhibition Sleep Walker of paintings, mixed media projects, digital printed works and video installation at the Shanghai Hongqiao Contemporary Art Museum. The exhibition Sleep Walker, constitutes a shift in Shang's reflections on uncertainty, one that carries with it implications of more specific contexts. Though the hints of a change in inspiration are deliberately subtle, the works reflect the artist's dawning awareness that his thwarted desire is not, or not solely, a consequence of insurmountable aspects of the human condition but rather a matter of the situated nature of the human being specifically in the contemporary world. Shang describes this situation as psychological and relates it generally to the proliferation and dissemination of information, especially through the virtual realm of computer technologies. The pathos of this situation, reflected in the melancholy spirit of Shang's work, arises, in effect, from a loss of innocence: a dispersal of the bliss of ignorance by an incessant stream of information. From a narrower perspective, it can be linked to the specific knowledge of an ailing world, a biosphere crippled by an excessive indulgence in human ambition and desire. For more, information, please visit Xuhong Shang's website at www.xuhongshang.com



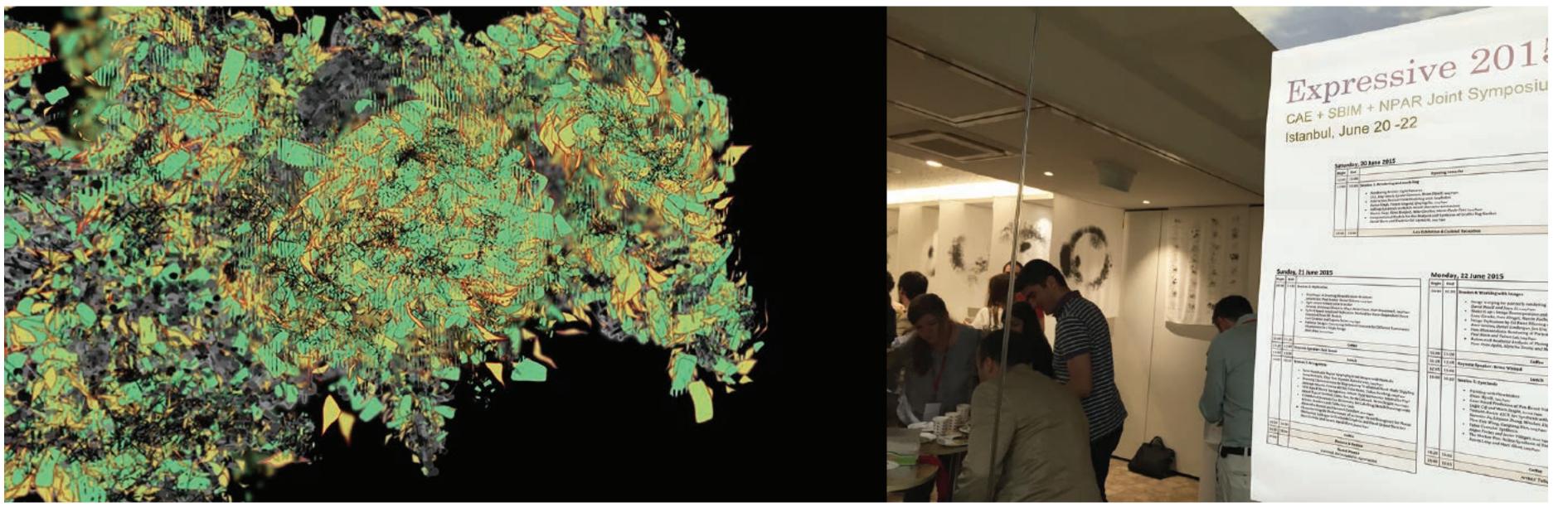
Peter T. Xiao

Prof. Peter T. Xiao's painting, entitled "Early Impressions" that encapsulated experience/memory of my kindergarten days in Beijing from an autobiographic series that he did in the last few years is currently featured in the 22nd Annual Juried Exhibition, Krempp Gallery, Jasper Community Arts, in Jasper of Indiana. The show is 4 states juried. His inclusion in this 4-state show was also awarded "honorable mention."



Rebecca Ruige Xu

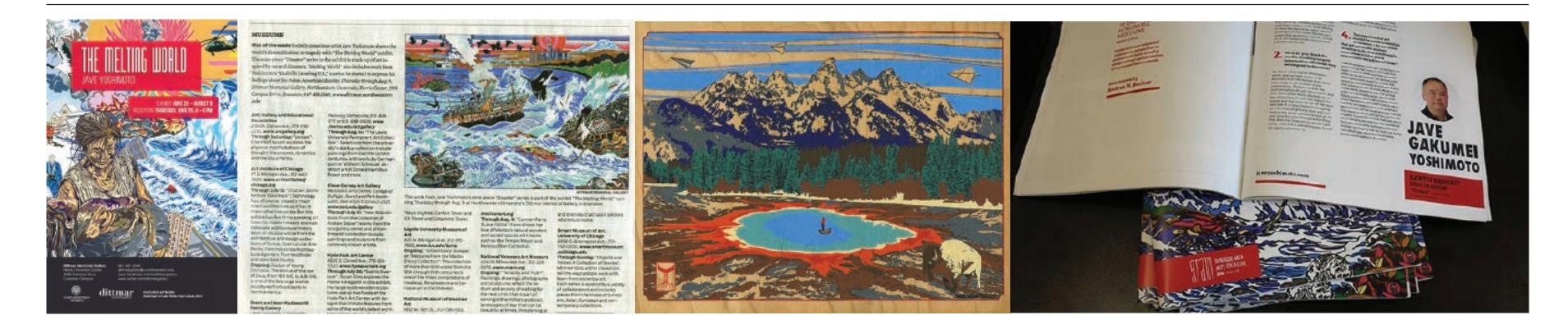
Rebecca Ruige Xu was the featured artist at Expressive 2015, a symposium on Computational Aesthetics this past June in Istanbul, Turkey. The event was co-sponsored by ACM SIGGRAPH and Eurographics, two renowned organizations in the field of Computer Graphics. Xu exhibited four of her projects, in addition to give a talk with the topic of "Artistic Data Visualization".

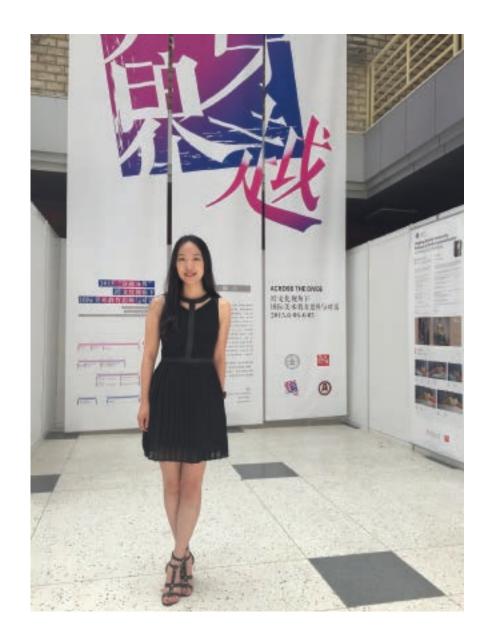




Jave Gakumei Yoshimoto

Prof. Jave Gakumei Yoshimoto has traveled intensely during this past summer, starting from Oklahoma, to installing his works in Chicago, IL, to his artist's residency at Teton Artlab in Jackson, WY, to Portland OR, where he installed another exhibition while creating serigraphs at a printmaking co-op, "flight 64", before ending his travelling at Omaha, NE. Prof. Yoshimoto was in solo exhibitions at Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, as well as in the Nebraska Gallery located in Portland, OR. My exhibition in Northwestern was published in Chicago Tribune, Evanston Roundtable and the Daily Northwestern. His work was also in environmentally themed group exhibitions, "Earth" in Dubuque IA, "High Water" in Boston, MA and "Footing the Bill: Art and our ecological footprint" on artworksforchange.org. He not only received the best of show for "Earth" exhibition but his work was also on the cover of their local publication, Grain Arts Magazine, issue III. Prof. Yoshimoto recently changed position from Northwestern Oklahoma State University to University of Nebraska at Omaha. He is the new foundations coordinator and am very excited for this new venture and hope to continue his enthusiasm in art making and educating the young college minds.





Shaoqian Zhang

Prof. Shaoqian Zhang attended the 2015 International Conference of Across the Divide held at Beijing Normal University in mid-June. Prior to that, she served as one of the co-editors of the book Across the Divide - Thoughts and Dialogues on International Art Education and Intercultural Perspectives. She spent the rest her summer finishing her book manuscript, The Frontlines of Visual Conquest: War, Party-State and Propaganda in Modern Chinese Print Art. The book has 90,830 words and she turned in the whole manuscript to the Brill Publishers in Aug 2015. She has been awarded the Warnock Graduate Alumni Publication Grant from Northwestern University to subside the cost of the publication. In Sep 2015, Prof. Zhang gave a public lecture for Oklahoma State University Asian American Student Association, titled "Re-inventing Chinese Traditions in an Age of Globalization." She also gave a guest lecture at the University of Oklahoma, titled "Mass and Volume: Representing Nature in Chinese Landscape Painting from the Song Dynasty (960-1279)." In Oct 2015, she will give a presentation, "Selling the War: Pictorial Confrontation between China and Japan during World War II" at U.S. Navy Academy in Washington D.C. Currently, Prof. Zhang is the chief curator of two exhibitions: "Redefining the Artistic Canon: Aesthetic and Cultural Communication in a Global Age," to be held in Beijing in March 2016, and "Abstract Ink Art: Past as Present in Contemporary China" to be held at Oklahoma State University in Oct-Dec 2017. She is also co-editing with Dr. Sonja Kelley a book volume, Traditions and Revolutions in China's Printed Image: Print in Modern and Contemporary China.



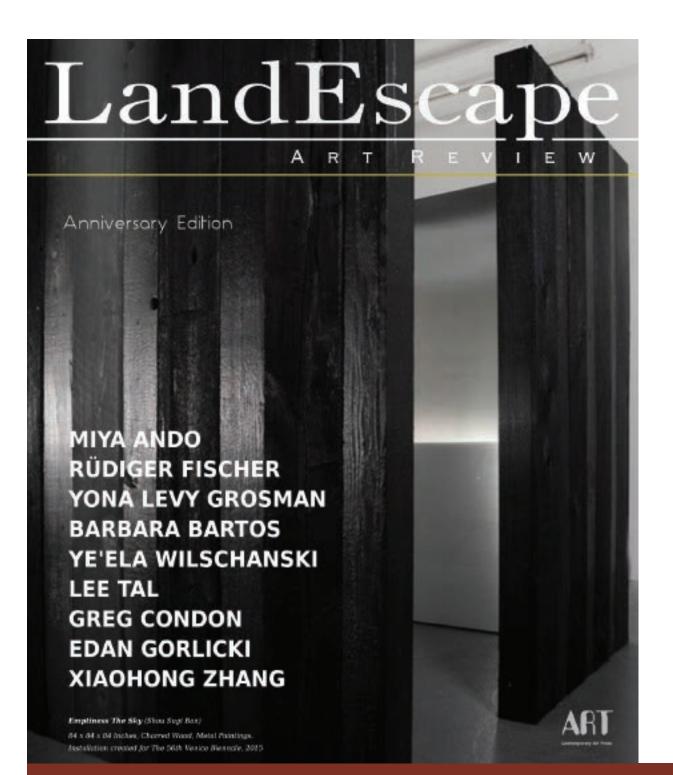
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Xiaohong Zhang







Northern National Art Competition

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Contact Information

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Fall/Winter Hours M - TH: 8 am - 8 pm F - S: 9 am - 4 pm

Summer Hours M - TH: 8 am - 4:30 pm F: 8 am - 4 pm

Closed Weekends and Holidays

Limited Hours Between Semesters M - F: 8 am - 4 pm

Directions

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In this past summer, Xiaohong zhang and other 8 artists were selected from 2700 submissions to be featured in the upcoming Anniversary Edition of an Italian magazine - LandEscape Art Review. These nine artists from the worldwide scene have developed a significant body of work deeply engaged with multidisciplinary approach, which reveals the kaleidoscopic nature and creative potential of contemporary art.

http://issuu.com/landescapeartpress/docs/landescape_art_review_special_issue/88

Zhang also was accepted into the 28th Annual Northern National Art Competition in the Nicolet College Art Gallery, Rhinelander, WI. The series art work Last Kiss I, II, and III was received the Award of Excellence and Audience Choice Award. Xiaohong Zhang and other 20 artists were selected to join the international travel exhibit - The Landscape and Memory in the Market House Gallery, Scotland this summer. The next stop of the show will be Iran. The exhibit in Iran will take place in October 27 and all info of invite, poster, catalogue will be available in the coming weeks

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Hongtao Zhou

In summer 2015, Prof. Hongtao Zhou created a full series of Lumber Lamp Sculptures to be profiled in Gwangju Design Biennale of South Korea for China's Exhibition Hall. He also participated in a number of group exhibitions, such as "Made in Hawaii Show" at Neal Blaisdell Center of Honolulu, HI, "International Exhibition of Fundamental Training Program of Architectural College" at Tongji University's Architecture Gallery. The University of Virginia's Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library also collected his artworks. Prof. Zhou's art works and teaching output were showcased in the 2015 Across the Divide - International Art and Design Higher Education Exchange Exhibition at Beijing Normal University and Hebei Technology University. Prof. Zhou delivered a number of guest lectures in summer 2015, Zijin Youth Scholar Forum, Nanjing University of Science and Technology, the school of Design, Southern China University of Technology in Guangzhou. He was selected as the Professor of Team of University of Hawaii, 9th Corrugated Cardboard Design and Construction Competition at the College of Architecture and Urban Planning of Tongji University. Two essays have been published to introduce Prof. Zhou's works: "Textscape" in Interior Design magazine, in March 2015 "Big Ideas" Issue and "Hongtao Zhou Architectural Texts" in Artsillustratedmagazine, (March, 2015). Hongtao Zhou and Bing Liu's essay, "Experimenting for Creativity across Academic Boundaries-Architecture, Sculpture and Furniture" was published by the Across the Divide's essay collection.



Yingxue Zuo

Prof. Yingxue Zuo was invited by the School of Art and Design, Changchun Science and Technology Institute to Lead 100 students to Lujuan Village for Plein Air Painting - Landscape Study from May 20th - June 4th. He also participated in our conference <u>Across Divide - Conference of International Art</u> <u>Education</u> at Beijing Normal University. From June 10- June 22, Prof. Zuo participated <u>No Boundary on Arts - Chinese, Russian and American Artists</u> <u>Painting Tour</u> at Sichuan and Yunan provinces. He was invited by 2015 Shanghai International Sculpture Art Camp to join with 60 artists from 16 different countries to create public sculptures for Erdao Baihe - special city district. My metal sculpture Bear Family (three sculpture bears) were permanently installed in the city area.

In addition, he was quite active with his own artistic production.

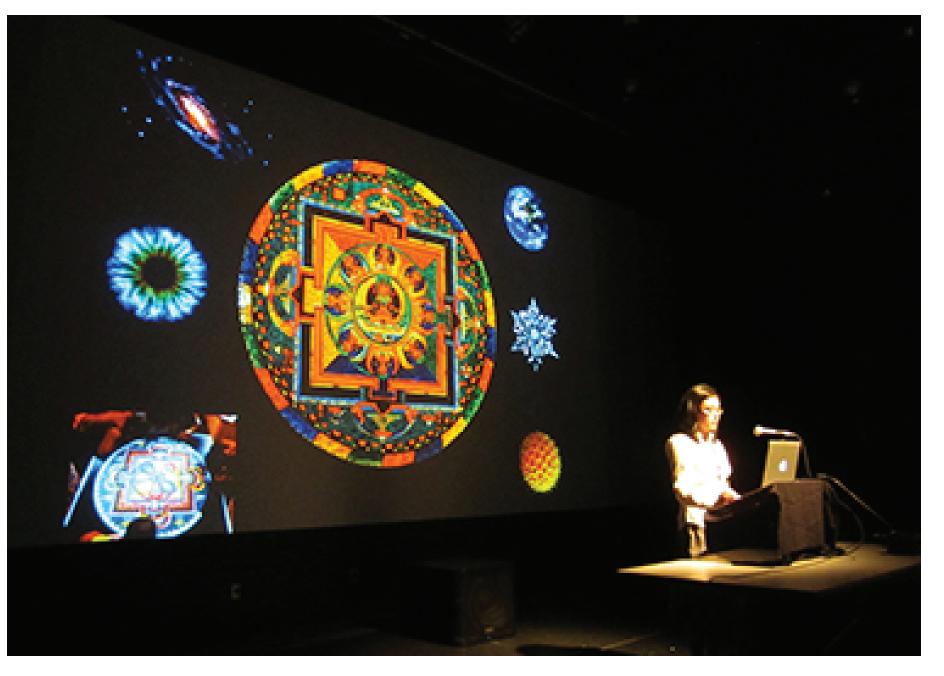


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Jing Zhou

In August 2015, Professor Jing Zhou at Monmouth University (New Jersey, USA) presented her project paper "Living Mandala: The Cosmic of Being" at ISEA 2015, the 21st International Symposium on Electronic Art, in Vancouver, Canada. Prier to this, her interactive artwork "Life Is a Verb: The Book of Spoken Wisdom" was exhibited at Siggraph 2015, the 42nd International Conference and Exhibition on Computer Graphics and Interactive Techniques, at the Los Angeles Convention Center. This juried group exhibition "Altered Books – Digital Interventions" was organized by ACM Siggraph Digital Art Community.



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Across the Divide

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