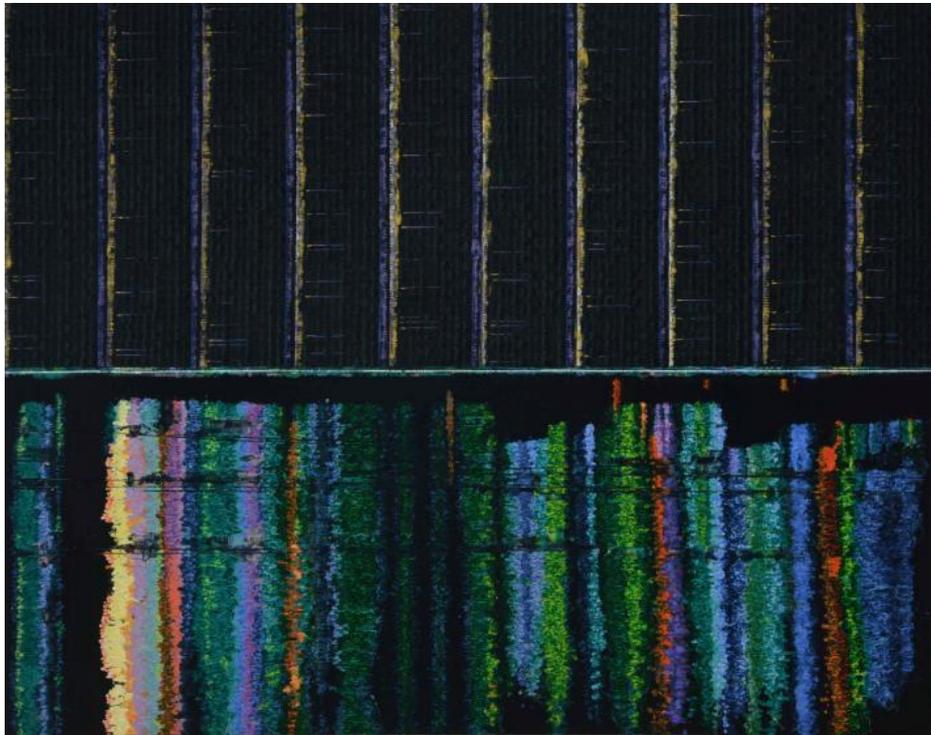


## **Aurora – Zheng Yiqiang**

**Opening Reception: 6 – 8 pm, Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> August  
G/F, 248 Hollywood Road, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong  
Exhibition Duration: 25 Aug – 30 Sep, 2016**



*Untitled 3, Oil on Canvas, 150 x 190 cm*

(Hong Kong, August 2016) Contemporary by Angela Li proudly presents ‘Aurora’, the first Hong Kong solo exhibition of Chinese artist Zheng Yiqiang. Zheng completed his postgraduate studies at the oil painting department of China’s Central Academy of Fine Arts in 2007. He currently lives and works in Beijing. In his eerily cryptic oil paintings, Zheng examines the spontaneous and often overlooked details in life, but his works are not just expressions of spontaneity; there is complex reasoning behind the structuring of his works, which rejects conventional expectations by rearranging elements on the canvases. Zheng’s paintings, the results of deep and intricate thoughts, are thought-provoking. They serve as a new and unrestricted platform which exceeds spatial limits, and in turn providing viewers with curious visual experiences from which they are encouraged to form their own interpretations.

## CONTEMPORARY BY ANGELA LI

'Aurora', the title of the exhibition and Zheng's artwork series, is inspired by a tercet by Chinese poet Zang Kejia (臧克家): life is about seeking the light, but those who see light as mere light, plunge into an abyss of strife (人生永遠追逐著幻光，但誰把幻光看成幻光，誰便沉入了無底的苦海。). The symbolism in the poem corresponds to the philosophy advocated by Zheng in his paintings: we must detach ourselves from our sense of 'self', free our minds from the habits and the external influences which control our individual consciousness, in order to think in an open and rational manner.

Zheng Yiqiang describes his source of artistic inspiration as thus: 'I gather and juxtapose everyday observations and their deviations from objectivity. I try to bring real objects into my work, and investigate the discrepancy embedded within the symbolism of each object.' Zheng divides his canvas into two halves to encourage critical thinking. We instinctively read Chinese texts vertically, horizontally, or even selectively through skimming, interpreting what the author attempts to express by following the clues of syntax and lexicon he provides. Zheng, meanwhile, withdraws his presence from his works by making such a division. His works are deprived of 'guidelines' on how they should be read, which urges viewers to steer away from their customary ways of thinking and embrace the endless possibilities of interpretations.

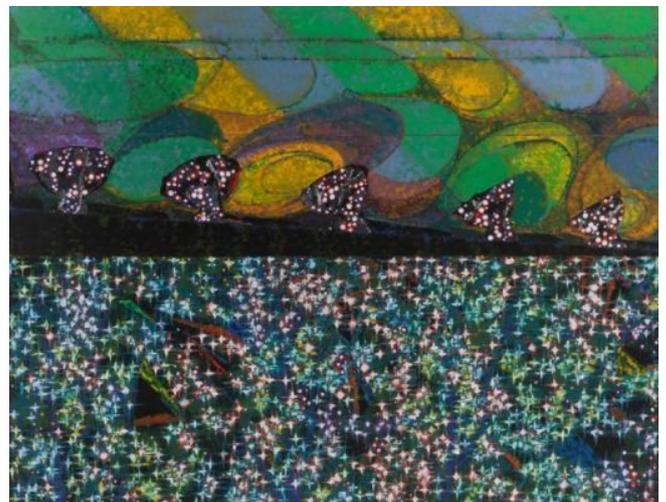
### About the Artist

Zheng Yiqiang was born in 1978 in Fujian, China. He graduated from the department of fine art of Fujian Normal University in 2001, and obtained a postgraduate degree from the oil painting department of Central Academy of Fine Arts in 2007. Zheng has held a number of solo exhibitions across China. He also participated in various group exhibitions in Wenzhou Epoch Art Museum, Beijing Zhuzhong Museum and Chongqing Art Museum. He currently lives and works in Beijing.

### Works in the Exhibition

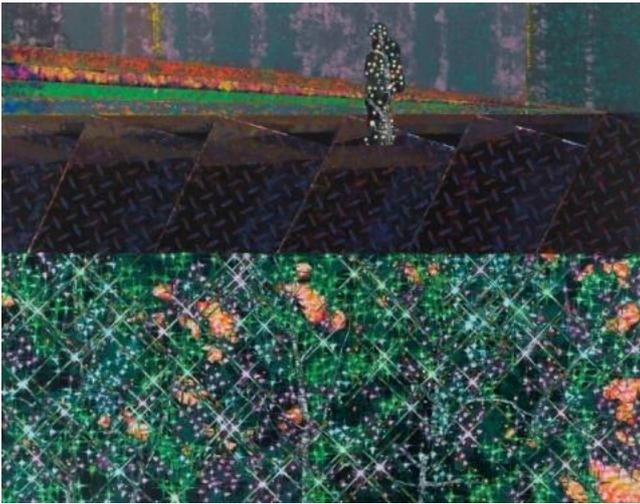


*Aurora 1*, Acrylic on canvas, 130 x 170 cm



*Aurora 2*, Acrylic on canvas, 140 x 180 cm

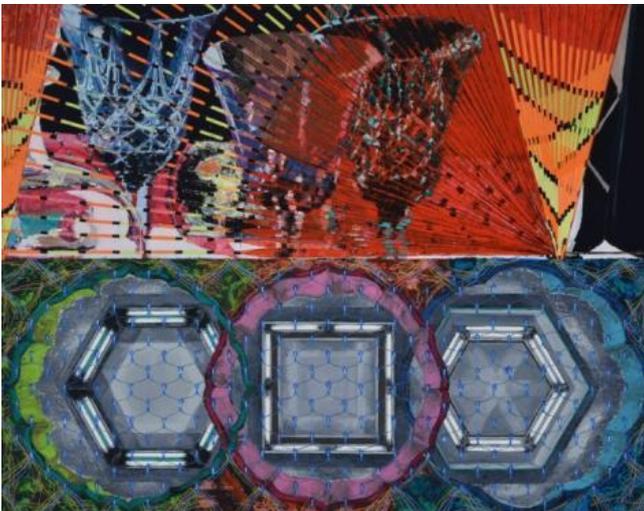
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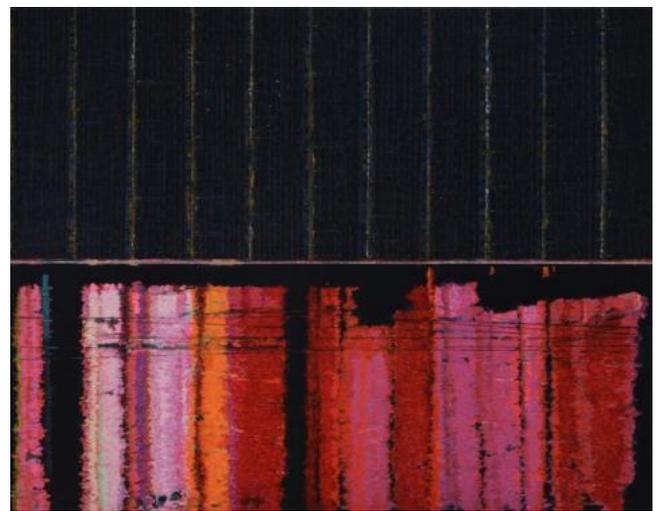
*Aurora 3*, Oil on canvas, 150 x 190 cm



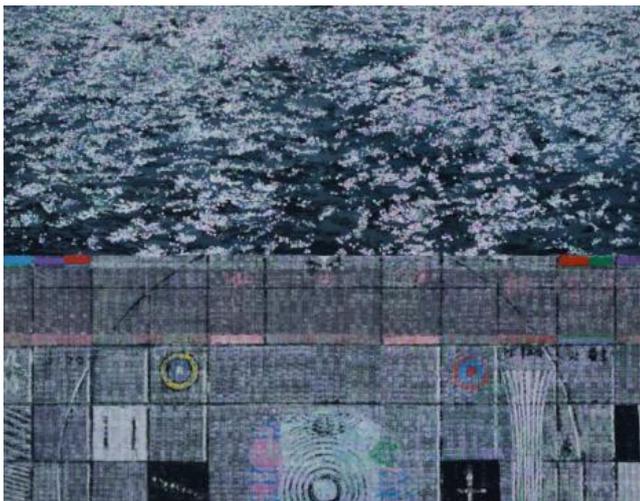
*Aurora 4*, Acrylic on canvas, 150 x 190 cm



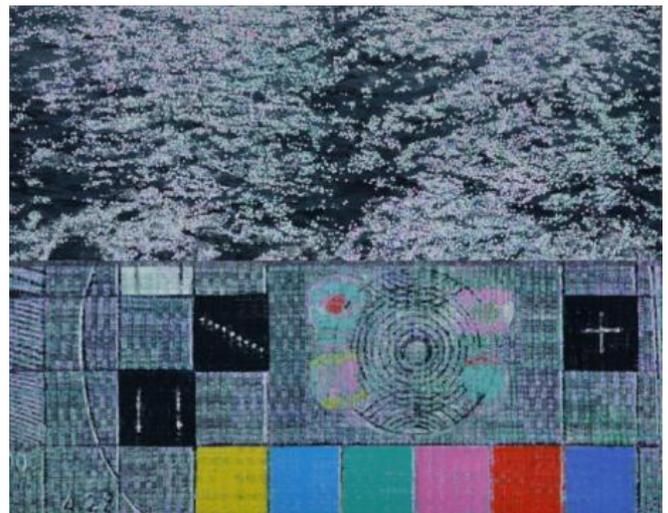
*Setline*, Oil on canvas, 150 x 190 cm



*Untitled 4*, Oil on canvas, 150 x 190 cm



*The Flicker of Light 1*, Oil on canvas, 150 x 190 cm



*The Flicker of Light 4*, Oil on canvas, 150 x 190 cm

## CONTEMPORARY BY ANGELA LI

### About Contemporary by Angela Li

Contemporary by Angela Li is dedicated to the promotion of contemporary and avant-garde artists from China, Hong Kong and worldwide. Since its establishment in 2008, the gallery has gained considerable attention and has become one of Hong Kong's top galleries for contemporary art. The gallery has held successful exhibitions for Chen Jiagang, Chen Wenling, Li Hongbo, Mo Yi, Tony Oursler, Georgia Russell, Shi Jindian, Peter Steinhauer, Martin Wehmer, Wong Hau Kwei, Nancy Chu Woo and Ye Funa, to name a few. In January 2013, the gallery moved to a bigger space at the trendiest part of Hollywood Road, with over 2,000 square feet of newly renovated exhibition space. The gallery's carefully curated exhibition programme consistently challenges and brings surprises to the local and international art scene.



Gallery Exterior, Contemporary by Angela Li

Image: Courtesy of Contemporary by Angela Li

### Contemporary by Angela Li

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Sun & Public Holidays Closed

