

Contemporary by Angela Li is proud to present joint exhibition
“Parallel Fantasies”
in our Newly Renovated Space



[Hong Kong, January 15, 2021] Contemporary by Angela Li presents ***Parallel Fantasies*** joint exhibition, featuring six young artists **Fung Kuen Suet Michelle, Fatina Kong, Livy Leung, Liang Manqi, Elías Peña Salvador and Angela Yuen**. Taking part in the **3rd edition of Central West HK**, this joint exhibition opens on **28th January, 2021 from 2pm to 8pm** in our newly renovated space and remains on view through to 27 February, 2021.

Fung Kuen Suet Michelle's new series of works creates a remarkable narrative of an ecotopian world in 2084 called “Polluta” –a floating city in the sky colonised by only artists. Using cartoonised animal images, such as zebra, chicken and deer, the artist is giving a voice to her characters in telling their stories that echo with the landscape of the art world in the 21st century. Her paintings gather together playfulness, sarcasm and contradictions, acting as her own response to the current environment. The humorous characters in her works tell a story that provides the viewer with routes of escape from the reality.

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Fatima Kong's works incorporate the idea of lives and events in endless cycles. She has been exploring the relationship between nature and human society and has built a unique perspective on the cycle of life. She wrote, "things are always changing and goes around in circles". Her works therefore usually come in round forms, implying the cycle of birth and death. The buildings, crystals, stones and plants in her artwork are also presented in a way to express their interdependent relationship. Her latest work "Somewhere, Sometimes" is inspired by the Chinese poem "Flowers No Flower" by the renowned Tang dynasty poet Bai Juyi, expressing the illusion and perishability of creature:

*"Like the flower that fades and dies, like the morning mist,
which comes in the darkness of night, departs at first light,
life that comes in spring like a dream, leaves like a morning cloud,
and then is nowhere to be found."*

Livy Leung's new works are inspired by her late night cogitations towards the future. The artist described how she often spent the past year going to bed with fear yet waking up with hope. She was concerned with the unknowns of tomorrow, while at the same time looking forward to a better future after sunrise. With her energetic brushstrokes and vivid colours, the artist consistently recomposes her thoughts and amplifies her imaginary world as a form of expression and self-indulgence within her own creative process.



Liang Manqi, Parallel World 2, Oil on Canvas, 120 x 120 cm, 2020



Elias Peña Salvador, The Match, Acrylic & Oil on Canvas, 135 x 143 cm, 2020

Having received a joint degree from the University of the Arts Berlin and China Academy of Arts Hangzhou, a strong German influence can be found in the works of Chinese contemporary artist **Liang Manqi**. Lingered between abstract and non-abstract, rational and irrational, Liang focuses on how space, media and colour convert their relationships between real and virtual contexts in polygonal dimensions. By creating a layered and spatial of emotion on flat canvases, she utilizes the combination of fragments of colours as an exploration of a new three-dimensional space. The continuous regrouping of colours strikes a harmonious balance between the image and the space. Her latest works featured in this exhibition further enrich the dynamics of geometry and invite viewers to plunge into her parallel world.

Depicting scenes from everyday life and mixing them with elements from famous paintings by contemporary masters, the works of young Spanish artist **Eliás Peña Salvador** hover between figuration and abstraction, chaos and harmony, allowing multiple feelings and perspectives to intermingle. Going beyond representation,

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each scene pulls the viewer closer to the subjectivity of human consciousness: a distillation of personal experience, of a particular moment that remains open and fluid to the viewer's interpretation.

With toys and stationeries from old local family-owned stores, **Angela Yuen** builds a miniature skyline with colourful rotating light projection through these found objects. The small plastic pieces used signify the golden era of Hong Kong's manufacturing industry back in the 50s and 60s, which help elevate Hong Kong to its current position on the global stage. These colourful installations are nostalgic and fun, and instantly attract the viewers to immerse themselves in the artworks' warm and uplifting atmosphere.

About the Artists

Fung Kuen Suet Michelle (b. 1982, Hong Kong) has held solo exhibitions at leading artist-run galleries in Australia (2019) and California (2018), as well as the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (2019). Her works have received many awards including Film that Matters, the Montreal International Animation Film Festival, Canada (2019), 50 Best Books for Secondary Students, Hong Kong Professional Teacher's Union (2018), winner of Young Writer's Debut Competition, Hong Kong (2017), the Grotto Award, Hong Kong Baptist University (2015) and Award of Excellence, Fourth Greater China Illustration Awards (2012 and 2016).

Fatina Kong (b. 1992, Hong Kong) graduated from the Academy of Visual Art, Hong Kong Baptist University in 2015. After receiving her art degree, she keeps exploring ways to combine Chinese painting with Western media. In 2018, Kong went to Xining, China to further study painting; and in the same year, she also participated in an artist residency program in Japan, which she found resonance in the Eastern painting more than ever. Inspired by the recordings and images from her daily life, her works give shape to a new landscape that merges memories and fantasy. On top of ink and Chinese pigment as painting media, she adds new layers to her works by using materials such as resin and acrylic board, to create a unique temperament that echoes with the traditional Chinese aesthetic. She has been exhibited in Hong Kong, China and Japan.

Leung Hoi Nga Livy was born in Hong Kong in 1996. She graduated with a Degree of Bachelor of Visual Arts from the Academy of Visual Arts, Hong Kong Baptist University in 2018. She was awarded the AVA Keeper of Studies Collection Award by AVA, HKBU (2018), Contemporary by Angela Li Award (2018), and Winsor & Newton Award (2018), in the Fresh Trend 2018 Art Graduates Joint Exhibition.

Liang Manqi (b.1986, Guangzhou, China) graduated from the department of Art Education at the China Academy of Art (CAA) in 2009 and obtained her Master of Fine Art degree from the CDK (Chinesisch-Deutsche Kunstakademie) project, a joint degree programme of the University of the Arts, Berlin and the China Academy of Art, Hangzhou, in 2012. She has held solo exhibitions in Hong Kong, China and Korea. Previous projects and exhibitions include, "Emocoding" (Arario Gallery, Shanghai, 2017), "Imaginary Practice" (Contemporary by Angela Li, 2016), "Colometry – Solo Exhibition" (Arario Gallery Seoul, Korea, 2015), "Inside | Outside – Space Project" (Art Central Hong Kong, Contemporary by Angela Li, Hong Kong, 2015), "Several Objective Relations – Space Project" (Arario Gallery Dongmun Motel Inaugural Exhibition, Jeju, Korea, 2014), "Several Objective Relations – Space Project" (Long Museum, Shanghai, 2014). She currently lives and works in Shanghai.

Elías Peña Salvador (b. 1992, Spain) graduated from the Fine Art Department of the Complutense University of Madrid in 2014, and obtained his Master of Arts in Arts Education from Rey Juan Carlos University of Madrid in 2017. Salvador has held and participated in many local and international exhibitions, including solo exhibitions in China, Spain, and Italy. He was the recipient of the prestigious Erasmus Scholarship in Fine Art (2013), and has received numerous awards,

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such as the “Arte Laguna International Painting Prize” in Venice, Italy (2014). He also took part in various artist residencies, such as Jardin Orange in Shenzhen (2019) and Swatch Art Peace Hotel residency in Shanghai (2018). Salvador is currently a member of PROA, an important artists collective and art studio in Madrid that promotes local art in Spain with a global perspective. He is currently doing an artist residency in Hong Kong.

Angela Yuen was born in Hong Kong in 1991. She graduated from the Academy of Visual Arts, Hong Kong Baptist University in 2014 and participated in a Beijing artist residency program in 2016 and Hong Kong Hart Haus residency in 2019. She held her first solo exhibition “The Lost Time Travel Machine” in 2020, and has participated in many joint exhibitions in Hong Kong, Beijing and Australia since 2013. Yuen was a finalist of the 2019 Sovereign Asian Art Prize. Her works have been included in public and private collections in Hong Kong, China and Australia.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

Exhibition: Parallel Fantasies

Artists: Fung Kuen Suet Michelle, Fatina Kong, Livy Leung, Liang Manqi, Elías Peña Salvador & Angela Yuen

Preview: 28 January, 2021, 2 – 8 pm

Duration: 28 January – 27 February, 2021

Preview in our gallery’s newly renovated space, in conjunction with the 3rd edition of Central West HK

Enquiries: by email at Info@cbal.com.hk or call +852 3571 8200

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.

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Opening Hours : Mon – Sat 10.00 am – 6.30 pm

Sun & Public Holidays Closed

