

## 許炯 Xu Jiong 2014 - 2018

在跨越十年的創作生涯，許炯已成為融合書法思維、山水思維與當代繪畫最具創造力的藝術家。許炯痴迷於繪畫的線條質地與書法的繪畫潛力，他的圖像包含了過去書法與當代抽象的歷史、廣泛的敘事繪畫、以及當代流行文化。他對繪畫語言和媒介的創新方式，加上對影像、拼貼、古今形式等內容的運用，使許炯創造當今藝術中最獨樹一格的作品，且徹底重新想像書法這一媒介在深度和意義向度的潛力。

本展呈現許炯 2014 至 2018 年書法時期各階段代表作，其中多幅《春之祭》作品為首次展出。許炯關於書法復興的根源是深刻且多樣的，這些早期作品說明許炯挖掘各種來源與繪畫傳統，從良寬、賈島、到董其昌，許炯嘗試一系列突破的變化，他輕柔又狂放的筆觸、意想不到的圖案，喚起東方媒材成為波普藝術與流行文化的可能—正是在這些作品中，我們看到對今日許炯的藝術實踐至關重要的各種元素，且明白他是如何對創造亞洲藝術的自我價值的過程與歷史著迷不已。

許炯，1983 年生於中國杭州，畢業於中國美術學院書法系，現居住工作於北京。重要個展有 2019 年亞紀畫廊「自畫像」、2017 年亦安畫廊台北與罐空間「我看見賈島了嗎？」、「我看見了賈島」。2021 年參與中國藝術家趙趙創辦的穹究堂聯展「亙古亙今」，且預計於 2024 年舉辦個展。其他即將參與的重要展覽包括亞紀畫廊個展「山水 2022 SS」、橫山書法藝術館「書法雙年展」、德國 Galerie Nagel Draxler「Morgenrot und Abendbrot」。

In a career spanning a decade Xu Jiong has established himself as one of the most inventive artists integrating calligraphy, shanshui and contemporary painting. Obsessed with the evocative potential of paint and the pictorial appearance of calligraphy, Xu's work embraces the history of abstraction and calligraphy, broader traditions of narrative painting and contemporary popular culture. His inventive approach to the language and medium of painting, coupled with a use of photography, collage, ancient and modern forms, has allowed Xu to create some of the most unique works in contemporary art, and completely reimagine of calligraphy's potential for depth and meaning.

This exhibition presents Xu Jiong's significant works from 2014 to 2018, among which many works of *Spring Monster* are exhibited for the first time. The roots of Xu's calligraphic revival are deep and varied. These early works show Xu mining various sources and traditions, from Liangkuan, Jia Dao, to Dong Qichang, and experimenting with a range of new format. His gentle and wild touch, unexpected patterns that evoke the possibilities of oriental media as pop art and pop culture. It is in these works that one sees the elements essential to Xu's practice today. As this exhibition makes clear, Xu is a sophisticated visual thinker endlessly fascinated with the process and history of painting.

Xu Jiong, born in Hangzhou, China in 1983, graduated from China Academy of Art, master of Chinese calligraphy. Now lives and works in Beijing. Important solo exhibitions include *Self-Portrait* at Each Modern in 2019, and *I saw Jia Dao* at aura gallery and Cans Art Space in 2017. In 2021, he showed in group exhibition of Qiongiutang, founded by Chinese artist Zhao Zhao, and will have a solo exhibition in 2024. Other important upcoming exhibitions include *ShanShui 2022 SS* at Each Modern, *Calligraphy Biennale* at the Hengshan Calligraphy Art Center, and *Morgenrot und Abendbrot* at Galerie Nagel Draxler.