



ARTISTIC IMPRESSIONS

KEVIN KWONG

Artist Anothermountainman, aka Stanley Wong Ping-pui, concludes his six-year *Lan Wei* (abortive buildings) photography project with an exhibition of more than 40 large-format prints at the two Blindspot galleries in Central and Aberdeen. Initially a visual documentation of abandoned, half-built residential blocks and offices that were results of the economic boom in the 1980s across the mainland, *Lan Wei* later extended its reach to other Asian cities including Taipei, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok and Singapore.

But it is his latest series, *Wonderland*, which is the most powerful. Shot in Beijing, the narrative revolves around a forlorn-looking amusement park, featuring half-built structures including one that resembles Sleeping Beauty's castle at Disneyland. Wong learned the park was built by a wealthy man for his son; the project was dropped after the child died. The story is no longer of extravagance but grief and emptiness. The exhibition ends on November 11.

Art Statements has scheduled a Yoshitaka Amano show at the end of this year at its new space on Wong Chuk Hang Road. Dominique Perregaux, who founded the gallery here almost a decade ago, has returned after a quick stint in Tokyo,

where he still has an office. During his absence in the past year, a number of international galleries have landed, with New York's Lehmann Maupin Gallery on its way: it's scheduled to move into Pedder Building early next year.

Perregaux says the big players are coming to Hong Kong partly to ensure they don't lose their artists to other galleries who have established a presence in this region. His gallery is showcasing works by Australian contemporary artist Dale Frank; the solo show ends on November 18.

A beautiful Chu Teh-chun show ended yesterday at de Sarthe Gallery. "Nature in Abstraction" featured 10 paintings, including the stunning *Untitled No 229* (1966) and *No 404* (1971), which illustrated clearly the painter's Chinese roots but also his Western art aesthetics.

Gallery owner Pascal de Sarthe, who specialises in 19th- and 20th-century master paintings and sculptures, says business has been good since moving to this city more than a year ago. Demand for works by modern Chinese painters such as Chu, Zao Wou-ki and Lin Fengmian – a category that mainland auction houses have yet to get their hands on – is strong. The quality works, de Sarthe says, remain in private collections in France, where these artists had once worked and lived.