

**For Immediate Release****Art | Basel Hong Kong 2024**

28 – 30 March, 2024

Booth Venue: 1D02, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

Blindspot Gallery is pleased to return to Art Basel Hong Kong 2024, presenting works by Chen Wei, Un Cheng, Chihoi, Jiang Zhi, Jen Liu, Wang Tuo, Xiyadie, Yeung Tong Lung, Trevor Yeung, and Zheng Haozhong.



**Trevor Yeung** uses botanic ecology, horticulture, aquarium system and installations as metaphors that reference the emancipation of everyday aspirations towards human relationships. Yeung's *Stabled Cuddle Party* (2024) comprises *serpuloorbis rossaei* encased within an oriental vitrine, adorned and preserved like a treasured piece. The undulating aquatic shells spiral around a twig, personifying an intimate relationship grounded in solid foundation yet open to vulnerability and spontaneity. The parasitic cluster of shells embody a familiar sense of camaraderie. Yeung has been selected by M+ and HKADC to present "Trevor Yeung: Hong Kong in Venice" at the Hong Kong Collateral Event at the 60th International Art Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia this year.

Echoing the entanglement between lovers in Trevor Yeung's ready-made sculpture is **Xiyadie's** *Gate* (2013). Xiyadie's work is a traditional Chinese papercut depicting two men pleasuring each other in front of the Square, the totem of national power and civic life. Vines and mice sprout from the copulating men who are enframed by a monumental façade adorned by a pair of dragons, with blossoming flowers springing forth from the pagoda atop. Xiyadie (the artist's chosen alias) moved to Beijing from rural Shaanxi as a migrant worker in 2005, where he found an accepting community in the burgeoning gay subcultural scene. Papercutting had been a means of catharsis for the artist to channel homoerotic fantasies and to narrate his

journey navigating an environment that oftentimes stigmatizes and pathologizes homosexuality. Coinciding with Art Basel Hong Kong, Xiyadie's debut solo exhibition at Blindspot Gallery, "Xiyadie: Butterfly Dream", will be on view from 26 March through 11 May 2024. Xiyadie will also be participating in the Main Exhibition of the 60th International Art Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia this year.

Paralleling Xiyadie in portraying those within the periphery of society is **Wang Tuo** who shines light on marginalized individuals in China's art and culture circle in his painting series *Weapons* (2023-ongoing). Wang Tuo is known for the multidimensional chronologies he constructs in films, paintings, and drawings.

Capturing the static state of cities amidst the epidemic, **Chen Wei** creates *New Window* (2021) and *Blur City* (2021), part of the final chapter of his *New City* series





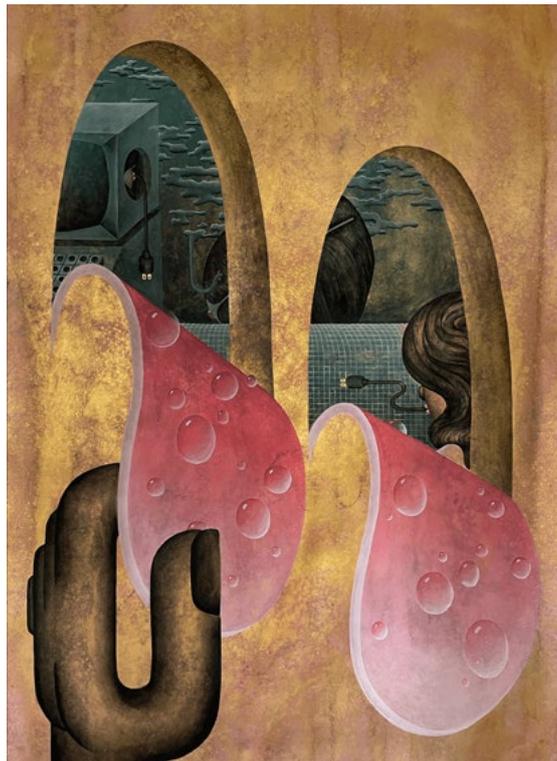
(2013-ongoing). Built as a staged set and photographed in his studio, *New Window* shows a typical old Chinese apartment window, with its outer cage stacked with layers of colored glass sheets. Constructions and daily activities were abruptly halted during the pandemic, and these materials left behind turn into a temporary urban sculpture, quotidian yet peculiar.

In New York-based artist **Jen Liu's** *We All Live In The Ocean Now, #2* (2022-2023), a hand peels off opaque golden layers, revealing glimpses of a young woman, presumably a mermaid, sitting in the deep murky seabed. In an underwater surrealistic tableaux where the world we've built floods and liquidates into shambles, Liu imagines a dystopian future where despite its monstrosity, we can muse about other ways of living and evolving.

**Yeung Tong Lung's** recent works are painted in the inversion of positive colors, thereby subverting our everyday perceptions

of reality, and our experience of viewing a painting. The work portrays a great crowd gathered in a park under a radiant saffron sky. Yeung toys with the dichotomy between positive and negative, the realistic and the imagined. Black can be white, positive is also negative.

Other highlights presented in the booth include the most recent paintings by **Un Cheng** and **Zheng Haozhong**, as well as a mixed-media work by **Jiang Zhi**.



Images captions:

Trevor Yeung, *Stabled Cuddle Party*, 2024, Serpulatorbis roussaei, stick and vitrine, 24 x 15 x 15 cm

Xiyadie, *Gate*, 2013, Papercut with water-based dye and Chinese pigments on Xuan paper, 140 x 140 cm (work size), 174.5 x 174.5 x 5 cm (framed size)

Chen Wei, *New Window*, 2021, Archival inkjet print, 150 x 187.5 cm, Edition of 6 + 2AP

Jen Liu, *We All Live In The Ocean Now, #2*, 2022-2023, Acrylic ink, handmade gold acrylic, acrylic gouache and gesso on paper, 180 x 134 cm

(Images courtesy of artists and Blindspot Gallery.)

## About the Artists

**Chen Wei** (b. 1980, Zhejiang province, China) constructs personal narratives using found objects, fabricated props and staged scenes, all of which are meticulously assembled inside his studio and captured in photography. He also creates multi-media installations that act as an extension of his studio practice. His works are collected by Alexander Tutsek-Stiftung, DSL Collection, M+, Rubell Family Collection, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Sigg Collection, Singapore Art Museum, UBS Collection, Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, and White Rabbit Gallery, among others. Chen currently lives and works in Beijing.

**Un Cheng's** (b. 1995, Hong Kong) paintings mirror her careful observations of quotidian living in Hong Kong, the fleeting conversations she makes with strangers, and the internal dialogues she has with her surroundings. Cheng's recent solo exhibitions include "Unbridled Wanders" (Blindspot Gallery booth presentation at Taipei Dangdai, 2023) and "What's there when you ain't home?" (Blindspot Gallery, 2022). Cheng graduated from the Academy of Visual Arts, Hong Kong Baptist University in 2017. She participated in the Gil residency program in Iceland in 2018, and was the artist-in-residence at Blindspot Gallery in 2020. Cheng currently lives and works in Hong Kong.

**Chihoi** (b. 1977, Hong Kong) is a self-taught artist whose works materialize in paintings, comics, illustrations, and publications. He is known for his comic books *Still Life* (2003), *The Train* (2007), *Hijacking – Hong Kong Comic Literature* (2007), *The Library* (2013) and *Library & I'm with my Saint* (2018). Chihoi's painting and comic practices are complementary and reciprocal, the latter being a focus on conceptualization materializing into a storyboard, and the former being a reflection on reality and the act of observing. His solo exhibitions have taken place at Grafixx Festival / De Studio (Antwerp, 2022), ACO Art Space (Hong Kong, 2019), Fumetto Comix Festival (Luzern, Switzerland, 2010), and Hong Kong Arts Centre (Hong Kong, 2007), among others. Chihoi currently lives and works between Hong Kong and Taipei.

**Jiang Zhi** (b. 1971, Hunan province, China) works with a wide range of media including photography, painting, video and installation, exploring interrelationships through manipulated images within contemporary Chinese society. His forthcoming solo exhibition will take place at Aranya Art Center (Beidaihe, China), on view from 16 March through 30 June 2024. Jiang's work is in the collection of Alexander Tutsek – Stiftung Foundation, Asymmetry Art Foundation, DSL Collection, Guangdong Museum of Art, Hood Museum of Art, Institut Valencià d'Art Modern, JPMorgan Chase Art Collection, KADIST Art Foundation, M+, Sigg Collection, Times Museum, and White Rabbit Collection, among others. Jiang currently lives and works in Beijing.

**Jen Liu** (b. 1976, New York, USA) is a New York-based visual artist working in video, performance, and painting, on topics of national identity, economy, and the re-motivating of archival artifacts. Her works have also been exhibited at SculptureCenter (New York, 2024), the 13th Taipei Biennial (Taipei, 2023), Power Station of Art (Shanghai, 2021), MAK Center for Art + Architecture in collaboration with LACMA (Los Angeles, 2021), Smithsonian Museum of American Art (Washington D.C., 2020), ACC (Gwangju, 2019), MoMA (New York, 2019), Kunsthal Rotterdam (Rotterdam, 2019), and Whitney Museum of American Art (New York, 2015), among others. Liu currently lives and works in New York.

**Wang Tuo** (b. 1984, Jilin province, China) interweaves Chinese modern history, cultural archives, fiction and mythology into speculative narratives. Wang is the winner of the Sigg Prize 2023. His recent solo exhibition "Wang Tuo: The Second Interrogation" was presented at Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong in 2023. He has also had solo exhibitions at UCCA Center for Contemporary Art (Beijing, 2021) and Taikang Space (Beijing, 2016). Wang's works are collected by M+, Centre Pompidou, KADIST Art Foundation, Fondazione In Between Art Film, Power Station of Art, and Three Shadows Photography Art Centre, among others. Wang currently lives and works in Beijing.

**Xiyadie** (b. 1963, Shaanxi province, China) is a self-taught traditional Chinese papercut artist who started creating works with homoerotic themes to tell his narrative of transformation. Xiyadie has been invited to participate in the Main Exhibition of the 60th International Art Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia. His solo exhibitions were held at the Drawing Center (New York, 2023), Flazh!Alley Art Studio (San Pedro, 2012), and the Beijing LGBT Center (Beijing, 2010), among others. Xiyadie's works are collected by Sunpride Foundation, and Tate, among others. Xiyadie currently lives and works in Shaanxi province.

**Yeung Tong Lung** (b. 1956, Fujian province, China) has a keen eye for observation, and encapsulates with great sensitivity the seemingly banal details of quotidian life in Hong Kong. He creates large-scale figurative paintings within interior and exterior urban spaces. His solo exhibitions were held at Blindspot Gallery (Hong Kong, 2023), ACO Art Space (Hong Kong, 2019), and Hong Kong Arts Centre Comix Homebase (Hong Kong, 2017). His works are collected by M+ and the Hong Kong Museum of Art, among others. Yeung currently lives and works in Hong Kong.

**Trevor Yeung** (b. 1988, Guangdong province, China) uses botanic ecology, horticulture, aquarium system and installations as metaphors that reference the emancipation of everyday aspirations towards human relationships. Yeung has been selected by M+ and HKADC as the featured artist to present in the Hong Kong Collateral Event at the 60th International Art Exhibition - La Biennale di Venezia. Yeung had his first UK institutional solo exhibition at Gasworks London, and the exhibition travels to Para Site, opening on 15 March 2024, and Aranya Art Center, opening on 27 October 2024. His works are in the collection of Centre Pompidou, Musée d'Art Moderne de Paris, FRAC Alsace, Stiftung Skulpturenpark Köln, M+, and KADIST Art Foundation. Yeung currently lives and works in Hong Kong.

**Zheng Haozhong's** (b. 1985, Shandong province, China) figurative paintings carry a rhythmic quality with expressive brushstrokes that are freestyle and not confined within a rigid parameter, mirroring the music he plays. Zheng studied at the Central Academy of Fine Arts. His works are collected by DSL Collection, the Moegling Foundation, and White Rabbit Gallery, among others. Zheng currently lives and works in Shanghai.

## About Blindspot Gallery

Set up in 2010, Blindspot Gallery is a contemporary art gallery based in Hong Kong. The gallery features diverse contemporary art practices, by emerging and established artists mainly from Asia but also beyond.

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