WHITE CUBE

Inside the White Cube
Qin Yifeng
Negative Reading | Reading Negatives
4 September – 16 November 2019
White Cube Hong Kong

White Cube Hong Kong is pleased to present 'Negative Reading | Reading Negatives', a solo exhibition of new works by Chinese artist Qin Yifeng. Both artist and scholar, Qin is a collector of Ming dynasty furniture. During his decades of collecting, it is the damaged pieces of furniture that have most passionately interested him, for he sees them as a metaphor for the changes in Chinese traditional values. Using his antique wooden furniture as subject, he creates negative images using a large-format camera.

Born in 1961 and raised in Shanghai where he continues to live and work, Qin mastered calligraphy as a child, the essence of which - its spiritual dimension and formal aesthetic - has deeply influenced his entire artistic practice including the photographs in this exhibition. Equally, his early investigations as an abstract painter are evident in the inherent flatness of the negative film that he uses to make these recent images. In 1992, Qin established a painting style called 'Xian Chang' (field of lines), in which the cube, constructed of lines, was used as a basis to explore compositions of lines and planes, the relationship between two and three dimensions and the overlapping and 'twisting' of painterly space. Since abandoning the cube, he has gradually developed a style of 'pureness', with a more solemn and tranquil use of colour in pared down images that are concerned with formal aesthetics, spatial relationships and atmosphere.

Continuing themes addressed in his 2017 solo show at the Yuz Museum in Shanghai, Qin's new works depict three-dimensional objects using two-dimensional means to develop his own particular artistic language. Through a creative deconstruction of the photographic negative – and its black/white reversal – he attempts to achieve the effect he terms 'bringing life out of death'. In his images, lines create space, segmenting the flat surface of the picture and the space between background and subject is compressed.

During the creative process, Qin subjectively connects with nature, working in all weather conditions and waiting for the perfect natural light to take his image. Each work is subsequently named according to the exact time it was captured and the weather conditions at that particular moment. In this way, his works are effected by the laws of nature, just as the damaged furniture they depict is imbued with the variable natural properties of its centuries-old wood. For Qin, the right moment to capture an image occurs when the object being photographed can 'swallow its shadow', creating an eclipse of shadow and object so that the object alone remains visible.

The design, structure and contours of Ming dynasty furniture has historically been regarded as the embodiment of its inner spirit. Qin's images not only retain the original lines and structures of the damaged furniture, but also record the traces of damage and the wood's particular grain – the surface signs of the object's past use or abuse and of its natural weathering. This history is acknowledged in his pictures, which are conceived as a kind of historical index, each an *hommage* to their subject's unknown makers. While suggesting destruction or decay, however, they also construct a historical space which exists in marked contrast to the hard, noisy space of their wider art world context.

Although Qin uses a camera to make images, he does not make traditional 'photographs'. His pictures eliminate perspective and depth, compressing together the near and the distant into the same grey flat surface. Using a Sinar P2 monorail studio camera and a Schneider lens as his tools, he is able to resist unnecessary photographic effects with a technology that, conversely, works against technology, allowing abstract and figurative to coalesce. Unlike a paintbrush, the monorail studio camera banishes any chance effects, offering Qin greater control over the image than his previous painting practice allowed and a continuing and profound engagement with the poetry of juxtapositions.

BIOGRAPHY

Qin Yifeng was born in 1961 in Qinghai, China, and moved to Shanghai with his parents the following year. He graduated from Shanghai Arts and Crafts College in 1983 and then continued his education at the College of Fine Arts, Shanghai University, completing his studies in 1989. He currently holds a post as Associate Professor at Shanghai University.

Solo exhibitions include 'Qin Yifeng's Works', Yuz Museum, Shanghai (2017); Mind Set Art Center, Taipei (2016); C-Space, Beijing (2014); Eastlink Gallery, Shanghai (2005); Chinese Contemporary Gallery, London (1999); Red Gate Gallery, Beijing (1997); and his first solo exhibition at the College of Fine Arts, Shanghai University (1994).

Selected group exhibitions include the 1st Guangzhou Image Triennial, Guangdong Museum of Art, China (2017); White Cube Mason's Yard, London (2016); Beijing Tokyo Art Project, Beijing (2003); Vienna Künstlerhaus (2002); Shanghai Art Museum (2001); Walsh Gallery, Chicago, Illinois (2000); 'China/Avant-Garde Exhibition', National Art Museum of China, Beijing (1989); and 'Exhibition of Modern Art by Six Artists', Fudan University, Shanghai (1985).

Qin was awarded the gold medal in the landscape design competition at the 10th National Art Exhibition, hosted by the National Art Museum of China in 2004.

White Cube Hong Kong is open Tuesday – Saturday, 11am – 7pm. Admission is free. WeChat: whitecubehk

For further information please contact: enquiries@whitecube.com

50 Connaught Road Central, Hong Kong +852 2592 2000 whitecube.com 白立方项目 秦一峰 负读|读负 2019年9月4日至11月16日 香港白立方

香港白立方欣然呈现中国艺术家秦一峰新作展"负读|读负"。在艺术家与学者的身份之外,秦一峰亦是一位明式家具收藏家。以他收藏的明式素工家具为拍摄对象,他使用大画幅照相机创作了一系列负片图像。

秦一峰生于1961年,成长于上海,并在上海生活工作。他自幼学习书法,书法之精髓——精神修养和形式美学——深刻地影响了他的艺术实践,此次展出的摄影作品也不例外。同样地,他职业生涯早期作为一个抽象画家的研究也显而易见地体现在负片所固有的平面性特质中。1992年,秦一峰确立了他称之为"线场"的风格系列,在其中,线条建构出的立方体作为视觉主体,探讨线与面之构成、平面与立体的关系,以及绘画空间的重叠与翻转。此后,艺术家舍弃了立方体形式,风格渐趋凝练,用色也更为肃静,在精简的构图中创造出关于形式美学、空间关系、以及氛围的无尽变化。

秦一峰的新作延续了他2017年在上海余德耀美术馆个展中的主题,此系列作品以平面手段表现立体器物,并发展了特有的艺术语言。通过创造性地解构摄影负片,以及它的黑/白反转特性,秦一峰试图达到他所称道的"起死回生"之效果。在他的图像中,线条创造了空间、分割图片的平面,背景与物体之间的空间感从而被压缩。

在创作过程中,秦一峰内观式地与自然对话,在种种天气状况下等待最合适的自然光线条件进行拍摄。每一件作品随后都会根据拍摄时的确切时间和天气状况命名。如此一来,秦一峰的作品受到自然法则的约束,正如它们所描绘的明式家具一样,其经历几个世纪之久的木材原料本身也浸润着多重自然属性。对秦一峰而言,捕捉图像的最佳时机在于器物能够"吞没它的影子",制造出光影与器物间的黯淡部分,从而使器物保持独立可见。

秦一峰的图像保留了明式家具木材的纹理细节,以及其表面精心刻划的线条,这些要素都显示出家具此前被使用、致损以及自然风化的迹象。家具所经受的历史在他的照片——这些照片被构想为某种历史索引——中得到确认,每一张照片都是对明式家具之无名创造者的致敬。然而,在暗示毁灭或衰变的同时,这些负片也构建了一个历史空间,与它们更广阔的艺术世界语境中坚硬而喧闹的空间形成了鲜明对照。

尽管秦一峰使用照相机制造图像,但他制造的并不是传统意义上的"照片"。他的照片消除了透视与景深,将近与远压缩在同一个灰色的平面上。使用Sinar P2单轨棚用照相机和施耐德镜头作为工具,他得以抵御那些非必要的摄影性效果。利用一种"反技术"之技术,秦一峰使抽象与具象珠联璧合。与绘画笔触不同,单轨棚用照相机排除了任何偶然的效果,让秦一峰对图像的控制力远远超越了他此前的绘画实践,并令他得以持续而深入地触及抽象与具象交相辉映时所蕴藏的那种诗意。

简历

秦一峰,1961年生于青海,1962年起定居上海。1983年毕业于上海工艺美校,1989年毕业于上海大学美术学院,现为该校副教授。

重要个展包括2017年上海余德耀美术馆的"秦一峰展"。此外,曾于台北安卓画廊(2016)、北京C空间(2014)、上海东廊艺术(2005)、伦敦中国当代画廊(1999)、北京红门画廊(1997)、上海大学美术学院(1994)等多地举办个展。

重要群展包括广东美术馆"复相·叠影—广州影像三年展2017"(2017)、伦敦白立方"世界是你们的,也是我们的"(2016)、东京艺术工程"念珠与笔触"(2003)、维也纳艺术家之家"东+西—中国当代艺术展"(2002)、上海美术馆"形而上—上海抽象展"(2001)、芝加哥文化中心"上海现代艺术展"(2000)等。2004年,秦一峰获第十届全国美展环境艺术金奖。

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香港干諾道中50號 +852 2592 2000 whitecube.com 白立方項目 秦一峰 負讀|讀負 2019年9月4日至11月16日 香港白立方

香港白立方欣然呈現中國藝術家秦一峰新作展「負讀|讀負」。 在藝術家與學者的身份之外,秦一峰亦是一位明式素工家具收藏家。在數十年的收藏歷程中,經由人為、或是自然損毀的明式家具殘件令他產生了極大興趣,因其在某種程度上隱喻著中國傳統精神價值的變遷。以這類殘件作為拍攝對象,秦一峰使用大畫幅照相機創作了一系列負片圖像。

秦一峰生於1961年,成長於上海,並在上海生活工作。他自幼學習書法,書法之精髓——精神修養和形式美學——深刻地影響了他的藝術實踐,此次展出的攝影作品也不例外。同樣地,他職業生涯早期作為一個抽象畫家的研究也顯而易見地體現在負片所固有的平面性特質中。1992年,秦一峰確立了他稱之為「線場」的風格系列,在其中,線條建構出的立方體作為視覺主體,探討線與面之構成、平面與立體的關係,以及繪畫空間的重疊與翻轉。此後,藝術家捨棄了立方體形式,風格漸趨凝練,用色也更為肅靜,在精簡的構圖中創造出關於形式美學、空間關係、以及氛圍的無盡變化。

秦一峰的新作延續了他2017年在上海余德耀美術館個展中的主題,此系列作品以平面手段表現立體器物,並發展了特有的藝術語言。通過創造性地解構攝影負片,以及它的黑/白反轉特性,秦一峰試圖達到他所稱道的「起死回生」之效果。在他的圖像中,線條創造了空間、分割圖片的平面,背景與物體之間的空間感從而被壓縮。

在創作過程中,秦一峰內觀式地與自然對話,在種種天氣狀況下等待最合適的自然光線條件進行拍攝。每一件作品隨後都會根據拍攝時的確切時間和天氣狀況命名。如此一來,秦一峰的作品受到自然法則的約束,正如它們所描繪的明式家具殘件一樣,其經歷幾個世紀之久的木材原料本身也浸潤著多重自然屬性。對秦一峰而言,捕捉圖像的最佳時機在於器物能夠「吞沒它的影子」,製造出光影與器物間的黯淡部分,從而使器物保持獨立可見。

明式素工家具的設計、結構及線條一向被視為其內在精神的體現,秦一峰的圖像既保留了家具殘件原本的線條結構,又記錄了它們殘損後的木紋肌理,這些要素都顯示出家具此前被使用、致損以及自然風化的種種跡象。家具所經受的歷史在他的照片——這些照片被構想為某種歷史索引——中得到確認,每一張照片都是對明式家具之無名創造者的致敬。然而,在暗示毀滅或衰變的同時,這些負片也構建了一個歷史空間,與它們更廣闊的藝術世界語境中堅硬而喧鬧的空間形成了鮮明對照。

儘管秦一峰使用照相機製造圖像,但他製造的並不是傳統意義上的「照片」。他的照片消除了透視與景深,將近與遠壓縮在同一個灰色的平面上。使用Sinar P2單軌棚用照相機和施耐德鏡頭作為工具,他得以抵禦那些非必要的攝影性效果。利用一種「反技術」之技術,秦一峰使抽象與具象珠聯璧合。與繪畫筆觸不同,單軌棚用照相機排除了任何偶然的效果,讓秦一峰對圖像的控制力遠遠超越了他此前的繪畫實踐,並令他得以持續而深入地觸及抽象與具象交相輝映時所蘊藏的那種詩意。

簡歷

秦一峰,1961年生於青海,1962年起定居上海。1983年畢業於 上海工藝美校,1989年畢業於上海大學美術學院,現為該校副 教授。

重要個展包括2017年上海余德耀美術館的「秦一峰展」。 此外,曾於臺北安卓畫廊(2016)、北京C空間(2014)、上海東廊藝術(2005)、倫敦中國當代畫廊(1999)、北京紅門畫廊 (1997)、上海大學美術學院(1994)等多地舉辦個展。

重要群展包括廣東美術館「復相・疊影-廣州影像三年展2017」(2017)、倫敦白立方「世界是你們的,也是我們的」(2016)、東京藝術工程「念珠與筆觸」(2003)、維也納藝術家之家「東+西-中國當代藝術展」(2002)、上海美術館「形而上-上海抽象展」(2001)、芝加哥文化中心「上海現代藝術展」(2000)等。

2004年,秦一峰獲第十屆全國美展環境藝術金獎。

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