

ENIGMA of EXISTENCE

虚极之理



Red Gate Gallery

红 门 画 廊

EDGE

projects

Eight established English & Chinese artists working in photomedia, animation (interlacing), drawing, painting, objects and site installation are exhibiting at Red Gate Gallery, Beijing.

Artists:

China – Cindy Ng; Feng Yan; Ren Han; Wang Zhiyuan
UK – Wayne Warren; Andy Holden; Cornford and Cross

The artists have been selected as their work addresses the idea of 'the mystery of life – what is reality?'. The curatorial concept focuses on the question of what constitutes the 'real' – i.e. the physical or tangible – as against the 'unreal' – i.e. the imagined. The Surrealists questioned the nature of reality in terms of it including the super-real – the metaphysical – or what is purely in the mind. Since then, we constantly address the notion of virtual reality through the internet and social media, as well as movies such as *The Matrix*.

The Japanese author Haruki Murakami often employs the co-existence of tangible and metaphysical reality in our illusions, mindscape or head-space, which enable people to transcend the physical and exist in a 'fabricated space' – sought by, or imposed upon, the subject.

These exhibited works have been selected for their reference to such existences – either consciously via the artists' intention or seen as such by the viewer.

Wayne Warren's *Fall* series addresses what it is that we aspire to achieve or to become – at whatever stage of our lives. The 'Wing' is a symbol of us moving to greater heights in search for the goal that drives us onward.

Not dissimilarly, the objects captured by Feng Yan, without reference to scale or location, have an enigmatic quality which questions their existence altogether.

Andy Holden's *Laws of Motion in a Cartoon Landscape* questions the power of our mental attitude over physical 'reality'. Holden uses gravity as the symbol of the force to be overcome – if the mind is unaware of its existence, then (in cartoons) we are not subject to the force.

Wang Zhiyuan's 'Loyalty' triptych questions our rationale and being vis a vis the 'power of government' and the human psyche.

Ren Han's shapes imply a form in silhouette or a void as seen through an opening – but it is a mystery as to which it is or what it might represent. The sense of presence or infinite space is open to conjecture or the imagination.

Cindy Ng's monochromatic works are also essentially non-figurative in form – but they nevertheless suggest spaces of a macro or micro dimension, in which we are immersed – similarly.

Cornford and Cross, in their work, *The End of History*, draw from their first experience in China looking down on the Pearl River Delta after flying from London while reading *Confessions of an English Opium Eater*, 1821, by Thomas De Quincey, and *The End of The Tether*, 1902, by Joseph Conrad. Each narrative describes a journey across a physical, social and psychic landscape.

本次参展艺术家的阵容包括4名华裔艺术家和4位
外籍艺术家，他们在多媒介交互实践领域的创作
早已声名远播。他们分别是：Wayne Warren（英
国），任瀚（中国），吴少英（中国/澳门），封
岩（中国），Andy Holden（英国），王智远（中
国），Cornford 和 Cross（英国）。

这8位艺术家大多经历过诸如海外求学、参与国际
展览等体验，深受两种文化体系的共同影响。他们
的作品呈现出更加国际化的风骨，同时也彰显着他
们自身互不相同的文化根源。比如吴少英和任瀚的
水墨风格作品，与传统中国水墨追求的意境一脉相
承却并未拘泥于过往的格局。

“真实”由何而来？这个人类社会在哲学和精神层
面的恒久命题，一直被不同的领域，包括宗教、
政治、社会、学术等深入探讨并延展开来。日本
作家村上春树曾不断的折返在每日可及的真实与
潜意识向往的精神世界之间的鸿沟；也许是介乎于
乌托邦或反乌托邦，或者双重记忆，神造之物，恐
惧和强烈执念的影响，所有这些追问都被置至于形
而上学领域的临界线，使之消解或孕育至新的“彼
岸”——一种虚拟现实。

牛睿智
策展人
2017年5月

Reg Newitt
Curator
May 2017



Currently lives and works in Beijing

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 **Mirror Image**, C-Space, Beijing, China
- 2014 **Emulating Nature**, C-Space, Beijing, China
- 2012 **Studiolo #2**, Less Is More Projects, Paris, France

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS/EVENTS

- 2016 **Puzzles**, OCAT Xi'an, Xi'an, China
- 2016 **Ghost in Flash: After Photography**, Taikang Space, Beijing, China
- 2015 **JIMEI x ARLES International Photo Festival| Engine: The Image-triggered Mechanism of Artistic Production**, Jiageng Art Center, Xiamen, China





Currently lives and works in London, UK

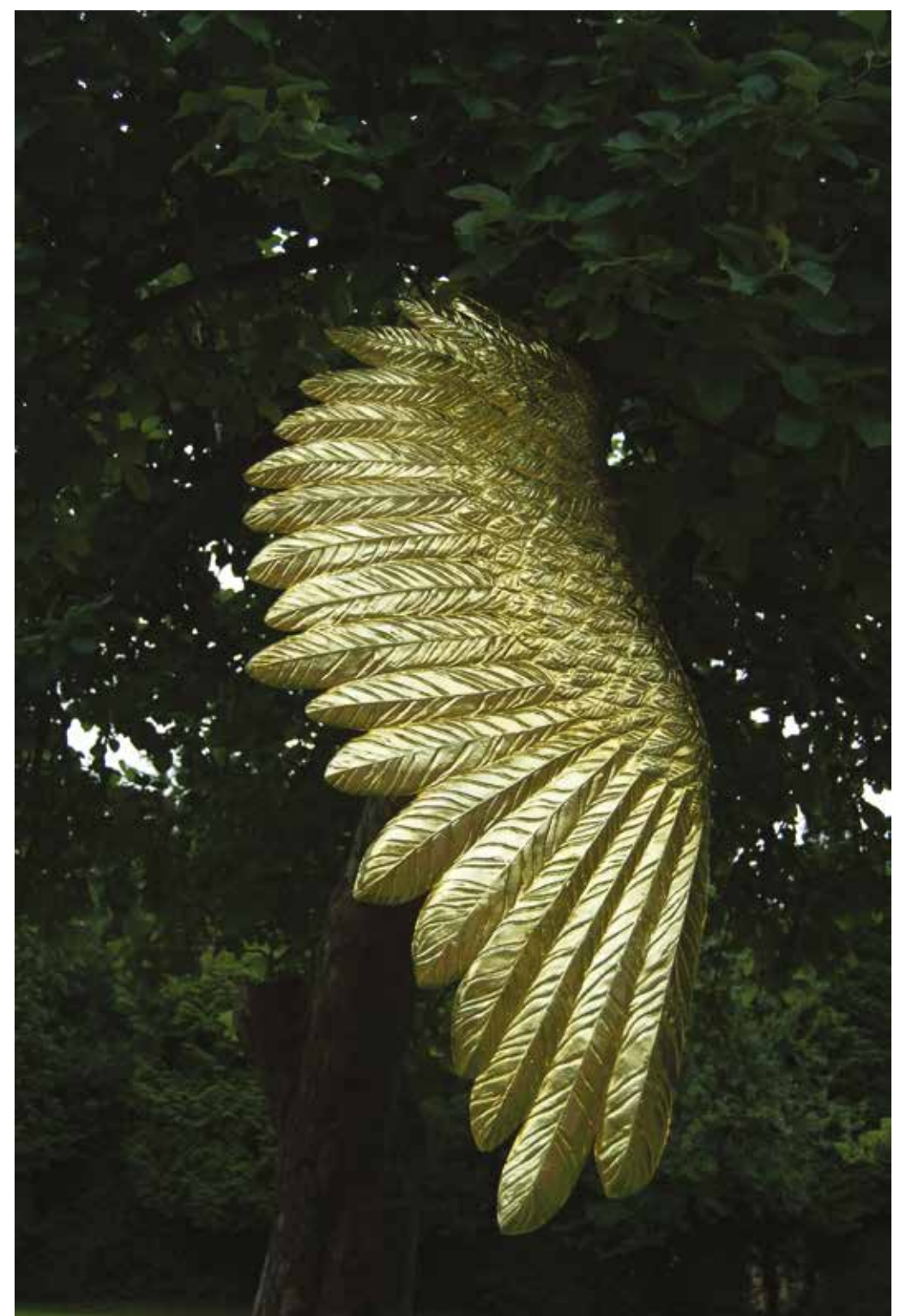
SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 **Void** EDGE project space, London, UK
- 2016 **Last things**, in collaboration with Jayne Dyer, Bury Art Museum, UK
- 2015 **Personal Structures-Crossing Borders**, in collaboration with Jayne Dyer, Palazzo Mora, 56th Venice Biennale. Global Art Affairs Foundation/European Cultural Centre, Venice, Italy

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS/EVENTS

- 2017 **East Meets West** Chenies Manor House & Gardens, Buckinghamshire, UK
- 2015 **The Brits are coming**, Long -Sharp Gallery, Indianapolis, USA
- 2014 **Peach Blossom Spring | Cacotopia**, Kui Yuan Gallery, Guangzhou, PRC; NCCA, Darwin, Australia

Fall 执念 2017, lenticular 立体光栅, 122 x 92.5 cm, Ed 5 + AP 2





Currently lives and works in Beijing, China

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2015 **So Far, So Close**, Fundacao Oriente Museu, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2015 **Inkwalk**, PYO Gallery, Beijing, China
- 2015 **Inkality**, Galerie Ora Ora, Hong Kong, China

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS/EVENTS

- 2016 **Futuristic Ink**, Liang Yi Museum, HK
- 2015 **Calligraphic Time and Space, Abstract Art in China**, Power Station of Art, Shanghai, China
- 2015-16 **Ink Remix: Contemporary Art from China, Taiwan and Hong Kong**, Canberra Museum and Gallery, Bendigo Art Gallery, Uni of NSW, Museum of Brisbane, Australia

Rhythm No 9 洄之九 2016, digital ink painting 数码绘画, 80 cm diameter 直径80 cm





Currently lives and works in Bedfordshire, UK

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2015 **Its only Bondage was the Circling Sky**, SVA/Site Festival, Stroud, UK
- 2015 **Towards a Unified Theory of MIMS**, Kunsthalle Winterthur, Switzerland
- 2015 **Lecture on Nesting** Bristol Museum with Spike Island, UK
- 2010 **Art Now: Andy Holden**, Tate Britain, UK

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS/EVENTS

- 2016 **Secret Surface** K-W Berlin, Germany
- 2016 **Pitt Projects: Music vs Ceramics**, Pulse, New York, USA

卡通景观中的动态规律

I. 任一悬浮在空间里的对象将维持在空间里直至被关注到其处境

II. 任一处于动态的对象将趋于维持动态直至固体物质突然地阻碍

III. 任一穿梭固体物质的对象将遵照其边缘遗留穿孔

IV. 一个物体下落二十层楼所需的时间多于或等于它被任何人踢出台面旋转下落二十个飞行距离的时间以便有意在其未摔破时抓住它

V. 所有重力原理皆因恐惧而被推翻

VI. 随着速度提升物体能够立即出现在若干地点

VII. 特定的对象能够穿梭被喷画得类似隧道入口的固体墙面；其他对象则不能

VIII. 任何猫科动物的暴力重组都是非永久的

IX. 对于每一个复仇都有一个对等并对立的报复

X. 所有物体下落得都比铁砧快



Currently lives and works in Beijing, China

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2014 **Chinese Contemporary Art Research Exhibition**, Union Art Museum, Wuhan, China
- 2013 **Wang Zhiyuan Solo**, Xindong Chen Space for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China
- 2011 **Displacement: Wang Zhiyuan's Solo Show**, Enjoy Art of Museum, Beijing, China

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS/EVENTS

- 2014 **Peach Blossom Spring | Cacotopia** Kui Yuan Gallery, Guangzhou, PRC; NCCA Darwin, Australia
- 2010 **Negotiations: The 2nd Today's Documents**, Today Art Museum, Beijing, China
- 2009-10 **Beijing Time** Madrid and Santiago, Spain

Three Stages Toward Loyalty, Stage 3: Freedom 忠诚三部曲之三——释然 2015, ink on paper 纸、墨, 57 x 41.5 cm





Currently live and work in UK

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 **Afterimage** Curated by Nathaniel Pitt, University of Brighton, UK
- 2008 **The Lion and the Unicorn**, Curated by Kate Pryor, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, UK
- 2007 **The Abolition of Work** Curated by James Green, Exchange Gallery, Penzance, UK

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS/EVENTS

- 2008-09 **The Lion and the Unicorn, Give Me Shelter, The Once and Future King**, Attingham Park, Shropshire, UK; Meadow Arts, Ludlow, UK
- 2004 **Perfectly Placed Where is the Work?**, Curated by Donna Lynas, South London Gallery, UK
- 2004 **Tonight, The End of History** Curated by Paul O'Neill, Studio Voltaire, London, UK



The End of History 历史的终结 2004, diptych - digital print 镜像数码摄影, 55 x 70 cm Ed 3 + AP 1



Currently lives and works in Beijing and Taipei

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2015 **Restless landscape**, Mebo Space, Beijing, China
- 2015 **The Persistence of Images**, Redtory Museum of Contemporary Art, Guangzhou, China

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS/EVENTS

- 2015 **Jimei X Arles: East West Encounters International Photo Festival**, Xiamen, China
- 2015 **We May Have Met Before**, Foam Fotografie Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2015 **Before it All Starts**, Shanghai Gallery, Shanghai, China



Paintings03 绘画之侧 03 digital fine art collection pigment print on Hahnemuhle Museum Etching Paper 收藏级艺术微喷, 148 x 98 cm Ed 8

ABOUT CURATOR / 关于策展人



Reg Newitt currently lives and works between Lisbon, London, Beijing and Sydney. From 2007 to the present he has worked as the following: manager, 798|Red Gate Gallery, Beijing; project manager China Art Projects, Beijing; project manager for UK artist, Wayne Warren as well as independent curator of contemporary art with a cross-cultural focus. In 2016, he established EDGE projects.

策展人牛睿智(Reg Newitt) 生活工作于里斯本、伦敦、北京、悉尼四地。自2007年起，他曾先后担任798红门画廊经理、中国艺术项目经理、英国艺术家Wayne Warren项目经理，并作为独立策展人致力于当代艺术的跨界融合。2016年，他于里斯本创立了EDGE 项目。

ABOUT EDGE PROJECTS / 关于EDGE项目

EDGE projects is registered and based in Lisbon, Portugal. Its main function is to initiate and manage international cultural exchange through contemporary art - exhibitions, residencies, projects. EDGE acts as agent for UK artist Wayne Warren in supporting his art practice production, promotion, securing commissions and enhancing his professional status as a contemporary artist on the international scene. EDGE projects and PITT studio, London have collaborated to open a project space at 13 Herald Street, Bethnal Green, London E26JT.

EDGE项目组创办并设立于葡萄牙里斯本。致力于通过展览、艺术家驻地、特别项目的方式进行国际当代艺术交流。作为英国艺术家Wayne Warren的代理人，EDGE对他的艺术创作进行推广和支持，并保证他在国际当代艺术领域的专业水准。

ABOUT RED GATE GALLERY / 关于红门画廊



Founded in 1991 by Brian Wallace who first arrived in China in 1984, Red Gate Gallery is the first private contemporary art gallery to be established in China. Prior to opening its doors at the 600-year old Ming dynasty watchtower in Dongbianmen, Brian Wallace had started from the late-80s to organize and curate exhibitions for young Chinese artists in other exotic locations such as the Ancient Observatory. Today, Red Gate is recognized both as a tour de force and trail blazer in the history and development of the contemporary Chinese art scene. Over the last 26 years, the gallery has been engaging and promoting Chinese artists by exhibiting the best of Chinese contemporary art as well as facilitating cultural exchanges and dialogues between China and the rest of the world through its vibrant Artist-In-Residence Program established in 2001.

红门画廊由澳大利亚人士布朗先生创办于1991年。作为中国最早成立的当代艺术画廊，二十多年来，红门画廊始终致力于中国当代艺术的推广和国内外艺术联络，并通过不定期地邀请国际，国内知名策划人在红门画廊策划当代艺术活动，进行高水平的学术交流，向中国观众介绍国内外当代艺术，为中国当代艺术的发展以及中西方的艺术交流做出了巨大贡献。2001年，红门画廊创办“驻地艺术家项目”，并成为“国际驻地艺术家中心协会”(RES ARTIS) 的一员。

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / 鸣谢

Brian Wallace, Director, Red Gate Gallery, Beijing | 红门画廊 布朗

Reg Newitt, Director, EDGE projects, Lisbon/London | EDGE 项目策展人 牛睿智

Wayne Warren, catalogue sponsor | 画册赞助 Wayne Warren

Shasha, catalogue design, Shasha Design House Beijing | 画册设计 史莎【北京莎豪斯艺术设计工作室】

Red Gate Gallery staff 红门画廊员工

Artists 艺术家: Ren Han 任翰 | Wayne Warren | Cindy Ng 吴少英 | Andy Holden | Wang Zhiyuan 王智远 | Cornford and Cross | Feng Yan 封岩
