

Liu Ren 刘韧

ARTIST PORTFOLIO



2018



ART+
SHANGHAI GALLERY

CONTENT 目录



Sleepwalker-The Military Museum 梦游—军事博物馆, C-Print, 185 x 90cm & 144 x 70 cm, 2007

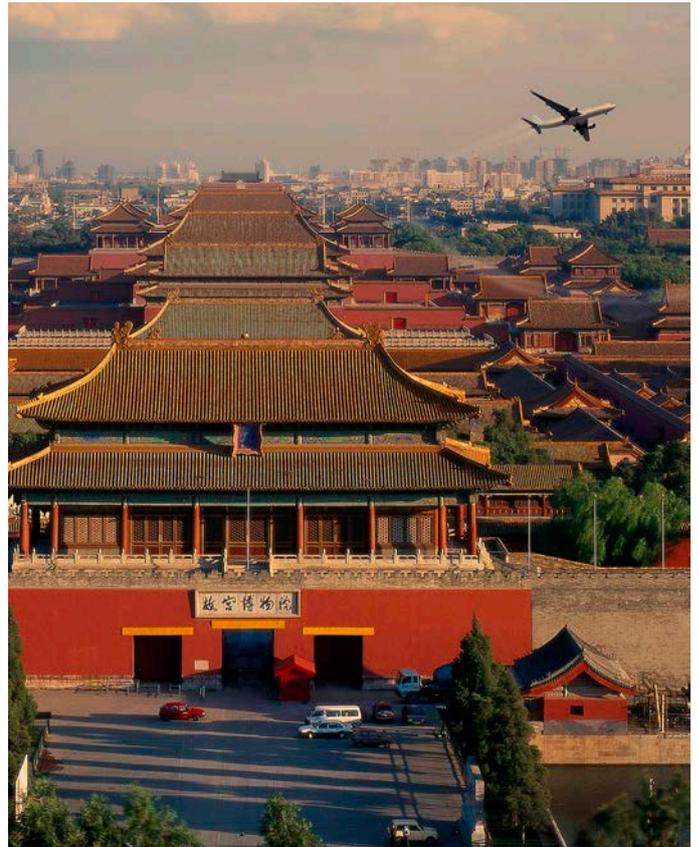


Liu Ren

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ARTIST INTRODUCTION 艺术家简介

Liu Ren (刘韧) was born in 1980 in Qinghuangdao, a seaside town in China's northeastern Hebei province. In 2007 she graduated with a Master of Arts in Photography and Digital Media from the Central Academy of Fine Arts in China, where she is now a professor in the photography department. Liu's works of creative photography are multilayered in visuals and meaning, as she draws on her own experiences, emotions and dreams for inspiration. Using advanced software, she often overlays colourful animals and flora over images of Beijing's cityscape, imparting her dreams and memories onto reality. While some of her pictorial fantasylands lean towards the melancholy, her work contains an underlying and unwavering sense of whimsy, nostalgia, and wonder.

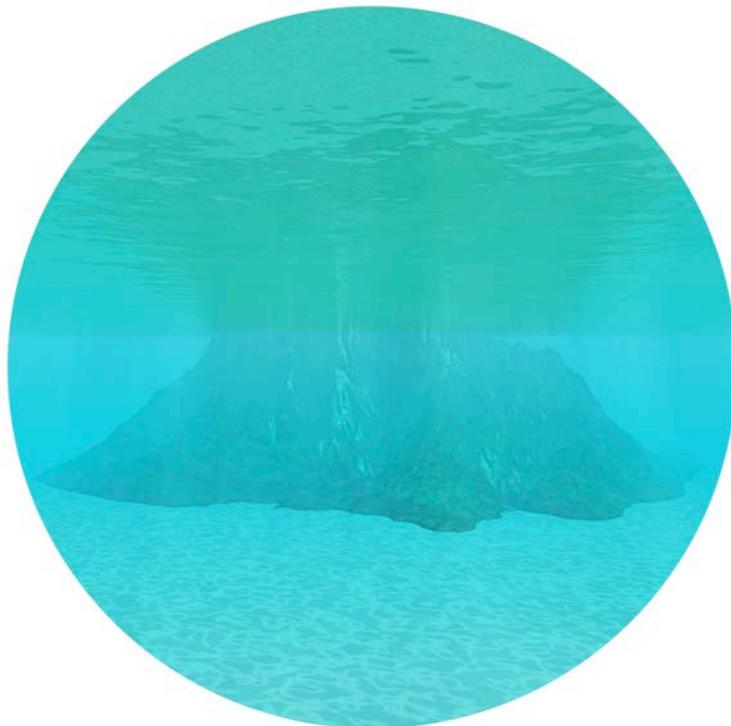


Whisper of the Wind-01 且听风吟-01, C-print, 72 x 220 cm, 2011

SELECTED WORKS - LANDSCAPE SERIES



Landscape 01, Giclee print, D80, 2016



Landscape 02, Giclee print, D80, 2016

SELECTED WORKS - LANDSCAPE SERIES

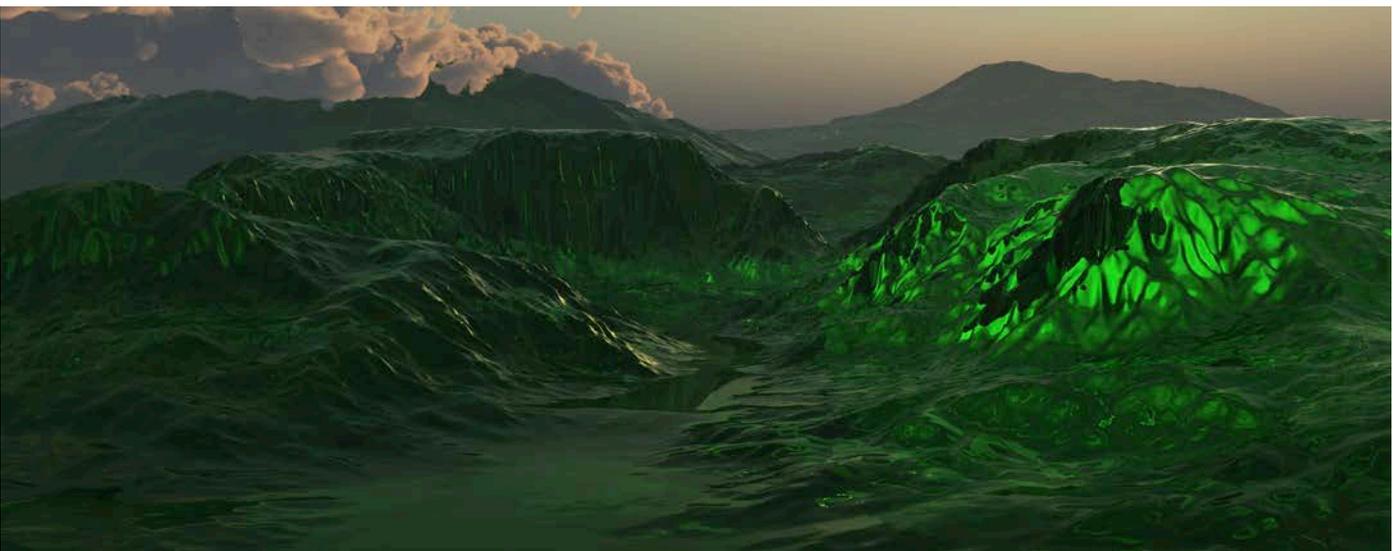


Landscape 03, Giclee print, D80, 2016



Landscape 04, Giclee print, D80, 2016

SELECTED WORKS - LANDSCAPE SERIES



Virtual Landscape 08, Giclee print, 50cm x 212cm 2016

Virtual Landscape 09, Giclee print, 50cm x 212cm, 2016

Virtual Landscape 05, Giclee print, 60cm x 151cm, 2016

SELECTED WORKS - LANDSCAPE SERIES



Virtual Landscape 06, Giclee print, 50 x 110 cm, 2016



Virtual Landscape 07, Giclee print, 50 x 110 cm, 2016

SELECTED WORKS



Someday Somewhere-12 , 某日某地-12, C-Print, diameter 100 cm, diameter 80 cm, 2005

Many of Liu's images revolve around her personal memories of childhood and relationships, the strong emotions of love and loss, and her surrounding landscapes. Memories of a daydream-filled youth and elements of contemporary society inspire her surrealist dreamscapes, combining time and history, fantasy and reality.

Liu Ren's works are often both playful and somber, incorporating carefree wonder and whispered sorrows with aspects of the artist's personal experiences, thoughts, and dreams. Such dreams, themselves imaginative fancies with aspects of reality seamlessly integrated, act as the basis for her abstract imagery that show realities that only exists in dreams.

“I WANT TO CREATE A FAIRY TALE ABOUT YOUTH WITH MY PHOTOS - A PURE FANTASYLAND IN AN INSTANT'S DREAM ON A SPRING AFTERNOON.”

-LIU REN

SELECTED ARTWORKS



我们俩-猪猪 US-04 C-Print 2012 100x100cm
80x80cm.jpg



我们俩-比翼鸟 US-06 C-Print 2012 100x100cm
80x80cm

LIU REN'S "US" SERIES

Liu Ren's "Us" series references Chinese tradition in the round image format derived from fan painting. Pairs of patterned animals placed in mystical settings of water and clouds represent emotions of lost love, memory, reflection and introspection. Water acts as an important personal element for Liu with its connection to her childhood spent in the seaside town of Qinghuangdao, while the animals symbolize truth, having the ability to find and reflect the true essence of one's character.

"This series of works commemorates my past youth and love. Love is like this pretty crystal doll which I used to look at for hours at a time. One day, it fell down, leaving some beautiful broken pieces all over the ground. I picked them up quietly, one by one, hiding them, trying to forget what I once owned. But sometimes, when I hand someone a cup of water or when I hear a stupid bird singing, the crystal doll suddenly well up from the depths of my mind, the memory swallows me like a flood that I'm totally unprepared for.

... Love is a circle. After having painstakingly experienced it, we must go back to the starting point. We must believe that our past stories are preparation for those to come. Many years later, I'm no longer a child and my feelings are drained. If I look back, I will smile sincerely for the one I've truly loved. ... Let's not regret the things we've done. The road of life is not so long. I'm pleased to have experienced love and the grace and wonder of life. I'm pleased to have loved without fear."

SELECTED WORKS



Beijing, Beijing – 03 北京，北京 – 03, C-print, 80 x 120 cm, 2012



Peony Pavilion. Dream Seeking-07 寻梦-07, C-Print, 120 x 388 cm & 80 x 259 cm, 2009

SELECTED ARTWORKS - SCULPTURE SERIES



US-02 我们俩-02, Fiber glass, color-coated, 190 x 145 x 65 cm, 2012

“ART IS DIFFERENT FROM LIFE. LIFE REQUIRES MUCH MORE CARE. BECAUSE OF THIS, ONE COULD SAY LIFE ITSELF IS THE HIGHEST FORM OF ART, SOMETIMES COLORFUL, SOMETIMES DEPRESSING...”

-LIU REN

CV 简历

- 1980 Born in Hebei Province, China
2004-2007 Master of Arts in Photography and Digital Media, Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing, China
- Professor at the Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing
SOLO EXHIBITIONS
- 2010 Liu Ren: A Photography Retrospective, 1 Artbank, Westin Beijing Chaoyang, Beijing
Spring . Dream, Dun Gallery, Beijing
- 2009 Peony Pavilion, VIPS International Art Galleries, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2008 Peony Pavilion, Andrew James Art, Shanghai
Liu Ren's Photographs, Cais Gallery, Seoul, Korea
Between the Real and the Surreal, VIPS International Art Galleries, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- 2006 Someday Somewhere, Paris-Beijing Photo Gallery, Beijing
- 2005 Perfect Life, Must Be Contemporary Art Center, Beijing
- SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**
- 2016 Chinascape: From Rural to Urban—Exhibition of Chinese Contemporary Photography, IGAV-Istituto Garuzzo per le Arti Visive, Milan, Italy
Fire Within, China's New Generation of Women Artists, Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University, USA
The World of Fantasy, Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, New York, USA
- 2015 Neo-Perception: China's New Generation of Women Artists, Pearl Lam Galleries, Shanghai
Liu Ren & Gao Hui - Conceptual Photography in China, Galerie Photo12, Paris, France
- 2013 Surreal City: Contemporary Art Group Exhibition, Art+ Shanghai Gallery, Shanghai
Roots of Relations, Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea, and Songzhuang Art Center, Beijing
A History of Chinese Contemporary Photography, Galerie Paris-Beijing, Brussels, Belgium
Park, Art Beijing 2013 Special Project: Art Zone, Agricultural Exhibition Center, Beijing
JIU CENG GALLERY, Exhibition of Artists' Plans and Sketches, Songzhuang, Beijing
- 2012 Conceptual Renewal - A Brief History of Chinese Contemporary Photographical Art, Si Shang Art Museum, Beijing
Natural Mind, 1st Italy-China Biennale, Villa Reale, Monza, Milan, Italy
- 2012 Rising Dragon, Katonah Museum of Art, Bedford, New York, United States
Standing at the Water's Edge, M97 Gallery, Shanghai
The Ninth China Art Festival, Wudang Mountains, Hubei
- 2011 Group Standing Show, TV12 Gallery, Seoul, Korea
Art Nova 100, Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai, Wuxi, Hong Kong
Artificial Emotions - New Media Arts Exhibition, Songzhuang Art Museum, Beijing
Art Beijing, Agricultural Exhibition Centre, Beijing
ANTHROPOCENE, Red Zone Gallery, Geneva, Switzerland
Nomadic Reality, Art Gate Gallery, New York, United States
Moderne Chinese Kunst in Rotterdam, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
A Room of One's Own, Art + Shanghai Gallery, Shanghai
Potential Memory - Thinking Screenage Art Exhibition, Epson Exceed Your Vision, Beijing
- 2010 A Decade Long Exposure, Central Academy of Fine Arts and Chinese Contemporary Photography, CAFA Art Museum, Beijing
Hong Kong International Art Fair, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Hong Kong
The Second Beijing Film Academy NEW MEDIA ART Triennial, Beijing Film Academy, Beijing
Filter Window, Young Chinese Artists Group Exhibition, Beyond Art Space, Beijing
Digital Generation, Galerie Paris-Beijing, Beijing
Their Horizon - Young Artists Promotion Chapter 2, 798 Center for Art Promotion, Beijing

CV 简历

2009

Speak/Describe - 2009 Cross-Strait Contemporary Art, National Art Museum of China, Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts
Metropolis Now! A Selection of Chinese Contemporary Art, Meridian International Center, Washington, D.C., United States
Stars of China Past and Present, Museum Jan van der Togt, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Animamix Biennial: Universes in Universe, Today Art Museum, MOCA Taipei, MOCA Shanghai, Guangdong Museum of Art
Real-Life Fairy Tales, Female Artists Group Show, Beyond Art Space, Beijing
Art and Cultural Vision at Moment - 2009 Art Chongqing Biennale of the Young, Chongqing International Convention and Exhibition Center, Chongqing
Beyond Globalization, Beyond Art Space, Beijing
The Dimensions of Double Images, New Age Gallery, Beijing

2008

Busan Biennale, Busan, Korea
Butterfly Dream, MOCA Shanghai, Shanghai
Moscow International Biennale for Young Art, Moscow, Russia
Soliloquy: The Reconstruction of Art, Shuimu Art Space, Beijing
Exquisite Corpse: China Surreal, M97 Gallery, Shanghai
Hetero-Imagery - A Kind of Psychology of Urban Image, 798 Photo Gallery, Beijing
Dreams: Liu Ren, Chen Zhuo + Huang Keyi, Ooi Botos Gallery, Hong Kong
Fotofest 2008, Houston, Texas, United States

2007

The Alchemy of Shadows - Third Lianzhou International Photo Festival 2007, Lianzhou
Seventh Photo Festival China: Contemporary Photo and Video, Gana Art Gallery, Seoul, Korea
SH Contemporary 2007, Shanghai Exhibition Center, Shanghai
Between Reality and Illusion, Marty Walker Gallery, Dallas, Texas, United States
Three Photography, Addison/Ripley Fine Art, Washington, D.C., United States
Trust the Future, Beijing TS1 Contemporary Art Center, Beijing
Asiana - A Survey of Contemporary Asian Art, Artcore/Fabrice Marcolini, Toronto, Canada
Only Child, Shanghai Zhu Qi Zhan Art Gallery, toured to Beijing TS1 Contemporary Art Center, Beijing Imperial City Art Exhibition Center

2006

Arles Photograph Art Festival, Arles, France
Object to France, Centre Culturel France in Beijing, Beijing
Ultra-Sense, Seoul International Photography Festival, Seoul, Korea
China/Chai-na, 706 Space, Beijing
Post Electronic Image, Must Be Contemporary Art Center, Beijing; Eastlink Gallery, Shanghai; and Long Island Art Space, New York, United States

2005

The Second Reality: Photographs from China, touring exhibition in Europe
Beijing Art Documental - Jiang Hu, 799 Art Center, Beijing

CV 简历

AWARDS

- 2011 Silver Award, Asia ARTZOO Competition 2011
- 2007 Elinchrom Photography Scholarship 2007
- 2006 First Prize, French Embassy and French Cultural Center in China Photography Competition Creativity Award (Academic Section), 2006 International Digital Art and Harries National Digital Art Awards New Media Art Lab of BFA
- New Person Prize, China Pingyao International Photography Festival 2006
- Award for Excellence, Photography and Digital, China Tongli University Photography Festival

COLLECTIONS

- National Art Museum of China, Beijing
- Gwangju Cultural Foundation, Korea
- Museum Jan van der Togt, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- Gana Art Gallery, Seoul, Korea
- M 97 Gallery, Shanghai
- Cais Gallery, Seoul, Korea
- Andrew James Art, Shanghai
- VIPS International Art Galleries, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- Paris-Beijing Photo Gallery, Beijing
- Ooi Botos Gallery, Hong Kong
- Private Collections held in the United States, Asia (China, Hong Kong, South Korea) and Europe (England, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Switzerland)
- China Guardian Auctions Co., Ltd., November 2007

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2015 Le Monde Diplomatique, September, 2015
- Photographers Companion, April, 2015
- Photo, 2015
- 2013 Imagine, Gold Wall Press, March 2013
- Art Guide, April 2013
- Asian Art News, November 2013
- Global Times, Culture, November 12, 2013
- 2012 New Faces New Works-China Contemporary Art, October 2012
- 2010 Oriental Art Collection, July 2010
- 25 New Photographer in China, Zhejiang Photographic Press, January 2010
- 2009 CCTV1 - News report on March 25, 2009
- 2008 CCTV2 - Tales of Creating Wealth on March 6, 2008
- Young Chinese Artists: The Next Generation, Prestel (Munich, Berlin, London, New York), 2008
- 2007 Catalogue: Chinese Fine Art Photography, China Guardian 2007 Autumn Auctions
- China Guardian Auctions Co., Ltd., November 2007
- Catalogue: Cheng Xuan 2007 Autumn Auctions Chinese Photography
- Beijing Cheng Xuan Auction Co., November 2007
- Catalogue: Chinese Fine Art Photography, China Guardian 2007 Spring Auctions
- China Guardian Auctions Co., Ltd., May 2007
- 2006 Liu Ren Photography, Timezone 8, December 2006
- 3030 New Photography In China, 3030 Press, 2006



**FOR MORE INFORMATION
REGARDING THE ARTIST**

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