

Zhang Xiaogang: Lost

Mar 21– May 18, 2023
12/F, H Queen's
80 Queen's Road Central
Hong Kong

Opening reception:
Mar 20, 2023 (Mon), 6-8pm



Zhang Xiaogang, *Light No. 5*, 2022 © Zhang Xiaogang, courtesy Pace Gallery

Hong Kong – Pace is pleased to present *Zhang Xiaogang: Lost*, an exhibition of works produced by Zhang Xiaogang over the past three years, at its Hong Kong gallery. Coinciding with *Zhang Xiaogang: Mayflies* at the Long Museum West Bund, Pace's exhibition in Hong Kong will spotlight eleven new and recent paintings related to the works on view at the Shanghai institution through May 7. *Lost* will run from March 21 to May 18, with an opening reception held at the gallery on March 20 from 6–8 p.m.

A hugely influential contemporary painter in China, Zhang depicts the absurd but intriguing inner experience of mortals, evoking the original impetus from one's own life consciousness. In the *Light* series on display in his exhibition with Pace in Hong Kong, the artist paints patches of light delicately. Zhang's gentle, painterly touch in these meditative and tranquil works—which can be traced to the artist's *Big Family* series from the 1990s—has gradually become the most recognizable feature of his practice. In a departure from the portraiture that established Zhang's fame, the artist's new experimentations focus on still life painting. Oftentimes in Zhang's work, inanimate objects seem to possess emotional depth, while his alienated human figures are almost devoid of life.

The exhibition will also include *Jump No. 6* (2022), an oil painting on paper, and *Jump No. 8* (2022), an oil painting on canvas. These works reflect the artist's sensitivity and finesse in his approach to different mediums and materials. Jumping figures have been the subjects of Zhang's works over the past few years. However, the dynamism implied by the titles of these paintings is upended by their content: human figures appear to be suspended in solidified air, impervious to gravity's pull. This visual phenomenon might be understood in the context of the global pandemic's effects on time and space. The artist intuitively absorbs his own experiences, creating works of both psychological and physical heft. Through the ancient technique of painting, he weaves the turbulence of contemporary life into the eternal predicament of the human soul in theatrical, absurdist scenes that might be interpreted as poetic fables of the present day.

Zhang Xiaogang (b. 1958, Kunming, China), graduated from the Sichuan Fine Arts Institute in oil painting. He now lives and works in Beijing. Since the 90s, Zhang has expressed himself through styles of coldness and restraint and that of daydreams to articulate the collective psychological memory and emotions prominent in his times. This means of absurdly representing and simulating society, the collective, personal, family, blood relation is a reinterpretation of art, emotions, and life. It holds heavy significance in the contemporary world, and is the best manifestation of the sense of worldliness in China in contemporary art. His works have been exhibited in the Venice Biennale, Sao Paulo Biennale (awarded the Sao Paulo Biennale Bronze Prize, 1994), Guangju Biennale, Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art, Shanghai Biennale, and other important exhibitions within and outside of the country. He has also exhibited in many important organizations and museums over the world. His works have been collected by the Tate, Centre Pompidou, Deutsches Historisches Museum, Queensland Gallery of Modern Art, Tokushima Modern Art Museum, Fukuoka Art Museum, Shanghai Art Museum, Long Museum of Shanghai, and various institutional and private collections within and outside of the country.



For immediate release

Pace is a leading international art gallery representing some of the most influential contemporary artists and estates from the past century, holding decades-long relationships with Alexander Calder, Jean Dubuffet, Barbara Hepworth, Agnes Martin, Louise Nevelson, and Mark Rothko. Pace enjoys a unique U.S. heritage spanning East and West coasts through its early support of artists central to the Abstract Expressionist and Light and Space movements.

Since its founding by Arne Glimcher in 1960, Pace has developed a distinguished legacy as an artist-first gallery that mounts seminal historical and contemporary exhibitions. Under the current leadership of President and CEO Marc Glimcher, Pace continues to support its artists and share their visionary work with audiences worldwide by remaining at the forefront of innovation. Now in its seventh decade, the gallery advances its mission through a robust global program—comprising exhibitions, artist projects, public installations, institutional collaborations, performances, and interdisciplinary projects. Pace has a legacy in art bookmaking and has published over five hundred titles in close collaboration with artists, with a focus on original scholarship and on introducing new voices to the art historical canon.





The gallery has also spearheaded explorations into the intersection of art and technology through its new business models, exhibition interpretation tools, and representation of artists cultivating advanced studio practices. As part of its commitment to technologically engaged artists within and beyond its program, Pace launched a hub for its web3 activity, Pace Verso, in November 2021.

Today, Pace has nine locations worldwide, including a European foothold in London and Geneva, and two galleries in New York—its headquarters at 540 West 25th Street, which welcomed almost 120,000 visitors and programmed 20 shows in its first six months, and an adjacent 8,000 sq. ft. exhibition space at 510 West 25th Street. Pace’s long and pioneering history in California includes a gallery in Palo Alto, which operated from 2016 to 2022. Pace’s engagement with Silicon Valley’s technology industry has had a lasting impact on the gallery at a global level, accelerating its initiatives connecting art and technology as well as its work with experiential artists. Pace consolidated its West Coast activity through its flagship in Los Angeles, which opened in 2022. Pace was one of the first international galleries to establish outposts in Asia, where it operates permanent gallery spaces in Hong Kong and Seoul, as well as an office and viewing room in Beijing. Pace’s satellite exhibition spaces in East Hampton and Palm Beach present continued programming on a seasonal basis.

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