

osage

CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY

Osage Gallery, Kwun Tong
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Press Release

Attention Arts and Features Editors

7 September 2011

For immediate release

Machine in the Body

08.10.2011 – 09.11.2011

Reception: 07.10.2011, 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Osage Gallery, Kwun Tong

Artist: LI Xinping

Curator: Sonja NG

Osage Gallery Kwun Tong is pleased to present *Machine in the Body*, a solo exhibition by Beijing based artist Li Xinping.

Life as objectified by worldly beings has been a continual source of inspiration and driving force behind Li Xinping's works. For the artist, the notion of the human body in particular serves as a major platform and vehicle in seeking an understanding and parallel between the vast realms of Western philosophy and Chinese culture. The exhibition explores the paradoxical idea of a force based on Eastern narrative and Western symbolism that is at once external yet embedded as an inner mechanism within Li's painted characters.

Though originally trained in traditional oil painting, Li's ever-fluid artistic style in the medium has spanned across different genres, from decorative, realist, abstract, to experimental. The subject matter in the paintings ranges from the manifestation of Western scientific motifs that spans across astrology and medicine, to traditional myths and folklores intimately grounded within the contemporary culture of China.

This eclectic combination presented in Li's works defies easy categorization and more importantly, as a result, has ironically positioned Li to be on the outer skirt of both the traditional and contemporary art circles in China today. *Machine in the Body* at the same time will present a selection of new and old, as well as unfinished works created during Li's prolific career that will allow the audience to closely examine the painting process and skillful technique by the artist and at the same time, explores the undefined area in which the artist's artistic practice situates.

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Ants, Oil on canvas 2008, Diameter : 230cm

ABOUT MACHINE IN THE BODY

Artist:	LI Xinping
Curator:	Sonja NG
Venue:	Osage Gallery, Kwun Tong
Address:	5/F, Kian Dai Industrial Building, 73-75 Hung To Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Tel:	(852) 2793 4817
Exhibition Duration:	8 October – 9 November 2011
Reception:	7 October 2011 (Friday), 6.00pm

APPENDIX A: ABOUT THE ARTIST

Li Xinping (b. 1959) graduated from Henan University with Top Honors in Fine Arts. He has subsequently studied at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing as well as the St. Petersburg Art Academy in Russia. His works have been presented at notable exhibitions and art fairs in Asia such as *SUSI: Key to Chinese Art Today-Exploration&Discovery* (2006) at the National Museum in Manila, *Nokia Singapore Art 1999*, and *Art Taipei* (2008, 2009). Li has twice represented Beijing in the National Art Exhibition in China. Since 2005, he has had numerous solo exhibitions at the Osage Galleries in Hong Kong, Singapore, and Shanghai with works in the collection of private collectors from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and overseas. His most recent group exhibition was at the National Museum of Art in Beijing titled "Glorious Course and Epic Scroll" with the realist painting of *Li Da Zhao*.

APPENDIX B: PRESS IMAGES



Elf Land, Sketch, 2008, 55cm X 30cm



Everyday, Oil on canvas, 4 panels, 119cm X 37cm each



Image of He Tu (left panel), *Story of Luo Shu* (right panel), Oil on canvas, 2011

ABOUT OSAGE GALLERY

Osage Gallery is devoted to the exhibition and promotion of international and Asian contemporary visual arts, exploring the diverse and complex artistic relationships between the different regions of Asia, and beyond that, of the artistic relationships between Asia and other parts of the world. Osage Gallery represents some of the most exciting and significant artists in the region. The gallery also works closely with international critics and curators to present exhibitions and projects that address themes and issues relevant to our times.

In addition to organising major group and thematic exhibitions, Osage Gallery has organised solo exhibitions by some of the most significant artists in Asia, such as Sun Yuan and Peng Yu, Shen Shaomin and Jiang Zhi from China, as well as other Asian artists such as Lee Kit (Hong Kong), Wilson Shieh (Hong Kong), Nipan Oranniwesna (Thailand) and Ho Tzu Nyen (Singapore).

Osage Gallery is part of the Osage Group www.osageartideas.com encompassing the Osage Art Foundation, Osage Art Consultancy and Osage Design.

Please visit www.osagegallery.com for more information.

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