

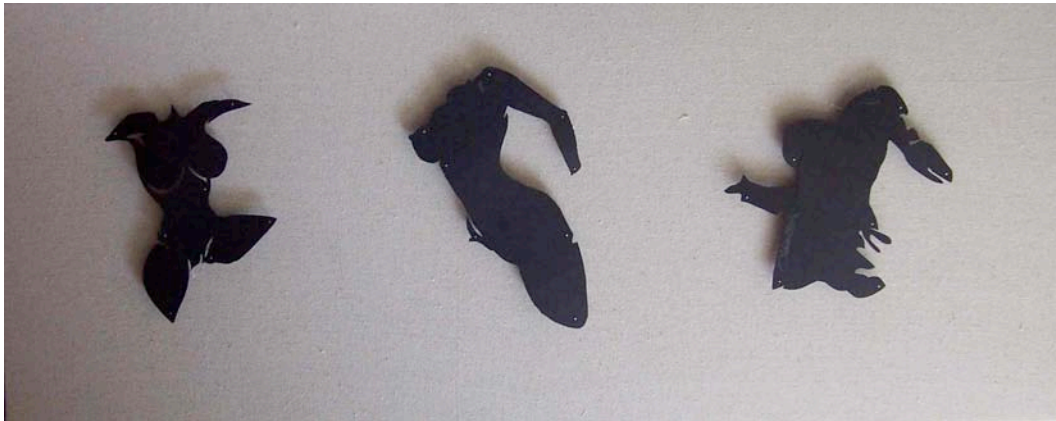
ELISABETH DE BRABANT

CHINESE CONTEMPORARY FINE ART



SHANGHAI · PARIS · HONG-KONG

'METAMORPHOSIS'
Solo Exhibition
LUO ER QI



Elisabeth de Brabant Art Center, Shanghai

July 3rd – August 10th, 2009

Luo Er Qi's works are translated from a visual dictionary; this solo exhibition presents his new decoupage works exploding in force and fusion. Like magnets, three-dimensional figurative forms are suspended in unity. Long hand-cut figures are mutated into a captured form, like a combustion of anatomy.

The artist wants the viewer to be challenged, and his works are certainly not easy for the eye to comprehend. This is his purpose- to lead the viewer to read and make sense of the beauty and energy of the abstracted forms as they are in transition with one another.

Luo Er Qi takes inspiration from his childhood fascination with Chinese mythology and magical forms, and combines this with his classical artistic education and his training in Lithography. His pieces are at once spontaneous and precise, and convey a sense of energy and motion, evoking a dreamlike quality. Luo Er Qi describes his artistic process as one that draws him in, almost overwhelming him, with a desire to capture and process an image in his mind until its spirit has become distilled into an interpretation of the object's form. In this way, Luo Er Qi's works are a result of the intricacies in detail and form that he sees in real life translated into his papercut forms.

In his own words, Luo Er Qi explains his working process:

"As a fervent observer of images, I have tried every way to find and collect the images I absorb every day even though such research and concentrated observation can be exhausting, even driving me to sickness. But after experiencing so much torture from overuse of my visual appetite and the strain of labor on my eyes, the desire to "chew on" these images grows within me. After I collect and turn over these images in my mind, I move onto the actual "reconstruction" of these images, restoring them to their original character based on my own interpretations. Not only do I trace the shape to its original form; more specifically, I reveal the form hidden in the character of the image. It is a process of digestion rather than simple duplication.

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I use my own visual language to record the shapes that I love in every image. Re-creation and change are inevitable during the process because I open myself to emotion and intuition. Under such a state, when my mind is controlled by my subconscious, my work is seeking a purpose (to extract the soul of the image), making the results impossible to foretell."

Originally trained as a painter, Luo Er Qi found inspiration and freedom in the elaborate hand crafting of paper cutting. However, painting and drawing also continue to inspire his working process and gives inspiration to his interpretation of form from a flat surface into a 3-dimensional one. The artist comments on how painting informs his understanding of forms and reality:

"Ancient Chinese people referred to human as "square feet, round skull", like "round sky, square earth", which is an interesting angle for the east to understand the world from. I try to express through painting my understanding of the world and my hypothesis toward the original status of life. I wish to describe the elusive living world with the specific drawing language. Certainly what I present is usually some shapes being between identifiable and unknown. It is very important to me, as I am not interested in restoring the realistic world. It is only the unknown image obtained through art practices that can excite me."

Luo Er Qi studied at the Shanghai Academy of Fine Arts (1998-2002), and then went on to continue his studies in Besançon, France, a city world renowned for its Arts and Culture (Fine Art School of Besançon, France 2003 – 2008). He has also exhibited at Duolun Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai (2007). Luo Er Qi was first presented in the Art center in the group show *Inner Dialogue*, January 2009, with a limited selection of works. In this solo exhibition, we see his entire working ideological and artistic development presented, from 2D oil paintings and sketches into 3D suspended sculptures.

PRESS PREVIEW

Date: July 2nd, 2009

Time: 1:30 – 3:30 pm

VIP OPENING

Date: July 2nd, 2009

Time: 5:30 - 8:30 pm

EXHIBITION DATES

Date: July 3rd – August 10th, 2009

Address: No. 299 Fuxing West Road, Shanghai 200031

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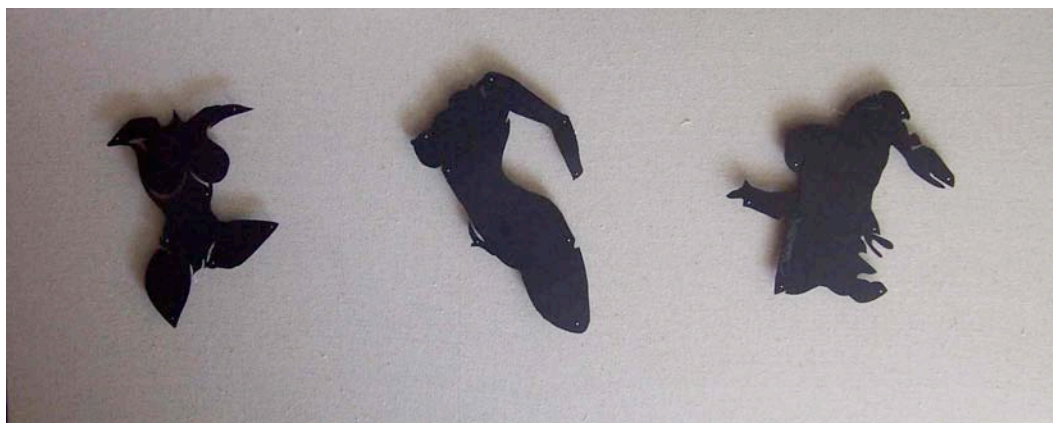
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Art Center hours: Closed on Mondays; Tues-Fri 10am – 6pm; Sat & Sun 1pm – 6pm



变形记

罗尔奇个人艺术展



上海博雅珊艺术中心
2009年7月3日—8月10日

罗尔奇的作品是对视觉词典的诠释，此次个展中所呈现的剪纸新作品展现了具有爆发感的交织的力量。犹如磁铁一般，立体丰富的形态悬挂在气场中，互动，变形。手工精剪的长形轮廓是情节的剪影，将结构的变形瞬间静止，突变为凝固的力量。

艺术家挑战着观者的视觉体验，他的作品并不容易观赏，这也是他的目的-带领观者去阅读并感受这些抽象形态的力和美，以及他们相互间的变形。

罗尔奇的创作形式灵感来源于中国神话、魔法形式以及他自己对现实生活物体的释义。他几乎沉醉于寻找和收藏图像，再在脑子里反复琢磨直到他能够用自己的视觉语言提炼出图像的灵魂。通过这种方式，罗尔奇将他所看到的细节和形式转移到自己的剪纸作品里。他的作品被赋予了梦幻般的力量和动能，浑然天成而又不失精准。

罗尔奇用自己的话语描述了剪纸作品是如何成为他表达现实的必需：

作为一个狂热的图像消费者，我通过各种途径寻找和收藏它们，每次做这样一种搜查且消费的行动时，我都会竭尽全力，直到“恶心”的那一刻，但是过度使用眼力之后的一段时间的精神疲劳总能酝酿出“咀嚼”它们的欲望。接着，我会开始做一些还原图像的工作：描摹它们，更确切地说，应该是寻找潜藏于它们中的形。这对我来说并非是简单的复制，而是一种消化过程。我使用自己的视觉语言以各种方式记录下每张图像中令我倾倒的形，在进行此动作的同时，也不可避免地做了大量地篡改和臆造，这是因为我总是听命于手感和直觉去工作，在试图使自己的心境保持在服从于下意识指挥的状态下，我的工作变得有目的(提取图形的灵魂)，却又无法预测结果。

罗尔奇原本是油画家，而他却在手工剪纸中寻求到了灵感。绘画和剪纸艺术激发着他的创作过程，演绎着从平面到立体的表现形式。艺术家这样理解他的艺术表现形式：

中国人用“方趾圆颅”来代指人，就像“天圆地方”一样，这是东方人认识世界的一种奇趣视角，我试图通过绘画来表达我对世界的理解，对生命原始状态的假设。我希望能通过具象绘画语言来描述那难以琢磨的生命世界。当然我呈现的通常是一些介于可辨认又陌生的图形，这对我来说很重要，因为我对还原现实世界毫无兴趣，而通过艺术实践所得到的未知形象才能使我兴奋。

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罗尔奇于1998年到2002年就读于上海大学美术学院油画系；2003-2008求学于法国贝桑松美术学院。2007年他的作品在上海多伦现代艺术馆展出。2009年1月，在博雅珊艺术中心的“私语”展览中，罗尔奇展示了部分作品。而在这次个人艺术展中，我们看到了他完整的创作理念和艺术成果，包括平面的油画素描作品以及立体的悬挂装置。

媒体发布会

日期：2009年7月2日

时间：1:30 – 3:30 pm

VIP 开幕式

日期：2009年7月2日

时间：5:30 - 8:30 pm

展览日期

2009年7月3日-8月10日

地址：上海复兴西路299号，200031

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开放时间：周二至周五，10am – 6pm，周末，1pm – 6pm，周一休息