



## **CANVAS AND BRONZE**

### **Solo Exhibition of LI LEI**



### **Elisabeth de Brabant Art Center, Shanghai**

May 28 – August 15, 2010

The focus of the world is currently on Shanghai. We are most honored to be able to celebrate this moment in the city's development by presenting one of Shanghai's iconic abstract artists, Li Lei.

Li Lei has been a good friend of mine for several years now, and still his artworks have never ceased to astonish me. I have come to know Li Lei as a kind, distinguished, and discreet gentleman. I discovered another side to this venerable, pivotal figure of China's contemporary art scene upon my first visit to his studio. His works are vulnerable, and incredibly expressive vibrations of the soul. It is immediately obvious that the most intense feelings of the artist and the man are completely given over to his artworks; his paintings, his sculpture, his inner life.



Li Lei's bronze series, "Fallen Angels", encompasses the most quintessential expression of emotion. One can feel the immediacy of the artist's connection to these works, evidence of the passion in his hands molding the clay, in every indentation and rivulet. We see the lightness of souls, the heaviness of spirit, and the fragility of human life and intense interaction. There is a battle between light and dark, between emotions and enlightenment, and between humanity and what lies beyond.

In "Shanghai Flowers" his newest series, there seems to be a reflection of an emotional explosion, of a new language, a liberty from his earlier more linear, poetic works. There is a sense of tranquil abandon about this new series, with their streaks and sprays of pure, unfettered color. There is a rawness of energy, and a pulsating expression of emotion.

We are most honored to present Li Lei's latest works and latest expression.

--Elisabeth de Brabant

### **Background in Li Lei**

Today, Li Lei is one of the pioneers of Chinese abstract art, having begun the practice and cultivation of this genre of art in 1996. Since then, Li Lei has forged a way for generations of artists to follow, having successfully merged the styles of Western abstract art with the essence of Chinese culture.

Li Lei was born in Shanghai in 1965. He travelled and spent most of his young childhood in Northwest China (Qinghai and Gansu) as his parents belonged to the Army. The landscapes he discovered as a child inform many of the forms and colors in his works, as well as the solitary landscapes of Sichuan, which he has returned to often.

Li Lei currently holds the office of the Executive Director at the Shanghai Art Museum. He also serves as the vice-chairman of the Shanghai Young Artists Association and is a member of the Chinese Artists Association. Additionally, he is the Deputy President of the Shanghai Youth Literature and Art League, serves as Vice Executive Director of Shanghai Oil Painting and Sculpture Institute and sits on the Executive Council of the China Artists' Association.



Li Lei has participated in solo exhibitions worldwide for over 20 years, in cities such as Beijing and Shanghai, China; New York, USA; Frankfurt and Linz, Germany; Amsterdam, Holland; and Brussels, Belgium.

### **Former Public Positions**

General Secretary of the Shanghai Cultural Bureau Youth League, Vice Director of the Fine Arts Section of the Mass Culture Library of Shanghai Cultural Bureau, Vice Director of the Arts Section of the Shanghai Municipal Administration of Culture, Radio Broadcasting, and Television, Vice Executive Director of Shanghai Oil Painting and Sculpture Institute

### **Large Artistic Projects Organized by Li Lei**

1999 Initiated the *Shanghai Youth Biennale* as Vice President of the Organization Committee and the General Secretary

2003 Founded and organized the annual art fair *ART Shanghai* as the Vice President of the Organization Committee and the General Secretary

2004 Founded and organized the biennial event *Shanghai Abstract Art Show* as Art Director

2006 Presided over the organization of *Shanghai Biennale* as the member of the Organization Committee, General Secretary, and Vice Director of the Art Committee.

### **Publications**

*Shanghai Oil Painting Masters: Li Lei*, published by Shanghai Bookstore Publishing House;

*Contemporary Artists of China---Li Lei: Poetic Abstract*, published by Hebei Education Press;

*Contemporary Artists of China Today---Li Lei: the Far Away and the Serene*, published by Sichuan Fine Arts Press.



**PRESS PREVIEW**

Date: May 28, 2010

Time: 3:00 - 5:00 pm

**EXHIBITION DATES**

Dates: May 28 – August 15, 2010

Address: No. 299 Fuxing West Road, Shanghai 200031

**RSVP**

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## 纵形如色

李磊



上海博雅珊艺术中心

2010年5月28日 - 8月15日

当今上海集举世瞩目于一身。而我们也很有幸有机会与上海最具代表性的艺术家之一——李磊进行合作，共同庆祝这座东方之珠的冉冉升起。

有幸结识李磊多年，这些年来他的作品总是能带给我极大的冲击和惊喜。李磊在我心中一直是一位谦谦君子，直到我第一次目睹他的作品才发现这位当今中国艺术圈中大名鼎鼎的



人物居然也有另外一面。在他的作品中我感知到了细腻，脆弱，和灵魂的搏动。我立刻意识到原来这位艺术家将他最深沉和热烈的情感全部投入进了他的艺术品，他的油画和雕塑，以及他的内心生活之中。

我坚信李磊的铜雕《失落的天使》包含了情感宣泄的本质。从雕塑的每一个凹陷和流转中，都能看到艺术家的手塑造模土的痕迹，和他与这些作品亲密的联系。在这场明暗交错，情流意转和对人性以及更深远的主题的探讨之中，我们看到了灵魂的轻重和人生短长。

他最近一系列的油画作品《海上花》是一种全新表达的绽放，是他将自己从早先更加直白的作品中的自我解放。从那不受拘束的泼墨挥洒之间传达出一种静默平和，源自于能量的质朴表现和情感宣泄。

—博雅珊

## 李磊简介

李磊1996年起主要从事中国抽象艺术创作和研究，力求将中国文化的核心理念与国际上成熟的象艺术语言相结合，走出一条中国的抽象艺术之路。

李磊，1965年出生于上海市。他的童年大部分时光在中国西北度过（青海和甘肃），因为他的父母当时都在当地的部队。他作品的形式和颜色呈现着童年所见的景致，而四川孤寂辽阔的景色也是他作品中所常常展现的。

李磊现为上海美术馆执行馆长、上海青年艺术家协会副主席。同时他也是上海青年文学艺术联合会副会长、中国美术家协会理事。

近20年来，李磊在世界各地举办过个人画展，包括中国北京、上海，美国纽约，德国法兰克福、林兹，荷兰阿姆斯特丹以及比利时布鲁塞尔。

## 曾经担任社会职务

上海市文化局群众文化美术图书馆处副处长、上海市文化广播影视管理局艺术处副处长、上海油画雕塑院执行副院长。



## 曾经组织的大型美术活动

1999年组织创设双年度的“上海青年美术大展”任组委会副主任、秘书长；  
2003年组织创设年度的“上海春季艺术沙龙”任组委会副主任、秘书长；  
2004年组织创设双年度的“上海抽象艺术大展”任艺术总监；  
2006年主持双年度的“上海双年展”组织工作，任组委会委员、秘书长，艺术委员会副主任；

## 出版书籍：

《海上油画名家：李磊》，上海书店出版社  
《中国当代艺术家——李磊》，河北教育出版社  
《今日中国艺术家——李磊：楼高人远天如水》，四川美术出版社

### 媒体预展

2010年5月28日  
下午3时至5时

### 公开展览日期

2010年3月28日- 8月15日

### 敬请联系

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