

Vay Hy

This is Tomorrow: solo booth presentation at START Saatchi Gallery 2015

VIP & Press Preview: Wednesday 9 September 2015, 2pm – 9pm

Fair Dates

Thursday 10 September – Saturday 12 September 2015, 11am – 6pm

Sunday 13 September 2015, 11am – 5pm

Saatchi Gallery, Duke of York's HQ, King's Road, Chelsea, London SW3 4RY. **Booth 11.7**

For immediate release

Christine Park Gallery is proud to present a solo booth project by London-based artist Vay Hy at the second edition of START Art Fair held at one of London's most prestigious art venues, the Saatchi Gallery.

Invited by the Fair director, Niru Ratnam, to a curated section *This is Tomorrow*, Vay Hy presents a series of ink paintings that are inspired by nature and organic forms in our ever changing landscape. Using the traditional Chinese mediums of ink and paper, Hy creates a series of abstract works which draw on the power of the elements. His paintings reflect a new visual language heavily influenced by the landscapes he has found inspirational during his travels in Tibet, Vietnam, Thailand and China.

Nature is not simply an inspiration for Hy's work but has become an integral part in its creative process. Most of the artworks were created on his studio balcony in London and subjected to the elements of the English weather. It is the combination of harnessing the effects of the natural climate together with the unorthodox use of salt and acrylic in his ink paintings which gives the artworks their unique quality. By embracing the idea of cycles within nature and incorporating these elements into the creative process, Hy's work reflects the tension that can often be found in nature where rain, sun and wind can breathe both life and destruction to the landscape. Each piece is imbued with its own personal history as well as that of the artist in his synthesis of styles, techniques and inspirations.

In addition to the earlier works created in London, Hy presents three new paintings that were created during his recent stay in Shanghai, China. The same philosophy of textures and forms that distinguish his

signature paintings can still be seen in these new works however, the visit to China clearly had a significant and positive influence on Hy's works. These new paintings are filled with simplified tonal marks, toned-down colours and enriched structures of forms. They seem to have gone through a deliberate and analytical change reflecting a fresh emphasis and new ideas.

Artist news

Vay Hy's new works made in Shanghai will also be shown in this year's *Art In the City Festival* in **Shanghai, China**. Hosted by K11 Art Mall, this annual event will take place from 11 to 14 September 2015 during the *Shanghai Art Week* and it is a place of new discoveries, dedicated to curated solo shows and group exhibitions by emerging artists showcased by both new and established galleries and independent art spaces. Hy's works will be presented by FQ Projects as a part of 17 projects selected for the festival's 2015 edition. For more information, please visit: <http://artinthecity.cn/en>.

About the artist

Born in Vietnam in 1966, Chinese artist Vay Hy obtained a BA in Fine Art from Kingston University, Kingston-Upon-Thames in 1990 before pursuing Advanced Studies in Art the following year at Central St Martins School of Art and Design, London, both in the UK. In 1993 he received an MA in Fine Art from the Royal College of Art, London.

After a hiatus from exhibiting, Hy returned in 2014 with his first UK solo exhibition at Christine Park Gallery, London. Previous select exhibitions include a 2003 solo exhibition at Vilka Gallery, Thessaloniki, Greece, where he was part of a group exhibition in 2001, and a two-person exhibition in 1998; he has also exhibited at Pohlhammar Gallery, Steyr, Austria (2001), and featured in the National Exhibition of British Contemporary Art, Islington Design Centre (1993), in the Graham Paton Gallery, London (1992) and the National Art Forum, British Art Fair, Islington Design Centre, London (1991). He lives and works in London.

About us

Christine Park Gallery exhibits works by established and emerging international contemporary artists. Located in the heart of London's Fitzrovia, the Gallery is dedicated to the discovery of new, locally emerging talents, whilst also exhibiting works from internationally acclaimed artists. The extensive programme of solo shows, conceptually curated group exhibitions and special installations of new art projects are intended to expand the boundaries of the current contemporary art scene. Aiming to build a fresh and dynamic platform for contemporary art, the Gallery encourages cross-cultural exchange with the audience, in addition to being a commercial space that artists can use as a canvas to realise their projects and present their new works to the public.

For further information and press inquires, please contact Christine Park at christine@christinepark.net.