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LIN GUOCHENG:
The Zen Garden - Solo Exhibition
Galerie DUMONTEIL

November 28th, 2018 – January 5th, 2019

New York – Galerie Dumonteil New York is pleased to present Lin Guocheng - *The Zen Garden*, marking the artist's first collaboration with the gallery as well as his debut in the United States. Featuring 23 works from "Nature" and "Nature VS Urban Space", two important themes in the artist's recent years practice, *The Zen Garden* attempts to delineate the enigmatic forces of the universe in lines and spaces, forms and imageries with Lin's pen and Chinese ink on paper.

Lin's unique language embraces the artistic traditions of the East and the West, and challenges the integration and collision of the two systems. On one hand, the artist's exquisite ink pen technique originates from his passion for European medieval and Renaissance art, especially Michelangelo's sketches and Albrecht Dürer's engravings. On the other hand, Lin has a profound understanding of Chinese philosophies and literati paintings with particular admiration for the works by Shi Tao, Chen Hongshou, and Dong Yuan. Fully absorbing the strengths of both systems, the artist explores the possibility of combining pen and Chinese ink in the contemporary dimensions. Through the rich techniques of literati painting and its pursuit of the spirit, the repetitively dense pen strokes become vital, unpredictable, and full of room for imagination, giving the final works spontaneity, momentum, and interesting details as well.

The study of strokes and brushwork serves not only Lin's artistic expression but also his way to analyze the origin of things. The fluidic Qi — the circulating life force — is always present in Lin's work. Not surprisingly, "Nature" is one of the artist's beloved themes, showcased by the *Manifolds* series, *Blooming Flowers*, *Heartbeat* and several works focusing on trees in the exhibition, revealing how the artist inspects the texture and structure of nature through the nib and discovers the changing forms of life. In the spectacular *Manifolds – Between the Mountains and the Sea*, the boundless, reckless swirling lines are juxtaposed with minimal yet strong strokes, rendering the otherworldly labyrinth with tense and motion.

To Lin, the concept of "growth" does not limit to any particular plant or organism. A city is growing and aging in the same way a forest does. A star shares the same system with an atom. Embodying these contemplation and emotions, Lin discuss the theme "Nature VS Urban Space" in the role of a contemporary literati with his practice in the *Cube and Nature* series, the *Landscape that is Impossibly Accommodated* series, and *Shape of History*, etc. In the large-scale *Time, as the White Horse Flashing by*, Lin fully explored the expression of pen and ink in space representation. The highlighting and layering are achieved through thoughtful composition, eclectic blank-leaving and diverse brushwork, resulting in a mixed time-space woven by the white horse scenery overlapped with rolling hills and lines of buildings, constantly shifting among dreams, reality and Utopia.



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In Lin's heart, *"Whether it is an instant or eternity, solidity and liquidity, there is no definite answer. Things are neither certain nor empty, which provides artists with a vast creative space where they experience moments of life and eternity in one picture, transcending the material world and pursuing their spirituality."* Thus, *The Zen Garden* is a gateway that opens to any viewer who would like to take the time to look and perceive, associating the work with their personal experience and continuing the story with their own imagination.

Lin Guocheng (b.1979, Guangdong Province) is a Chinese artist known for his amazing ink landscapes drawn with pen. Lin attended Sichuan Fine Arts Institute between 2002 and 2003 after withdrawing from high school. He currently works and lives in Beijing and Kunming.

Lin's work has been featured in exhibitions at multiple galleries and art institutions including Macdonald Stewart Art Center, Canada; David Aaron Gallery, London; Chinese Cultural Center, Malta; 3812 Gallery, Hong Kong; Today Art Museum, Beijing; Hubei Museum of Fine Art, Hubei; Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangdong, etc. His work has been collected by private collectors from North American, Europe and Asia, including organizations such as M K Lau Collection, Hong Kong; Yiqingzhai Collection, Hong Kong; HSBC Art Collection; MGM Resorts Fine Art Collection, and Macdonald Stewart Art Center, Canada, etc.



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GALERIE DUMONTEIL

Founded in Paris in 1982 by Pierre and Dothi Dumonteil, the connoisseur and art expert in 20th and 21st century sculpture and painting, Galerie Dumonteil is regarded as one of the leading forces in the art market of twentieth century's figurative sculpture by representing several modern artists' estates while collaborating with a group of living artists.

The first location of the gallery is established in 1982 at 38 rue de l'Université on the left bank of Paris, this venue is still the headquarter of the gallery until today. In 2008, Pierre and Dothi Dumonteil opened its first international space in Shanghai. After more than 20 years of involvement in the North American art market, the gallery inaugurated an expanded New York space located at 475 Park Avenue in November 2012.

Regularly collaborating with museums and organizing solo exhibitions featuring artists who were active between the 1930s and 1970s, Galerie Dumonteil dedicates itself to the discovery and rediscovery of artists working in the theme of animal and nature. The gallery works closely with artists' families and estates, with some of the collaborations

lasting over 30 years. The gallery has featured artists such as François Pompon, Georges-Lucien Guyot, Rembrandt Bugatti, Diego Giacometti, Charles Artus, Marcel Deryn, Pablo Picasso, Armand Petersen and Joseph Czaky.

Over the past twenty years, the gallery has gradually involved itself in contemporary art and design. The visionary founders, Pierre and Dothi Dumonteil, have fostered talents among contemporary artists by supporting and encouraging them to fulfill their ambitious projects. Today, Daniel Daviau, Jean-Marie Fiori, Eric Pillot, Jean-Claude Meynard, Rubén Fuentes, Hubert le Gall, Nisky and Wang Keping, with their roster of artists, share the three gallery spaces in Paris, Shanghai and New York.

Galerie Dumonteil is a member of the Comité professionnel des Galeries d'Art, the Carré Rive Gauche, Compagnie Nationale des Experts and Syndicat National des Antiquaires. Furthermore, Galerie Dumonteil participates in the significant international art fairs each year: La Biennale des Antiquaires (Paris) since 1992, the PAD (Paris, London, Geneva) since 1998, the Fine Art Asia Hong Kong since 2010, Art021 Shanghai among others.

林国成：禅的花园
Galerie DUMONTEIL New York

2018.11.28 – 2019.01.05

纽约 – 杜梦堂（纽约）荣幸呈现林国成个展“禅的花园”。此次展览是艺术家与杜梦堂的首次合作，也是其在北美地区的首次个展，将通过“自然”以及“自然与城市空间”这两个核心主题集中呈现艺术家近年的艺术实践，共计展出 23 件作品。“禅的花园”力求在林国成的钢笔水墨世界中用线条与空间、形态与意象描绘出神秘莫测的万物本源。

林国成独特的绘画语言对东西方的艺术传统包容并蓄，同时也挑战着两种体系的交融与碰撞。一方面，艺术家精妙的钢笔技法出自其对欧洲中世纪及文艺复兴时期艺术的热爱，尤其是米开朗基罗的素描和丢勒的铜版画；另一方面，艺术家对中国的哲学思想和文人绘画独具慧心，尤其欣赏石涛、陈洪绶和董源的作品。林国成充分汲取各家所长，在当代维度下钻研和探索钢笔与水墨结合的可能，通过文人画丰富的技法以及对形神气韵的追求为那些密集、繁复的钢笔线条留出了想象的空间，注入了更多活力和多样性，使最终呈现的作品既有对气力的把控，又不失对细节的雕琢。

对笔法和线条的追求不仅是林国成艺术表达的需要，更是其探索事物本源的方式。流动的“气”亦或是生命能量的循环总是出现在林国成的作品中。“自然”是艺术家钟爱的创作主题之一，此次展览精选了《形与流》系列、《繁花》、《心动》以及多件以“树”为题材的作品，展现艺术家如何通过笔尖去探索自然的肌理与结构，追寻生命多变的表现形式。在《形与流-山海间》中，艺术家将汪洋恣意的弧线与短小精细的笔触并置，画面充满动态与张力，变幻无穷，个中细节又如迷宫般耐人寻味。

对林国成来说，“生长”的概念并不局限于特定的生命有机体。城市的成长与衰老无异于森林；行星与原子的运行本就是相通的。此次展出的《方块与自然》系列、《无法容纳的风景》系列和《白驹过隙》等作品都是艺术家以“自然与城市空间”关系为出发点的创作实践，体现了艺术家作为当代文人的哲思与情怀。大尺幅作品《白驹过隙》充分探索了钢笔水墨在空间表达中的可能性，巧妙的构思、留白与灵活的笔法在突显主体的同时增添了画面的层次感，时空交杂而不凌乱，白驹过隙的场景被构筑在重山与楼宇之间，在梦境、现实与乌托邦间不断切换。

在艺术家心里，“刹那与永恒，固态与流形，它们并没有确定的答案。一切都是以不确定的姿态，不确定，但又非虚空，这是留给艺术家广阔的领域。如何以一个画面感受刹那与永恒，无所住与生心”。“禅的花园”向任何愿意悉心去观察和感知的观众敞开，将作品与他们各自的经历联系起来，并用自己的想象来续写作品的故事。



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林国成（1979年出生于广东省）以其绝妙的钢笔水墨风景为人所熟知。高中辍学后，他于2002至2003年就读于四川美术学院，目前在北京和云南两地生活和创作。

林国成的作品曾广泛展出于国内外画廊和艺术机构，包括 Macdonald Stewart 艺术中心，加拿大；David Aaron 画廊，伦敦；中国文化中心，马耳他；3812 画廊，香港；今日美术馆，北京；湖北美术馆和广东美术馆等。艺术家的作品已被纳入北美、欧洲和亚洲众多私人收藏，其中包括 Macdonald Stewart 艺术中心，加拿大；梅洁楼，香港；怡情斋，香港；汇丰银行和美高梅集团等机构收藏。



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关于杜梦堂

杜梦堂 (Galerie DUMONTEIL) 于1982年在巴黎成立, 画廊以现当代艺术为核心, 近年亦拓展至设计领域。作为具象雕塑艺术市场中的重要角色, 杜梦堂以其独到的品味与视野, 呈现欧洲上世纪两战期间的艺术品而享有盛誉。如今, 杜梦堂在巴黎、纽约和上海均设有同名空间。创始人皮耶·杜梦堂作为二十及二十一世纪雕塑和绘画领域的鉴定专家, 在为画廊积累丰富藏品的同时, 也与一批当代艺术家展开合作。三个展览空间定期举办主题性和学术性展览, 由此向欧美及亚洲藏家推荐上至二十世纪初, 下至当代杰出艺术家的作品。

杜梦堂于2008年在上海开设巴黎以外的第一个海外空间, 致力于拓展和强化画廊与亚洲文化艺术界的合作及交流。作为早期便入驻中国艺术市场的西方画廊, 杜梦堂参与并见证了中国艺术市场的发展。

杜梦堂为活跃于欧洲上世纪30年代到70年代的艺术家举办过众多群展和个展, 通过与各大博物馆的合作, 致力于发现及重新发现以动物及自然人文等为创作主题的艺术家。画廊与艺术家继承人或遗作管理机构保持着长期友好的关系, 其中不乏合作超过30年的深厚情谊。展出的艺术家包括: 弗朗索瓦·蓬朋 (François Pompon), 乔治-吕西安·圭佑 (Georges-Lucien GUYOT), 伦布朗·布加迪 (Rembrandt BUGATTI), 迭戈·贾科梅蒂 (Diego GIACOMETTI), 夏尔·阿尔都司 (Charles ARTUS), 马赛尔·戴尼尔 (Marcel DERNY), 巴勃罗·毕加索 (Pablo PICASSO), 阿蒙·彼得森 (Armand PETERSEN) 和约瑟夫·萨基 (Joseph CSAKY)。

过去的20多年来, 画廊将视角拓展到当代艺术与设计领域。创始人皮耶和朵娣·杜梦堂以其独到的品味与

视野发掘并培养了一批当代艺术家, 并以最大可能支持和鼓励艺术家将他们的创想实现。现今, 丹尼尔·达维欧 (Daniel DAVIAU), 尚-马里·费欧里 (Jean-Marie FIORI), 埃里克·裴欧 (Eric PILLOT), 尚-克劳德·梅纳 (Jean-Claude MEYNARD), 鲁本·弗安泰斯 (Rubén FUENTES), 休伯特·乐高 (Hubert LE GALL), 王克平 (WANG Keping) 和他们的先辈艺术家的作品在巴黎、上海和纽约三地展出。

一直以来, 杜梦堂坚持以二十世纪初艺术品商人的经典模式经营画廊, 与艺术家葆有长期及紧密的关系, 更作为大多数艺术家的全球独家代理人, 给予艺术家有力的经济支持。杜梦堂注重管理所售作品的传承有序, 与艺术家家人、艺术家遗作继承人和各个机构的广泛合作, 以其专注的态度、敏锐的眼光成为业内首屈一指的画廊。除却画廊本身业务范畴, 杜梦堂也经常为拍卖行和私人藏家提供鉴定评估服务, 并向藏家提供艺术品收藏咨询服务, 以现当代艺术为基础, 与藏家一同营建独一无二的藏品体系。杜梦堂参与支持众多美术馆项目, 出借藏品的同时, 更专门成立学术团队, 通过多年的研究和整理, 为多位艺术家出版其作品全集和研究书籍。

杜梦堂是法国专业画廊委员会 (Comité professionnel des Galeries d'Art)、法国左岸古董商协会 (Carré Rive Gauche)、法国国家专家协会 (Compagnie Nationale des Experts) 和法国国家古董商工会 (Syndicat National des Antiquaires) 的成员。与此同时, 每年画廊参加多个国际核心展会, 如: 法国古董商双年展 (La Biennale Paris) (1992年起); PAD巴黎/伦敦 (Pavilion Art & Design) (1998年起) 和香港典亚艺博 (2010年起)。