“THREE PERFECTIONS”
A Mid-Autumn Art Exhibition by Chinese Australian Artists

“三绝”——悉尼华人艺术家中秋书画展

Venue
Foyer of Building EA, Australia-China Institute for Arts and Culture, Parramatta South Campus

Exhibition Period
20 August 2018 — 8 November 2018

Gallery Opening Hours
Monday — Thursday, 10.00am - 3.00pm
Friday, 11.00am - 3.00pm

For more information, please visit
westernsydney.edu.au/aciac/three_perfections
This exhibition coincides with the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival. In Chinese culture, the Festival falls on the fifteenth day of the eighth month on the lunar calendar. Also called the Moon Festival, it is meant to offer thanks for a great autumn harvest and to celebrate family reunion. While marking this Festival as an important part of the Chinese culture, this modest exhibition also joins in the effort at celebrating the artistic achievements of the Chinese Australian community here in Sydney.

The exhibition brings together eighteen artworks of five artists. They are Wang Mingke (王明科), Huang Qinghui (黄庆辉), Sun Mingcai (孙明才), David Liu (刘尧), and Chen Bingbing (陈冰冰). These five artists represent a curiously various and diverse combination. With Huang in his nineties and Chen in her thirties, they represent almost five different generations in the Chinese Australian community, whose works also give expression to radically different artistic sensibilities. Huang and Liu are well-renowned calligraphers whose works range from poetry to Buddhist scripture. Sun’s landscape scrolls take you back to the poetic grandeur of Tang Dynasty. Wang and Chen’s works are both miniatures in size but they stand on the ends of a broad stylistic spectrum: one is highly traditional, the other extremely avant-garde and expressionistic.

The five artists share an intense awareness of and a common interest in each other’s art forms. One sees in this exhibition a meaningful co-existence of poetry, calligraphy and painting. In ancient China, poetry, calligraphy and painting were separate artistic forms. But after the Tang Dynasty, they became frequently interconnected because, in the eyes of many, painting is “silent poetry” and poetry “painting with sound”. Since the seventh century, Chinese poets, calligraphers and painters have often worked together on an artwork, and merging different arts together, they have often created works known as “three perfections”.

This exhibition has its name from one of ACIAC’s Advisory Board members, Dr Edmund Capon, who is former Director of the Art Gallery of NSW and a celebrated expert on classical Chinese art. The exhibition was put together by another of our Advisory Board members, Dr Helen Sham-Ho, former NSW parliamentarian and incumbent President of the Asia Pacific Professional Managers Association. Dr Capon and Dr Sham-Ho, like our other Advisory Board members, share a genuine interest in the work of Chinese Australian artists and have stood firm on the importance of promoting cross-cultural exchange. The Chinese Mid-Autumn is a time of looking up and sharing the same moon in its fullness and it is hoped that exhibitions like this will help build mutual awareness in the Australian artistic community and promote collaboration between individual artists.
WANG MINGKE (王明科)

Wang Mingke is Director of the Australian Painting Academy Incorporated, Art Advisor of the Australian Artists Society, Deputy President of the Beijing Chinese Painting Research Society.

Lotus Flowers
Wang Mingke
(2009)
American Squirrels
Wang Mingke
(2005)

Tulips
Wang Mingke
(1994)
Huang Qinghui was born in Shanghai in 1922. His family is originally from Puning City, Guangdong Province. Now in his 97th Year, Huang is highly respected by Chinese Australian community for his devotion in promoting traditional Chinese culture.

Miscellanees of the Year 1839
A poem by Gong Zizhen
Calligraphy by Huang Qinghui

This is the fifth poem of the poem collection Miscellanees of the year 1839 by Gong Zizhen who is a Chinese poet and intellectual of the late Qing Dynasty. The poem is translated by the distinguished Chinese translator Yang Xianyi as “Boundless my grief at leaving as the white sun sinks west, And the poet points east with his whip to the far horizon; Red blossoms, though fallen, have some feeling still, Turned into mud in spring they want to protect the tree.”
A Fisherman’s Song – A poem by Zhang Zhihe  
Calligraphy by Huang Qinghui

This poem was written by a Chinese poet, Taoist scholar Zhang Zhihe of the Tang Dynasty. The poem is translated by Professor Xu Yuanchong of Peking University as “In front of western hills white egrets fly up and down, In peach-mirrored stream mandarin fish are full grown. In my blue bamboo hat and green straw cloak, I’d fain go fishing careless of slanting wind and fine rain.”
David Liu, Sydney (1960), of Cantonese heritage. David learned calligraphy from his grandfather. A talented amateur calligrapher, particularly expert in oracle bone and cursive scripts, his work has been exhibited locally and internationally.

Ma Zhiyuan is a Chinese poet and celebrated playwright of Yuan Dynasty. The poem is translated by Professor Xu Yanchong of Peking University as “Over old trees wreathed with rotten vines fly evening crows; Under a small bridge near a cottage a stream flows; On ancient road in the west wind a lean horse goes. Westward declines the sun; Far, far from home is the heartbroken one.”

Lu You was a prominent poet in the Southern Song Dynasty. This poem was written by Lu You on a winter night and it reads “Those in the past spared no effort, when it came to learning; Hard work during youth will see no attainment until one ages; Knowledge acquired on paper ultimately seems shallow still; To thoroughly understand this, one must personally experience it all.”
The calligraphy reads “It still feels not enough even after using three thousand pieces of paper”. It is from a contemporary calligrapher, poet and art critic Shen Peng (born in 1931) who wrote this to describe his continuous pursuit of perfection in calligraphy.

The Heart Sūtra is a popular sutra in Mahāyāna Buddhism. It is often cited as the best-known and most popular Buddhist scripture.
SUN MINGCAI (孙明才)
Sun Mingcai is the Chair of the League of Australia-China Chinese Ink Painters, member of China National Arts and Crafts Society and member of Beijing Artists Association. His artworks have been exhibited in Australia, U.S.A., Japan and South Korea.
Chen Bingbing (1980) is from Fujian Province, China. She is based in Sydney. Chen is Executive Director of Bingbing Art, Art Director of the Australian Fujian Association, and Art Curator of 541 Art Space.
芒
ABOUT ACIAC

Australia-China Institute for Arts and Culture (ACIAC) is positioning itself as a hub and national resource centre for cultural exchange between Australia, China and the Sinosphere (including Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore and other centres of Chinese culture), and for collaborative action in the arts and cultural fields. It is building on the strengths of Western Sydney University and on existing exchange programs in the University.

The Institute will enhance existing exchanges between the University and partner universities overseas, particularly in China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore. It is launching significant new research programs of relevance to the Australia-China relationship, and will engage with the local community in Western Sydney and particularly with ethnic Chinese groups, businesses and individuals.

Located in one of the most ethnically diverse urban centres of Australia, ACIAC will also have great local significance in building a new multicultural urban society, and it will harness local support and engagement in its programs.

For more information, please visit westernsydney.edu.au/aciac
MASTER OF CHINESE CULTURAL RELATIONS
This Master program is offered by the Australia-China Institute for Arts and Culture, in collaboration with the School of Humanities and Communication Arts.

A challenging degree program which is designed to meet the needs of cultural institutions and government departments increasingly engaged in cultural exchanges between Australia and China.

The course will help you develop an understanding of Australian and Chinese cultures and their cultural policies, intercultural communication, international business management, and cultural diplomacy.

This degree program requires 18 months full-time study. Individual units may be taken separately and students in full-time employment can spread their studies over successive years. Australian students may engage critically with local culture through one unit of study in China. Students who only complete part of the course can obtain a certificate or diploma.

The Australia-China Institute for Arts and Culture will offer up to 33 scholarships in the calendar years 2018, 2019 and 2020 for Master of Chinese Cultural Relations (MCCR).

The scholarships will provide a cost of living stipend and cover all or partial tuition fees. Equal numbers of these scholarships are available to domestic and international applicants.

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