

知照艺术馆

ZHI ART MUSEUM

中国四川省成都市
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www.zhiartmuseum.com

For immediate release

'OPEN'ZHI ART MUSEUM 2018

ZHI ART MUSEUM

NO.1, JunShan Road, Xinjin County, Chengdu, Sichuan

Artists

Michael Joaquin Grey, Chico MacMurtrie, Lawrence Malstaf, Mariko Mori, Carsten Nicolai, Marnix de Nijs, WANG Gongxin, WANG Yuyang, ZHANG Peili

Curator

ZHANG Ga

Co-presented by

ZHI ART MUSEUM

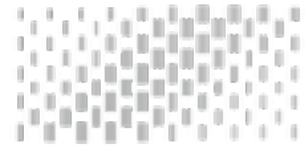
Chronus Art Center (CAC)

Opening reception: 25 April 2018

On view: 26 April - 12 August, 2018

Hours: 10:00 - 17:00, Wednesday - Sunday

ZHI ART MUSEUM is pleased to present the exhibition *Open*, celebrating the long-awaited official inauguration of the museum which marks a new cultural signpost in southwest China. Curated by ZHANG Ga and co-presented by ZHI ART MUSEUM and Chronus Art Center (CAC), the exhibition will open on April 25, 2018 and remain on view through August 12, 2018.



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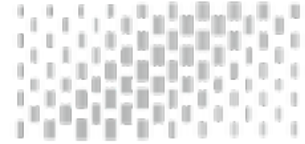
Located about 40 km from the capital city of Sichuan province in the Xin Jin region, ZHI ART MUSEUM is designed by the renowned Japanese architect Kengo Kuma. The museum employs brick tiles, a traditional local material, as the building motif to seamlessly blend modernist austerity with the undulating mountains and rivers of the surrounding area which are reminiscent of Chinese classic landscape paintings in the literati tradition. Resonating with the museum's architecture and illuminating ZHI's mission statement, the exhibition *Open* brings to the public a highly idiosyncratic body of work by nine international artists that accentuate open as a form of initiation, a movement in which a new start gathers force and an unfolding which unleashes the force of potentiality. It evokes opening as an event that gets off the ground the pioneering undertaking ZHI ART MUSEUM aspires to accomplish.

The monumental installation *Pneuma Fountain* in front of the museum is Chico MacMurtrie/Amorphic Robot Works' most recent inflatable robotic sculpture, which manifestly captures and anticipates the unfolding theme of *open* as a contemplative experience of movement, air, light and architecture.

Entering the museum's main gallery on the lower level, one is first encountered by ZHANG Peili's enigmatic work titled *A Standard, Uplifting, and Distinctive Circle along with Its Sound System*. Participation in ZHANG's Duchampian installation is delegated to an automata operated through software manipulation. An ambiguity is thus insinuated to invite open-ended construction of meaning and signification. Marnix de Nijs' *Rectilinear Displacement* plunges us into a visceral journey of reflection in movement: immersion by its physicality and light in its optical materiality. Winding down to the unnoticeably infinitesimal, Michael Joaquin Grey's *Between Simonetta* updates Botticelli's famous profile of the woman gradually. Motion and chance assume the ultimate impetus of openness.

To open is also to make ready for adventure, to lose orientation in order to obtain cognition of a different dimension. *Compass 02005* by Lawrence Malstaf is precisely such an uncanny apparatus that exercises its own machine logic on the participant. Perhaps here a power play is at work to tease out the conundrum of the human-machine interaction that questions the popular assumption and begs for an ethical reappraisal.

Ascending to the upper level of the museum is a brightened gallery space that is home to four works that resonate with each other and blend into the outdoor scenery visible through the openness of the



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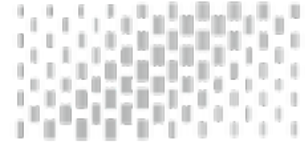
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large glass walls. In WANG Gongxing's *Unseatable*¹, stillness gives substance of mobility, radiance and liquid enact a form of opening, a way of extension. Carsten Nicolai with his *reflektordistortion* seems to alert us that in the beauty of algorithmic logic is an open terrain in which uncertainty and chance speak the

essence of the technological real. In sharp contrast with Nicolai's installation, Mariko Mori's meditative bed of rocks in various sizes and shapes evokes an imaginary river bank which, in its crude innocence,

speaks back to the contemporary pandemonium and anxiety to open up a new prospect of the world to comprehend. WANG Yuyang's *Plato's Cubes* further pronounces the open as an unfolding, an perpetual iteration, a never ending transformation and a spirit that embraces the unknown, the unpredictable, and the potential as the essence of ZHI, that is, to know.

¹ Courtesy of Private collection and Frank F. Yang Art and Education Foundation.



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About ZHI ART MUSEUM

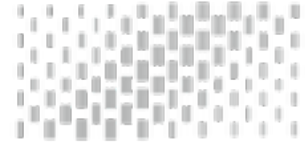
Located at the foot of Chengdu's Taoism Laojun Mountain in southwestern China, ZHI ART MUSEUM's serene architecture brings to life the beauty and tranquility of Zen. An iconic work by renowned Japanese master architect, KengoKuma, the museum embodies the Eastern philosophy of "Learning from Nature." With the use of water as key feature, and the exploration of natural materials throughout, the architecture organically integrates its surrounding elements harmoniously. The tranquil flow and soft movements surrounding the entirety of the museum, allow for contemplation and evoke notions of eternity through its unity with nature.

The museum's core concept is based on the three principles of: Universality, Insight, and Innovation.

FANTASIA·ZHI ART MUSEUM

ZHI ART MUSEUM is a member of Fantasia Group (1777.HK) which went public on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong.

ZHI ART MUSEUM was registered as Private Non-enterprise Entities.



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About CAC

Established in 2013, Chronus Art Center (CAC) is China's first nonprofit art organization dedicated to the presentation, research / creation and scholarship of media art. CAC with its exhibitions, residency-oriented fellowships, lectures and workshop programs and through its archiving and publishing initiatives, creates a multifaceted and vibrant platform for the discourse, production and dissemination of media art in a global context. CAC is positioned to advance artistic innovation and cultural awareness by critically engaging with media technologies that are transforming and reshaping contemporary experiences.

www.chronusartcenter.org

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