

OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 10, 2024
OPENING RECEPTION: NOVEMBER 1, 6-8PM

HETEROTOPIA

ARTISTS:

Cheng

Gandy Qu

Pepper Liu

Ruotai Tang

Oliver Stern

Hongshan Feng

Guanyu (Berry) Tao

CURATORS:

Yichen Ji

Yuanjie Chen

13 GRATTAN ST, #402, BROOKLYN, NY 11206



<https://www.aspacegallery.net/>|@aspace____ | aspacebj@gmail.com

13 Grattan St, #402, Brooklyn, NY 11206

Xianghan Cheng

Artist Bio

Xianghan Cheng (b. 1994, China) is an abstract painter known for his innovative use of line, shape, and color to create complex, layered compositions. Cheng's artistic journey began at age 14, and by 2016, he had developed a distinctive, multi-layered abstract style that emphasizes the interplay and causal relationships between each layer.

Work Statement

The broken walls and rusted steel bars protruding from the structure divide this abandoned hospital into a beautiful composition. Vivid graffiti covering the decayed walls creates a powerful visual impact. Three timelines intertwine in my mind: the ancient hospital, the creative imprints left by graffiti artists, and our brief visit a week ago. I've organized and reinterpreted the colors and lines I sensed, attempting to capture the unique emotions this place evokes in me.



Untitled 2024, 2024

Oil On Canvas

30" x 40"

\$2,400

Oliver Stern

Artist Bio

Oliver Stern is an artist based in Ithaca, New York. They received their Bachelor of Fine Arts from Cornell University in May 2024. Stern has exhibited in New York, Washington DC, Philadelphia, Houston, Ithaca and Rome, and their work has been featured in the Washington Post.

Statement

Oliver Stern's paintings, "The Accumulating Past" and "Back to the Real World" respond to the experience of exploring the abandoned site, documenting collective exploration and individual reflections on the boundaries of a Heterotopia. In "Ever Accumulating Past," Stern renders multiple flashlights exposing different areas of a dark abandoned room of unknown depth. These lights and their implied presence of observers on a historical site embody Foucault's position that we are "in the age of the simultaneous." There is no historical space separate from the present moment, nor is there one singular perspective through which we interpret it. "Back to the Real World" considers the notion of Heterotopia as a space distinct from the regular world. In the background of the piece, a road beyond the fence borders the ruins. Within, plant matter slowly consumes the ruins. In comparing the two, the piece considers succession, the disappearance of Heterotopias, and the presence of a broader world outside of these spaces of contradiction.



The Accumulating Past , 2024

Oil on Canvas

20" x 16"

\$2,250



Back to the Real World, 2024

Oil on Canvas

20" x 16"

\$2,500



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Ruotai Tang

Artist Bio

Ruotai Tang is based in New York. Ruotai Tang is an artist whose work explores the relationship between nature and human-made objects. Using soil, plants, and abandoned industrial materials, he examines how nature gradually reclaims occupied spaces, revealing traces of time and the delicate balance between human civilization and the natural world.

Statement

Ruotai Tang's work delves into the complex tension and interdependence between nature and human-made objects. In these pieces, soil, plants, and industrial materials serve as mediums that bear traces of time, symbolizing the resilience of nature alongside the transient nature of human intervention. The mirror suggests the presence of water, but its artificiality alters its natural relationship with plants—shifting from nurturing to suppression. This “displacement” questions how human creations influence and reshape the expressions of nature, while also reflecting nature's subtle responses to human interference. Through these dynamic interactions, his work prompts viewers to contemplate the mutual shaping of life and matter, encouraging a reassessment of humanity's position within the cycles of nature.



Untitled, 2024

Mixed Media

Installation view, 53" x 42" (Dimensions variable)

Not for sale

Candy Qu

Artist Bio

Candy Qu is an Asian artist born in China and based in Los Angeles, California. She is currently pursuing a BFA in painting at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) in Providence, RI. Candy is interested in using impressionistic, abstract expressionism, and cubism painting to illustrate life experiences to create fictional and mysterious scenes.

Statement

Looking out from the perspective of the abandoned hospital, the view shifts from a once-familiar reality to a surreal landscape—a forest intertwined with crushing construction debris, each holding memories and traces of the past. It leaves me questioning whether I am observing this heterotypic space or if I am somehow trapped within it. Being in this different space reshapes my perception of the outside world, highlighting the distortion and complexity of what we think we see. This piece explores how our vantage point influences perception, challenging us to consider if the place from which we observe alters our understanding. It invites viewers to step beyond the confines of isolated spaces and to view the world with a broader, more liberated perspective.



The Window of Confusion, 2024

Oil on Canvas

36" x 48"

\$3,800

Hongshan Feng

Artist Bio

Hongshan Feng is a contemporary female artist and fashion designer hailing from Hangzhou, China, now residing in New York City. Currently pursuing a fashion design major at Parsons School of Design, she grew up in a culturally rich environment that fostered her strong interest in natural beauty, oriental aesthetics, and historical exploration.

Statement

I integrate traditional ink painting with new media, exploring oriental and Chinese art history through architecture, murals, painting, and sculpture. From a female perspective, I examine the intersection of history, culture, and identity, using sculpture, fashion, video, and photography to engage with intangible cultural heritage. My work challenges and redefines narratives around women's roles, weaving together personal and collective stories that reflect on oriental aesthetics, cultural history, and identity. By bridging tradition and modernity, I invite viewers to rethink culture and the evolving role of women in society, sparking dialogue on identity and heritage.



Viewfinder, 2024

Mixed media

Installation view, Dimensions variable

\$7,200

Yanci (Pepper) Liu

Artist Bio

Yanci (Pepper) Liu is a New York-based photographer and filmmaker currently pursuing her BFA in Photography at Parsons School of Design. Specializing in both still photography and motion capture, she primarily works with black and white and color film. Her unique approach is rooted in documentary photography and conceptual art, often inspired by the style and aesthetics of 1990s photographers. Through her work, she creates compelling narratives, frequently combining contrasting images to evoke a powerful visual impact. Her photography invites viewers to immerse themselves in layered stories that blend realism with a conceptual edge.

Statement

This series of five black-and-white photographs draws upon Michel Foucault's concept of "Heterotopia", exploring spaces that exist in contrast or in parallel to normative environments. Each photograph, developed by hand in a darkroom, represents a unique Heterotopic space: an abandoned hospital window, a female portrait, a Parisian apartment, a deserted forest, and a blank zone.



Harbor, 2024

PC Photograph Paper

Single Edition

28" x 33"

\$2,500

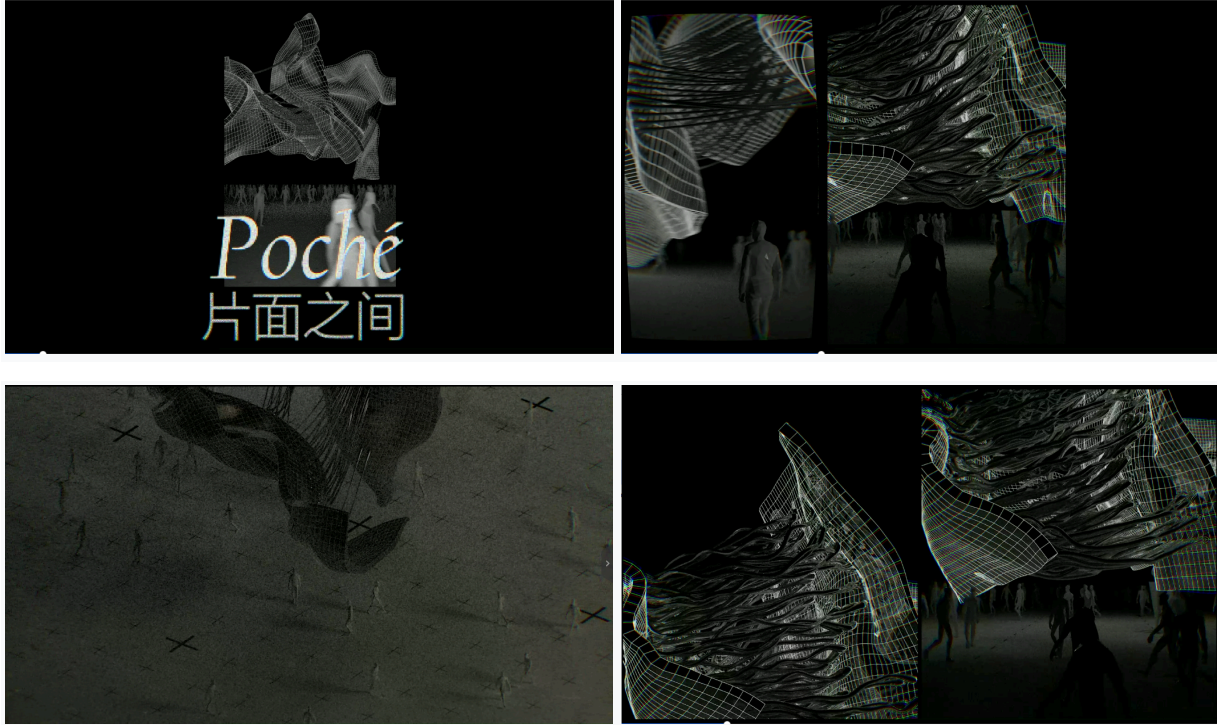
Guanyu (Gerry) Tao

Artist Bio

Guanyu (Gerry) Tao is an architectural designer and artist based in Los Angeles. He graduated with a Master of Architecture from the Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc) in 2022. Gerry's work merges the fields of architecture and art, focusing on themes like pure formal spaces and architectural fantasies that push beyond conventional boundaries. He frequently utilizes digital and immersive mediums to express his ideas. Committed design in his professional career with his art, Gerry is emphasizing the synergy and interaction between constructs and nature, virtual and reality.

Statement

“Poché - 片面之间” is a series of art pieces by Gerry Tao, with 1 video, 2 sculptures.— a gap that holds its secrets, shrouded in mystery. Architects often render it in black, a void, leaving whatever lies inside unseen and unknown. But what if something stirs there, hidden from sight? When attention drifts away, what might emerge within? Could it be flowers in bloom, a dense forest, a murky swamp—or something entirely unexpected? Or maybe, it could play with that fusion, evoking a sense of bio-mimicry, where boundaries dissolve but never fully separate. Even when forms pull apart, there's a lingering connection—like sinews stretching between divided parts, holding onto what once was whole, with complex dance between structure and distortion, beginning with simple, rule-bound forms—triangular prisms and boxes—that evolve when pushed beyond their initial confines.



Poché - 片面之间, Guanyu (Gerry) Tao

2024

Vedio