



Press Release, For Immediate Release

Alluring Figures - Works by Lin HaiRong 2014
Press Release

In “The Unbearable Lightness of Being” Milan Kundera wrote, “Look into a beautifying mirror and know oneself with excitement and satisfaction.” It describes the ridiculous yet true reality of our lives. I feed on my paintings. They give me a false consolation of escaping reality, pushing me to create the next picture that estranges myself from the material world.

- Lin HaiRong, "Alluring Figures", 2014

Amongst all of the excitement of the art fairs in Shanghai this November, Shanghai Longmen Art Projects is honored to present “Alluring Figures - Works by Lin HaiRong 2014” from November 15th, 2014 to January 15th, 2015. The exhibition will introduce a series of oil paintings Lin HaiRong created after the “A Slow Song”, which was presented by Longmen Art Projects in 2012. It is noteworthy that Lin HaiRong’s first installation work “Alluring Mirror” will also make its debut during this exhibition.

Lin HaiRong was born in Heilongjiang Province, China, in 1975 and graduated from Sichuan Fine Arts Institute in 2006 with a Master’s degree. She travels between Chongqing and Beijing for work. As a feminine artist with distinctive personal traits, Lin HaiRong’s motif is instantly recognizable. She has her own signature, such as the big-headed faces with squinty eyes. For nearly ten years, these big-headed figures have been portrayed in all kinds of characters in her paintings and became a constant subject of her career.

In her own words, “Diverging from all previous works, this latest series focuses only on human figures. I have been observing everyone who has appeared in my life, and as long as they interest me, I transcribe them onto the canvas. I have been trying to find a way to make them look authentic and I enjoy observing the emotions of people and exploring a way to convey their silence, delight, sorrow and humor. The process brings me huge joy and satisfaction.” She has been trying to reduce the backgrounds and scene sets of her paintings and focus on the expressions on people’s faces, which gives her works a fascinating quality of peace and indifference.

According to fellow artist He Duolin, “Alluring Figures” is an extension of Lin HaiRong’s previous self-portrait series. By self-portraits I don’t mean a portrait in the common sense, since they don’t bear much physical resemblance with the painter. They are more of an embryonic form of her ego in her imagination. Like most woman in her age, Lin HaiRong lives a normal life with her husband and child. As an artist, she has another life, which, according to her, doesn’t physically exist, yet, is more real than any reality. It is the life she lives in her paintings.”



The mind of the artist has been wandering among colors, canvases, and brushes since early this year, even while she was busy preparing for the exhibition. When creating “Alluring Figures”, she sometimes got distracted by what Milan Kundera said about the beautifying mirror that lies to people, which lead her to explore the interpretation of beauty and human images. On the eve of the exhibition, her first installation piece “Alluring Mirror” began to take its final form. In the infinite depth created by two classical cameo mirrors, exploration, seeking, time, space, realities, and visions, all echo perfectly with the mesmerizing squinty eyes in her paintings.

“Alluring Figures - Works by Lin HaiRong 2014” will last until January 15, 2015. The new series not only suggest that the artist is no longer satisfied with painting on canvas, but also indicates infinite possibilities of her future creation. Longmen Art Projects herein invite all art enthusiasts to the exhibition and feel the artist’s unique perception of life.

Opening Reception: November 15, 2014 , 4:00 - 7:00pm

Exhibition Duration: November 15, 2014 - January 15, 2015 / Tues - Sat 10:00am - 6:30pm

Exhibition Venue: Longmen Art Projects, Suite 102 Tianan Center, No. 338 Nanjing West Road

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1. *Girl with the Pearl Earring*, Oil on Canvas, 50 x 40cm, 2014
2. *Peculiar Grandma*, Oil on Canvas, 50 x 40cm, 2014
3. *Teresa Teng*, Oil on Canvas, 50 x 40cm, 2014
4. *Cool Girl*, Oil on Canvas, 50 x 40 cm, 2014
5. *Lanmo and Her Three Red Hats*, Oil on Canvas, 150 x 180 cm, 2014
6. *Alluring Mirror*, Mixed Media, 190 x 130cm, 2014
7. *Alluring Mirror*, Mixed Media, 190 x 130cm, 2014 (Groupphoto)