

Peihang Benoit – Youth Activities

A face emerges from a mountainscape. Many faces. Even in the solitude of nature, one cannot escape their own (hi)story. Benoit's visual anchors provide access to loosely suggested story lines in which she shares her experiences of migration and displacement – perhaps solitude, certainly exploration. Surrounded by overwhelming forces of nature, I keep wondering if the flag indicates orientation or arrival.

In her works, Benoit constantly breaks the conventions of linear temporalities. She twists time and space, merges socio-political contexts and geographies. She depicts a fractured present – speculations of what could have been, will be or *is*. As much as the overall perception of time and space has changed over the last century, how we remember lived experiences has not. When we blank in our memory, we can still believe in the painted reality based on our accumulated subjective pieces of remembrance. In a painting, we can be at many places at once. Each time we revisit particular memories, they appear differently. It is a process of repetition, layering and rethinking that directly relates back to the process of painting itself. With her enormous physical presence on the canvas Benoit reminds us that painting is a bodily activity. She stabs the painting with pigment sticks. Staccato-like brush strokes disrupt the steady drift and simultaneously emphasize an excitement that flows through the paintings.

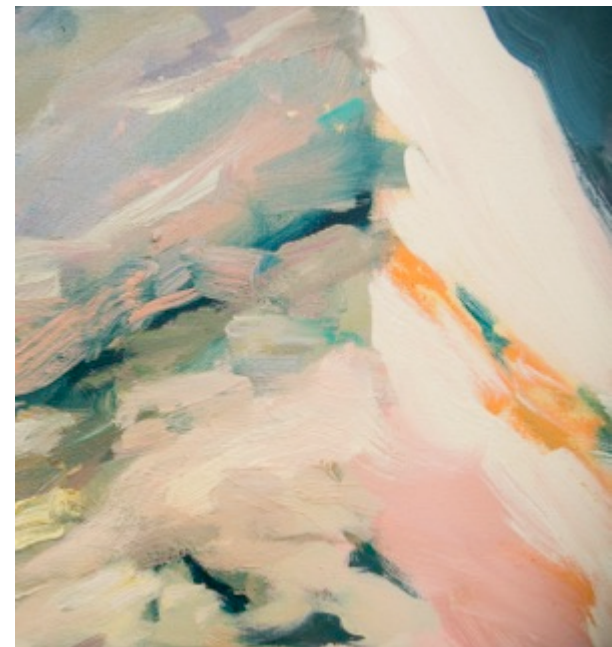
For her latest body of work titled “Youth Activities”, the artist's mother's personal archive served as a direct inspiration. The mother's family migrated from China to Taiwan during the Chinese civil wars of the 20th century. The found black and white photographs Benoit's mother as an active, politically engaged young woman. In her most recent series, Benoit merges her mother's evidences and experiences as a migrant woman who lived in the isolation of patriarchy with her own personal reality navigating through similar power structures in a globalized anonymous world. By comparing these two specific historical and personal reference points, her paintings open up a space beyond binary thinking through disorientation: The paintings' settings can't be located, a sense of time vanishes, self-reflection sets in. Occasionally, fragments become visible, recognizable, understandable for Benoit, but also for us as the viewer, others remain blurred.

We walk on and allow a free-float of thoughts. I follow the continuous smooth streams of paint for direction, Benoit's hand movements, until I have my own *déjà-vus*. I have been here before. On this journey, it is okay to go off-track.

Written by Nora-Swantje Almes.



Youth Activities 1
180x115cm 2019
Oil, oil stick and acrylic on canvas



Youth Activities 1
Details



Pebbles M1, Earthenware, underglaze 2019
14.5cm(L) 10cm(W)9.5cm (H) Studio view, London





Youth Activities 4
160x120cm 2019
Oil, oil stick and acrylic on canvas



Youth Activities 4 , details





THE 1980s
BY YI RI
The 1980s was a decade of significant change in Taiwan. It was a time of rapid economic growth and modernization, but also a period of political transition and social movement. The decade saw the end of martial law and the beginning of democratic reforms. The arts reflected these changes, with a focus on social realism and a renewed interest in traditional Chinese aesthetics. This exhibition explores the diverse artistic expressions of the 1980s, from the bold, expressive works of the 'New Wave' to the more subtle, reflective pieces of the 'New Realism'.



Installation view:
All Her Bright Times/ Yiri Arts
Taipei, Taiwan



Winter Games 1
100x70cm 2021
Oil, oil stick and acrylic on canvas



A Walk Together
280x180cm (Diptych) 2021
Oil, oil stick and acrylic on canvas



Installation view:
All Her Bright Times / Yiri Arts
Taipei, Taiwan



Youth Activities 8
120x100cm 2021
Oil, oil stick and acrylic on canvas



Youth Activities 7
100x100cm 2021
Oil, oil stick and acrylic on canvas



Installation view:
All Her Bright Times/ Yiri Arts
Taipei, Taiwan



Pebbles Series
Earthenware, underglaze
Size Varies
2019



Pebbles Series
Installation view:
All Her Bright Times/ Yiri Arts
Taipei, Taiwan



Pebbles Series
Installation view:
All Her Bright Times/ Yiri Arts
Taipei, Taiwan



Pebbles Series
Earthenware, underglaze
Size Varies
2019



Mountain View 1, 2
20cm diameter 2021
Oil, oil stick and acrylic on canvas



Installation view:
All Her Bright Times/ Yiri Arts
Taipei, Taiwan



Youth Activities 2
120x120cm 2019
Oil, oil stick and acrylic on canvas



Youth Activities 2, details





Youth Activities 3
200x200cm 2019
Oil, oil stick and acrylic on canvas



Studio view, London



Youth Activities 3, details



Studio view, London



Youth Activities 9
100x100cm 2021
Oil, oil stick and acrylic on canvas



Installation view:
Source archive display
All Her Bright Times/ Yiri Arts
Taipei, Taiwan



Youth Activities 6
130x70cm 2021
Oil, oil stick and acrylic on canvas



Installation view:
Archive projection
All Her Bright Times/ Yiri Arts
Taipei, Taiwan



Youth Activities 5
160x120cm 2019
Oil, oil stick and acrylic on canvas



Lakeside fragments 1~5

25x20cm /
20cm diameter
2019



Lakeside Fragments 2, details



Installation view:
All Her Bright Times / Yiri Arts
Taipei, Taiwan

About Peihang Benoît 黃沛涵

Peihang explores time, space, memory and displacement in her practice.

Inspired by her own experience of diaspora, she starts with collages of images gleaned both from historical materials and contemporary everyday media. Peihang weaves the hidden relations between visual documents of the human experience mostly through painting; also ceramic, photography and other project based approaches.

Born in Taipei, 1984, moved to the U.S. with her academic parents at a very young age and then moved back to Taipei, then in London, and Paris. Peihang has a bilingual upbringing and an experience of changing countries multiple times that reflects a general human condition especially in contemporary time. She has also been influenced by her feminist mother, seen as a modern woman in the society in her own time. These experiences has provoked her interest into such subjects in her practice.

She holds both BA and MFA degree in Fine Art at National Taiwan Normal University, and received another MA in Fine Art at Chelsea College of Arts in contemporary painting. She has gained the prestigious Chi-Mei awards from Chi-Mei Museum, The Chu Teh- Chun Award and has been shortlisted in the competitive Ashurst Emerging Artists Prize in the UK. Her works have been exhibited in the Saatchi Gallery, Macau Art Museum, Museum of Tokyo University of the Arts, Pier 2 Art Center, AKI Gallery, and Yiri Arts; in Taiwan, U.K., China, Japan, South Korea, Germany and other countries.

She currently lives and works in Paris.

CV

EDUCATION

Chelsea College of Arts, MA Fine Art
National Taiwan Normal University, Department of Fine Arts MFA
National Taiwan Normal University, Department of Fine Arts BFA

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023 (Upcoming) TKG+ projects, Taipei, Taiwan
2021 All Her Bright Times, Yiri Arts, Taipei , Taiwan
2017 [Past and Present], Start Art Fair, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK
2016 [UN/REAL] Grace Belgravia with Mehtabell Projects, London, UK
2015 Apocalypse, Holland Park, London, UK
2011 Made in Berlin: the Encounter, Tam Tam Art , Berlin, Germany
2009 Fleshly Fairy Tale AKI Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan

Selected GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2019 Three Pillars: Painting, Video and Sculpture,
Chelsea Gallery, London, UK
2018 Lintukoto-Open studio of Fiskars AiR, Fiskars, Finland
2018 Beyond The Barricade- Waterloo Project, Gallery 3,
Kent University, Canterbury, UK
2018 Ashurst Emerging Art prize Shortlisted exhibition, London, UK
2018 After Eden, Herrick Gallery, London, UK
2018 Women Artists 1st International Biennial of Macao,
Macao Museum of Art, Macao, China
2017 Childhood Memories Collapsed, Pier2 Art Centre, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
2016 The Future and Potential of TAIWANESE & Japanese Contemporary
Painting, Museum of Tokyo University of Arts, Tokyo, Japan
2016 Future Island, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK
2016 Fast Forward, Rewind -Chelsea Alumni Show,
Punctum Gallery, London, UK
2016 Kaosiung Art Fair, Kaosuing, Taiwan
2016 Artists of the Future, Degree Arts, London, UK
2016 Up26 Auction, Polymer Studios, Taipei, Taiwan
2015 Indescribable Figure-New Figurative Painting in Taiwan,
Jing-Lu Art, Taipei, Taiwan
2015 MA Fine Art Degree show, Chelsea College of Art, London,UK
2015 Concrete Compendium CG11 , London,UK
2015 compoSITE Chelsea MA Fine Art interim show,
Triangle space, London,UK
2015 Young Art Taipei Sheraton Granden Hotel, Taipei, Taiwan
2015 Speed and Agility with Lewis PR, The House Mill, London, UK

2014 Kaosiung Art Fair, Kaosuing, Taiwan
2014 Tangent, Chelsea MA Fine Art Mid interim show.
Triangle space, London, UK
2013 Young Art Taipei Sheraton Granden Hotel Taipei, Taiwan
2013 ART Tainan 2013 Tayih Landis Hotel, Tainan, Taiwan
2012 YES Taiwan IV-Young Emerging Stars, Taiwan Aki Gallery, Taipei
2011 James Reid Printing workshop Artlab21, Bonn, Germany
2011 ART OSAKA 2011 Hotel Granvia, Osaka, Japan
2011 Pink Coordinates – an Enquiring Plan, AKI Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan
2011 AHAF 11–Asia Top Gallery Hotel Art Fair, HK, China
2010 Art Taipei 2010 Taipei World Trade Center I, Taipei, Taiwan
2010 Young Art Taipei 2010 Sunworld Dynasty Taipei Hotel, Taipei
2009 Art OSAKA 2009 Osaka, Japan
2009 ARTO Art Fair BUSAN 2009 Busan, Korea
2009 Otaku AKI Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan
2009 Small World E105 Gallery, Bonn, Germany
2009 Y.E.S., Taiwan– Young Emerging Stars, AKI Gallery, Taipei Taiwan
2008 Karma: The Samsara Of Contemporary Painting
The NTNU Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan
2008 “Seasoned by Generation” Chi-Mei Art Award 20th Anniversary
Tour Exhibition, Shin Kong New Life Square, Tainan/ National Taiwan
University of the Arts, Taipei, Taiwan
2008 ID, identification of new generation Aki Gallery, Taipei; Arthis Fine
Art , Taichung, Taiwan
2008 11th Session of Beijing International Art Exposition China World
Trade Center, Beijing, China
2007 Assumed Taiwanese, Aki Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan

AWARDS

2018 Ashurst Art Prize , Shortlisted
2009 Chu Teh-Chun Award, Prized
2008 The Sketching Competition Of Sayling Wen Cultural & Educational
Foundation, special award
2008 The Chi-Mei Art Cultivation Awards, Grand Prize
2006 60th National Fine Arts Exhibition, honorable mention award
2005 Lee Shih-Chiao Memorial Art Prize

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

2008 Chi-Mei Art Foundation Chi-Mei Museum, Taiwan
2008 Sayling Wen Cultural & Educational Foundation Taipei, Taiwan
2005 The British Consulate at Takao Kaohsiung, Taiwan

Peihang Benoit
黃沛涵

peihang1@gmail.com
+33782570178
118 Boulevard Raspail, 75006,
Paris, France

www.peihangbenoit.com



London studio, 2019