



Chinese Contemporary Art Short Course

Fall 2009

AW Asia is pleased to present an introductory course on Chinese contemporary art that explores the rise and development of avant-garde art practices in China over the last thirty years. This four-part series is aimed at educating collectors, professionals, and art aficionados about the vibrant field of Chinese contemporary art today.

Session 1

**From Mao to Now: An Overview of Chinese Contemporary Art
Tuesday, October 6th, 6:30 – 8 pm**

This first session presents an overview of Chinese art in the latter half of the 20th century, beginning with a look at the artistic climates in China during the 1960s through the death of Mao in 1976, the opening of China to the West, the emergence of artists' collectives and key movements, and the development of individual artistic styles through the 1990s. Video screening.

Session 2

**Evening with Melissa Chiu | Director of the Asia Society & Museum, New York
Tuesday, October 13th, 6:30 – 8pm**

Melissa Chiu, Director of the Asia Society and Vice President of Global Art Programs, is a leading authority in the field of Chinese contemporary art. She will discuss the work of Chinese artists and their place in the canons of Asian and global art history. Topics outlined in her recent publication, *Chinese Contemporary Art: 7 Things You Should Know*, will also be discussed.

Session 3

**Visit with Christopher Phillips | Curator, International Center for Photography
Tuesday, October 20th, 6:30 – 8 pm**

In 2004, the International Center for Photography in New York presented a comprehensive exhibition of Chinese photography and video art, curated by Christopher Phillips and Wu Hung. The exhibition, *Between Past and Future: New Photography and Video from China*, has become a benchmark for understanding Chinese photography in a

global arts context. Chris has been actively involved in the Chinese contemporary art scene since its earliest days. He will present an intimate perspective on the artistic culture that is unique to China's artists and photographers.

Session 4
21st-Century China & the Global Art World
Tuesday, October 27th, 6:30 – 8 pm

In recent years, Chinese contemporary art has been thrust into the art-world spotlight, with a corresponding rise in value and increasing dominance at the marketplace. Critics often overlook the fact that China boasts a history of art-making that spans thousands of years, and that Chinese contemporary artists are merely the latest contributors to this lengthy narrative. This final session examines several leading artists in the field, recent market trends, and the maturing vision of Chinese art today.

The Short Course on Chinese Contemporary Art will be lead by Taliesin Thomas, Director of AW Asia, MA candidate in East Asian Studies at Columbia University, and a specialist in the field of Chinese contemporary art.

AW Asia is a private organization dedicated to the promotion of Chinese contemporary art through institutional loans and museum acquisitions, curatorial projects, publishing, and educational programs. Please visit www.awasiany.com for more information.

All 4 sessions will take place at AW Asia. Seating is limited. Registration for individual sessions or the complete series is welcomed. Tuition is free. To register, please indicate the evenings you are planning to attend as well as your name, affiliation, phone number, and contact information to:

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