

# MATTHEW LIU FINE ARTS

祁磊

*流过城市的河*

德玉堂画廊

日期: 2017年11月3日至12月31日

地址: 上海市黄浦区圆明园路115号, 201-203室, 近北京东路

开幕酒会: 2017年11月3日, 晚4-7点

德玉堂画廊荣幸推出《流过城市的河》，这是工作及生活在北京的艺术家庄磊在本画廊的首次个展。展览将于2017年11月3日下午4点至7点开幕，并持续至2017年12月31日。祁磊的创作灵感多来源于他自己所拍摄的风景及人像，他的作品通过互补或对比强烈的色彩、不和谐的色调、大胆的笔触和书写性传达他内在的深沉情感和思想，极具名艺术史学家海因里希·沃尔夫林(Heinrich Wölffli)所提出的“绘画性(painterliness)”。

本展将展出《场域》和《影院》这两个最新系列中的作品，展现了祁磊的创作中最具代表性的主题、构图及笔触。《河流驶向彼岸》(2017)、《流过城市的河》(2017)、《冬日余晖》(2017)及《殉道者》(2016-2017)中都体现出静谧和自我蜕变的意象。这几件作品中都出现了一个独自漂浮在远离荒凉河岸的不系之舟中的个体。在阴郁的远山淡影之下，艺术家着意模糊了这个人物的形体和面目。在祁磊的作品中，这个身处荒凉而虚幻的景色中的孤独旅行者的图像象征着的转变、过程和经历，并体现艺术家对于当代生活的存在性的疑问。

祁磊持续创作的《影院系列》(2013-)则探讨观者体验和群体的共同记忆。在这个系列中，祁磊将这些公众场所描绘成沉默、荒废和晦暗的空间，鲜有人迹，这些场景触动了他和他的同辈对成长中所经历的社会及其文化生活的遥远记忆。影院中模糊的走廊、座椅、帷幕和屏幕带着仿佛未干的墨迹，使人感到陌生和疏离，仿佛来自另一个世界。而作品中大面积的色彩和宽大的笔触为这些空间满注了微妙的情绪，令参观者得以反观自身的内心和沉思。祁磊以这样的创作方式探索记忆、经验和图像的真实性。

祁磊于1986年生于安徽濉溪，并于2014年毕业于天津美术学院油画专业获得硕士学位。此后他移居北京并逐渐成为年轻艺术家中的活跃人物。他的作品被艺美基金会、国美艺术基金会及云冈石窟研究院等重要机构收藏。祁磊曾在多个画廊及艺术机构举办个展，包括德玉堂画廊，上海，2017；艺美基金会，北京，2015及国美艺术基金会，香港，2014。他参与的群展包括《在日落发生后...》，上海当代艺术馆，上海，2017；《我们何以成为我们》，言午画廊，上海，中国，2016；《尤利西斯的凝视-绘画性与内心关照的双重回归》，今格艺术中心，北京，中国，2016；及《青衿计划(2016)》，关山月美术馆，深圳，中国，2016。

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# MATTHEW LIU FINE ARTS

**Qi Lei**

*The River Flows Through the City*

**Matthew Liu Fine Arts**

**Date:** November 3 – December 31, 2017

**Address:** Suite 201-203, 115 Yuanmingyuan Rd (close to East Beijing Road)

**Opening Reception:** November 3, 2017, 4-7PM

Matthew Liu Fine Arts is pleased to announce the first solo exhibition of the Beijing-based artist Qi Lei at the gallery. Entitled *The River Flows Through the City*, the exhibition opens on Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, with a reception from 4-7pm and runs through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Drawing inspirations from the photos of landscape and portrait he takes, Qi Lei develops a practice that emphasizes the notion of painterliness as popularized by the notable art historian Heinrich Wölfflin, expressing profound emotions and thoughts through complementary and contrasting colors, broken tones, broad brushstrokes and sketchiness.

Presenting works from two of his most recent series, *Field* and *Theater*, this exhibition demonstrates the artist's most recognizable motifs, composition and textures of brushstrokes. Themes of tranquility and personal transformation stream through Qi Lei's works. In *The River Flowing to the Other Shore* (2017), *The River Flows Through the City* (2017), *Winter Twilight* (2017) and *The Martyr* (2016-17), he depicts a solitary figure floats in a canoe against desolate riverbanks. He deliberately renders the faces and the reflections of the figures vague and unspecific, and the mountains afar with a melancholic tint shadow. Throughout his practice, this single traveler surrounded by a dreamy yet bleak scenery has become a symbolic image that alludes to the senses of transition, a process and a becoming, and questions the contemporary existence.

Qi Lei examines the notion of spectatorship and collective memories in his on-going *Theater* series (2013-present). Often devoid of human presence, he renders these public spaces silent, obsolete and morose, evoking the fading social and cultural life that he and his generation experienced as they grew up. With the dripping paint and blurry representation of corridors, seats, curtains and screens inside the cinemas, these sceneries are presented otherworldly, exuberating a sense of apathy and detachment. Yet the broadly colored surface infuses these works with delicate emotions, allowing the viewers to look into their own psyche and contemplate. By doing so, he explores the very veracity of memory, experience and image.

Born in 1986 in Suixi, Anhui, Qi Lei received his M.F.A from the Oil Painting Department at Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts in 2014. Since he relocated to Beijing after graduation, Qi has become one of the most active young artists. His works are included in the public collections of the ARTMIA Foundation, Gome Art Foundation and Yungang Grottoes Institute. Qi has been the subject of solos exhibitions at Matthew Liu Fine Arts, Shanghai, 2017; ARTMIA Foundation, Beijing, 2015 and Gome Art Foundation, Hong Kong, 2014. His work have been included in numerous group exhibitions including *All Happens After Sunset*, Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai, 2017; *What Makes Us Who We Are*, Xu Gallery Shanghai, 2017; *Ulysses' Gaze—The Return of Painterliness and Soulful Contemplation*, Ginkgo Art Center, Beijing, 2016 and *Qing Plan*, Right View Art Museum, Beijing, Guan Shanyue Art Museum, Shenzhen, 2016.

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