



From Stone to Mountains

Tay Bak Chiang

Born in 1973, Bak Chiang graduated from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts in Singapore in 1995 and studied at the China Academy of Art in Hangzhou, China, in 1997. He was awarded the First Prize in the Chinese Painting category in the 19th and 22nd United Overseas Bank Painting of the Year Competitions (2000 and 2003 respectively) in Singapore. In 2002 he received the Young Artist Award from the National Arts Council of Singapore.

His artistic success has led his work to travel over the years to prestigious international art fairs, amongst which are Art Basel Hong Kong, Art Stage Singapore, Art Miami, Art New York, Art Paris and Art Taipei, and to attract the attention of private collectors and public agencies globally. Bak Chiang has held 12 solo exhibitions to date and 'From Stone to Mountains' (2018) is his 13th solo exhibition.

Bak Chiang paints subjects found in the nature of Singapore and Southeast Asia, such as heliconias, birds and rocks. He seeks to reinterpret them in terms of form, composition, technique, material and colour. In his 'From Stone to Mountains' paintings he transforms stones into mountains by creating landscapes in which aloof, silent and textured silhouettes are inhabited by indigenous birds, which are rendered with delicate and almost ephemeral black and red brushstrokes.

The striking metaphorical power of these vistas reveals the artist's own sentiments and philosophies. Bak Chiang's mountains invite the viewers to imagine and discover nature for themselves, ultimately offering them the opportunity to embark on an introspective journey disclosing new ways to look at and surmount one's own 'mountains'.

“To my mind, the mountain is a lofty symbol. More than just a peak of excellence, it also represents the eternal pursuit of noble spirit and character. I believe that everyone has in their hearts mountains that they want to surmount. As I strive on in my practice, I am scaling my mountains and also learning to be a better person.”

Lunar Poem

Framed size: 139 x 139cm

Acrylic and colour on paper

2018



In The Deep Valley

Framed size: 139 x 139cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2018



Crisp Air

Framed size: 139 x 139cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2017



The Gathering Dusk

Framed size: 139 x 139cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2017



Friendly Skies

Framed size: 182 x 147cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2017





Deja Vu

Framed size: 96 x 96cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2018



All Is Well

Framed size: 96 x 96cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2018

Wrinkles of Time

Framed size: 83 x 153cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2017



One Fine Day

Framed size: 83 x 153cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2017



Dance Away

Framed size: 83 x 153cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2018





Forest of Secrets

Framed size: 96 x 96cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2018



At First Sight

Framed size: 96 x 96cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2018

Enter the Dragon

Framed size: 175 x 150cm

Pigment and colour on paper

2018



Rocking in the Wind

Framed size: 139 x 139cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2018



The Highest Heavens

Framed size: 139 x 139cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2018



Happy Together

Framed size: 153 x 83cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2018



Zephyr

Framed size: 153 x 83cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2018





Happenstance

Framed size: 96 x 96cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2018



Hiding, Seeking

Framed size: 96 x 96cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2018



Youthful Reverie

Framed size: 96 x 96cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

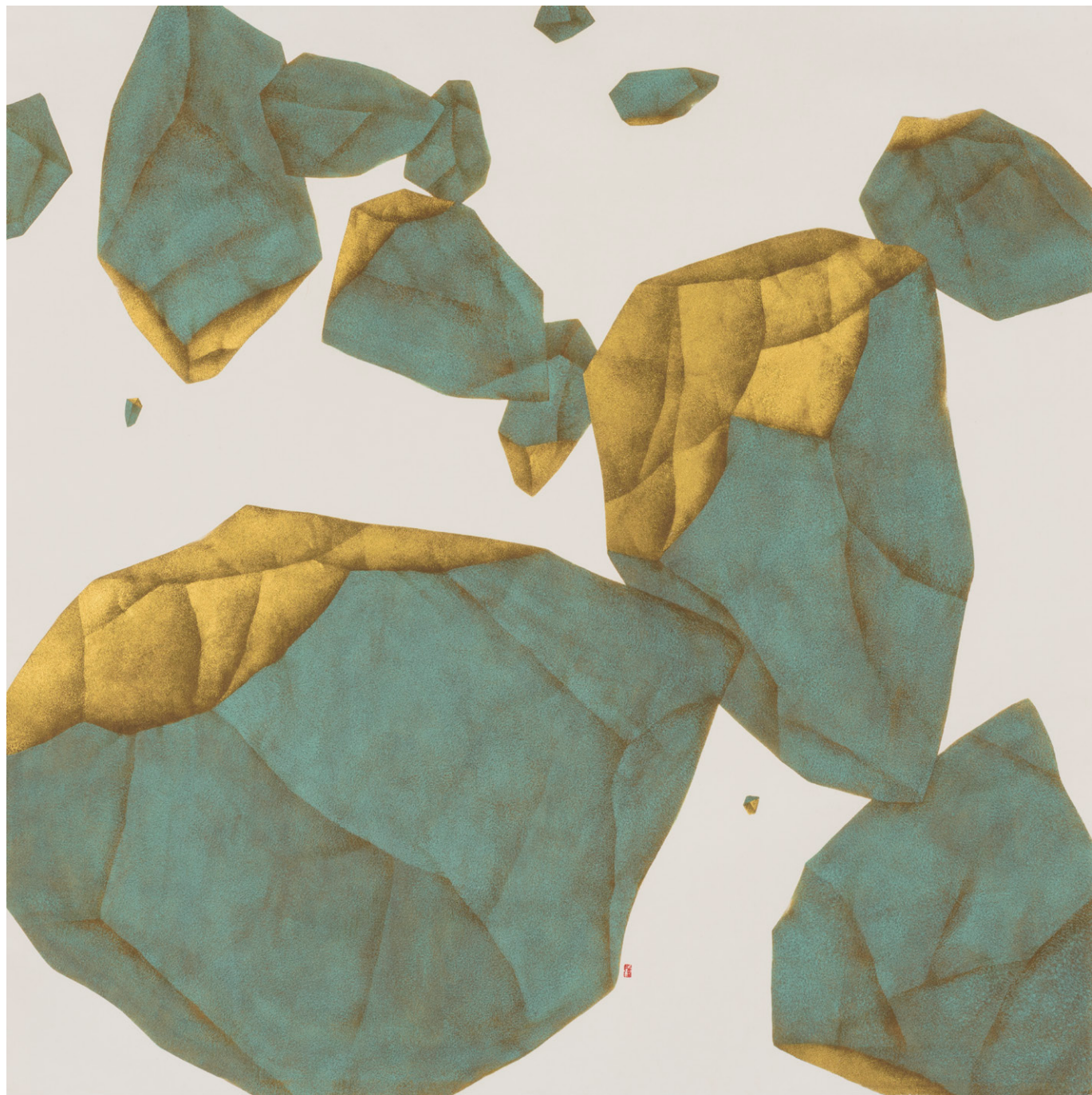
2018

Reverberant

Framed size: 139 x 139cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2018



For This Time Only

Framed size: 153 x 83cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2018



We Meet Again

Framed size: 153 x 83cm

Pigment, ink and colour on paper

2018



Sleeping Beauty

Framed size: 139 x 139cm

Pigment and colour on paper

2018



Just In Time

Framed size: 139 x 139cm

Acrylic, ink and colour on paper

2018



Born: 1973

Education:

1997-1998 China Academy of Fine Art (People's Republic of China)
1992-1995 Diploma in Fine Art, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore

Collections:

The Istana, Official residence and office of the President of Singapore
Mandarin Oriental, Singapore
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore
Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore
National Arts Council, Singapore
National Gallery Singapore
OCBC Bank, Singapore
Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore
Shangri-La Hotel at The Shard, London
Simmons & Simmons Contemporary Art Collection, Global
Singapore Turf Club
Singtel, Singapore
SC Global Developments, Singapore
Swiss Re, Singapore
United Overseas Bank, Singapore

Awards:

2003	First Prize (Traditional Chinese Medium Category) 22nd UOB Painting of the Year Competition, Singapore
2002	Young artist award for visual arts (awarded by National Arts Council, Singapore)
2000	First Prize (Traditional Chinese Medium Category) 19th UOB Painting of the Year Competition, Singapore
1999, 2000	Distinction, Chinese Painting Category Dr Tan Tsze Chor Art Award, Singapore
1999	First Prize, Singapore Turf Club Art Competition
1995	16th Shell Discovery Art Award, Singapore

Solo Exhibitions:

2018	From Stone to Mountains, London
2016	Revisit, Beijing
2016	From A Distance, Art Basel Hong Kong
2015	The Chivalrous Hero, Bangkok, Thailand
2015	Blue White Vermilion, Singapore
2014	Cleavages Fractures Folds, Singapore
2014	The Story of Stone, Hong Kong
2014	Sentience, Singapore
2013	The Breathe of a Blade, Singapore
2012	Hear the Wind Sing, Hong Kong
2011	Ingenuity, Singapore
2010	Between Breaths, Singapore
2003	Fa Zi Hua Sheng, Singapore

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