

Let's not talk about "WE" but "YOU & ME" instead because the character "&" is the only thing that matters. It is tangled and twisted when people write it as if it is a map for either entering or getting out of the labyrinth of one getting along with other beings. In this exhibition, each canvas is a map towards that "&". Like roots and branches, people are intertwined in the bustling turbulence of interactions, ambiguous or reliable, healing or heart-wrenching, with others or nature, all soaked in a dynamic tension of "me" and "others around me". Imagine a child with a candy: she hold it in her hand, afraid of dropping it, put it in her mouth, afraid that it will melt too fast — the artists treat themselves with extreme consideration and tender care to reveal how they treasure this close-knit tie with other existences.

Can we find a wild tree? A tree in the wild means it has its precious wild nature since a seed, whose existence is to breathe with wind and moon and to be the words related to prosperity. The original form of the character "野 (wildness)" is "埜", which refers to a space where many trees grow. Yet, with the straight lines drawn by the architects, the space was constructed with concrete, and humans, who share the origin of the plants, settled down in this land lacking vitality, with the desire to reconnect.

Sunny Sun and Mimi Ding use the shadows of the trees as anesthesia to lure you to this leafy banquet under the brightest light of the world, slowly unfold the sightseeing of dreams in the wild scenarios that are fragile and sturdy, with imagination towards the repeated lingering sensibility under the afterglow of the azure dusk, intimate but not too close.

People become the trees; "埜" turns into "丛"; We are the thicket.

CURATOR: Yi Tsai ( ) @yitsai\_erica ( ) @Sober\_art | Ziqing Ma ( ) @marida\_cabllo



快睡吧,我们明天就去写生, 画一双你的眼睛。 快睡吧,我们明天就要走了, 和你像燕子奔向春天。 ——Sunny Sun

别再用"We"来指代我们了,要说"You & Me"。因为 "&" 是最重要的东西。人们写下它, 像绳结, 抑或地图, 扭曲着, 纠结着, 不知道是在主动进入还是为了走出迷官。在孙熙然 (Sunny) 和丁栖桐 (Mimi)的展览中, 每块画布都是艺术家与其他存在之间大写的"&"。 如同树根与树枝的纠缠,人与人在熙熙攘攘的湍流中交叠,在动/静、脆/韧、狂野/克制 的情节里缓缓展开梦的观光。她们用树影作麻醉,在世上最明晃晃的天光下将你掳来这枝 繁叶茂的宴会;在蔚蓝色垂暮的余温里想象反复缠绵的感性。

我们能找到一棵野树么?一棵树在野,意味着它作为一颗种子的时候便具有它弥足珍贵的 野性,它的存在就是呼吸,就是风月,就是一些以代表生命力的词根开头的单词。 "埜",作为"野" 最初的字形,意指这个空间是许多树木生长的土地。而随着建筑师画出笔 直的线条,这地方被混凝土浇筑,与植物同源的我们于是流动起在野的血液,在这规矩之 地和生命力缺失所滋养出来的建制里落脚, 重新连接起与彼此的关系:

人代替了树,"埜"变成"丛",人们就是森林。

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## 丁栖桐 Mimi Ding

熟悉与陌生并存且互相渗透。我们以为生活是平凡的,因此错过了许多熟悉而又陌生的时刻。但生活并不平凡。生命转瞬即逝,组成生命的每一刻所流逝的速度更是快到我们难以捕捉到暗藏其中的奇妙。我希望我的画能向观者暗示这份奇妙,能够在貌似平凡的生活里发现新奇,甚至在有些荒诞的生命中激发热忱。

同时,我的画也包含对生活乐观的态度。即便生活中多有失落,孤独,无助,离别,却也不无希望,坚强,爱与美。在我看来,幽默与悲剧是不可分离的,因为悲剧里诞生出幽默是希望的表现,而希望是延续生命的动力。

There is something familiar in that which is strange and something strange in that which is familiar. It's all too often that we miss those moments in a life that we think is mundane. It is not mundane. Every moment in life is precious and pass all too quickly, so quickly that we fail to notice the magic hidden in between each unit of time. I wish to hint at this magic through my paintings in order to reignite a childlike curiosity and passion in my viewers despite the seeming absurdity and mundanity of life.

At the same time, the paintings I make express an optimistic view of life, but it is an optimism that is not mutually exclusive with sadness. There's a sense of loss, loneliness, powerlessness, and even death, but also hope, beauty, love, and resilience. Pervading these serious qualities is the quality of humor, there is always an unnameable funniness about my paintings. In my work, humor is inseparable from tragedy because finding humor in tragedy is an act of hope that plays a part in defining who we are.



## 孙熙然 Sunny Sun

我总在钢铁城市里看到森林,在人心里看到生长的草木。现在是由过去的记忆组成,在脑内不断被意识加工,幻想,回忆,和现实的边界并不清晰,这才赋予世界无限的可能,像是无边的旷野。木条支撑的画布上,是一个安全的地方,离科技很远,离扎实坚硬的现实很远;画笔和油料在手里,与人心很近,柔软的砰砰跳着。我才刚刚长大,还不知道人到底该是怎样;我画小草和大树,希望能看看清他们的模样。

In the steel city, I see forests;

In people's hearts, I see grass and trees grow.

Now, memories of the past form my reality,

In my mind, the present is shaped by imagination and memory,

The line between reality and fantasy isn't clear,

Thus the world is granted infinite possibilities,

Like an endless wilderness.

On a canvas held by wooden frames,a A sanctuary where I feel secure,

Far from technology and solid reality,

With a brush in hand and paint on my fingertips,

The heart beats softly, close to humanity.

I've only just begun to grow,

Unsure of what it means to be human,

I paint small grass and big trees,

Hoping to see them clearly.



Untitled / 2022 / Egg tempera on linen / 12 x 6



Windy (2) / 2022 / Egg tempera on linen / 12 x 9



Cemetery / 2022 / Egg tempera on linen / 9 x 12



Spring Rain / 2022 / Oil on linen / 29 x 34



Fall / 2022 / Egg tempera on linen / 18 x 24



Summer (2) / 2022 / Acrylic on canvas / 36 x 31

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Mama, I am Leaving / 2023 / Oil on canvas /  $36 \times 48$ 



Apocalypse / 2022 / Oil on canvas / 10 x 8



Water Lilies / 2022 / Oil on canvas / 18 x 18



Flaming Grave / 2023 / Oil on canvas / 48 x 48



Papa and Popsicle / 2022 / Oil on canvas / 18 x 24



Purple Lake / 2022 / Oil on canvas / 14 x 11

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