

# HdM GALLERY

## LEE JIN WOO | TOWARDS SILENCE

07/02/2019 – 04/03/2019



Untitled, 2018



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HdM GALLERY is delighted to present 'Towards Silence', a solo exhibition of new work by the celebrated Korean artist Lee Jin Woo. Pushing the boundaries of what painting can be, Jin Woo has received international acclaim for his monumental and expressionistic paintings holding major exhibitions in Paris (Musée Cernuschi and Galerie Maria Lund) and China (H.T. Gallery). This will be Jin Woo's first solo exhibition in London at HdM GALLERY.

'Once I am painting, I become an arm that paints. My hand is the extension of my brain and I stop thinking. My work is intuitive.' – Lee Jin Woo

A sensitive layering of Eastern and Western influences, Jin Woo's work uses the traditional Korean Hanji paper as the foundation for his compositions. Carefully building layer upon layer of Hanji paper, he combines organic materials such as Indian ink, charcoal, earth, even volcanic ash to create dense, richly textured monochromatic paintings which resonate with an inner calm and timelessness. Inextricable from the work itself – 'my painting has integrated with the Korean paper' says Jin Woo, the Hanji paper becomes a vital element in Jin Woo's compositions. Drawing, painting, hitting or flicking pigment onto the paper Jin Woo repeats the process, building up each layer of Hanji paper until some elements are buried and others are left exposed. The result is a highly three dimensional work that engages the viewer in a rich dialogue between surface and depth.

Referencing the legacy of Korean Dansaekhwa painting, his paintings share the monochromatic colour palette and emphasis on materiality and "repeatability" of the movement whilst also defining a new visual language. His deep respect for traditional Korean materials as well as the space this opens up for new a new wave of Korean art unites him with leading Father of Dansaekhwa painting Park Seo-Bo whom he interviewed recently.

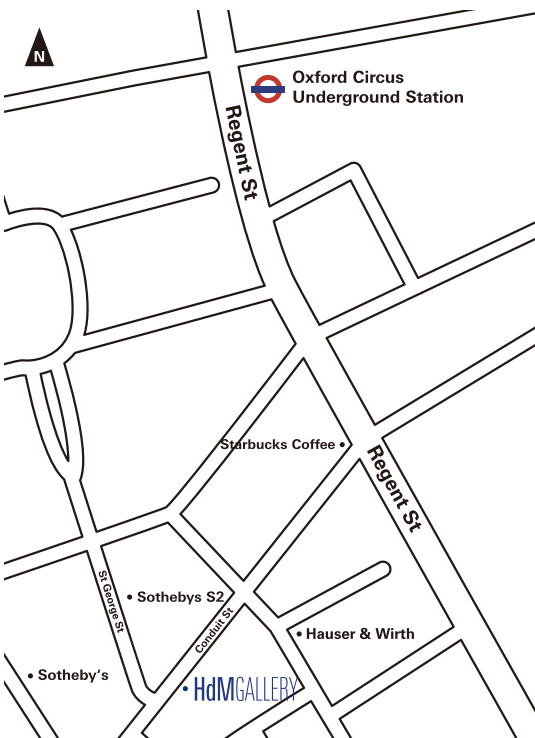
Born in Seoul in 1959, Jin Woo studied at Sejong University before moving to France in 1986 where he attended the École nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris. He currently works between France and Korea and has participated in major international art fairs such as Art Brussels, ASIA NOW and Art Miami. Gaining increasing recognition internationally, he was the subject of a recent monograph published in 2016 by Actes Sud and his work was recently acquired by the prestigious Musée Cernuschi in Paris.



Beijing space



London space



## HdM GALLERY

HdM GALLERY is a leading contemporary gallery with a special focus on Contemporary Chinese Art. Founded on a passion for Chinese art, the first HdM GALLERY was opened in Beijing in 2009 - the success of which leading to a subsequent gallery opening in Hangzhou in 2013. Founders and partners Hadrien de Montferrand, Laurant Dassault, and Olivier Hervet have garnered over 10 years of experience and understanding of the art market in China, witnessing first-hand China's rapidly evolving art ecosystem.

HdM GALLERY proudly represents a wealth of emerging Chinese artists among which are He An, Chen Han, Hao Shiming, and Wang Yi. Having established a reputation as a leading gallery in the field of Chinese contemporary art - working with established Chinese artists such as Mao Yan and Liu Xiaodong - HdM GALLERY is dedicated to using their expertise to nurture and develop the careers of these new artists. Exhibiting regularly at prominent fairs such as Art Brussels, Photo London and Art Basel Hong Kong, HdM introduces contemporary Chinese artists to a worldwide client base and broadens perceptions, understanding and appreciation of these engaging contemporary works.

Though initially specialising exclusively in Chinese Art, the ethos of the gallery has since seen a development. HdM has evolved to work with noted Western artists - often exhibiting their works alongside their Chinese contemporaries, bridging the Chinese and Western art markets through this previously unexplored approach. The result is an exhibition with a unique and thought-provoking fusion of influences and on this topic, founder Hadrien de Montferrand defines the identity of the gallery as 'an international gallery with strong Chinese DNA'. Western artists such as Martin Kollar, Ivan Messac, Romain Bernini, Manuel Mathieu and Barthélemy Togo are currently represented by HdM GALLERY.

## FOUNDERS

Hadrien de Montferrand has long served as a bridge between the Art worlds of China and Europe. His more than seven years at various auction houses and Art institutions included roles as marketing director for ARTCURIAL, the largest French auction house, and for the Ullens Center for Contemporary Art in Beijing.

Laurent Dassault, an entrepreneur to the core, helped to found Arquana, continental Europe's leading horse auction house, in 2006. His entrepreneurial spirit extends to his charitable activities as well: Laurent serves as the administrator of the "Friends of Pompidou Museum's Association" in Paris, and heads the development committee for the auction house ARTCURIAL.

Olivier Hervet graduated with an MA in Classics from Oxford University in 2008. After working for Hadrien de Montferrand Gallery since its inception in 2009 where he developed the gallery's network of young collectors, he became a partner in 2012 with the goal of opening a second space in China.

## Gallery Contact

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Opening Hours: Monday - Friday from 10 am to 6pm

(By appointment)

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