

# HdM GALLERY

CLAUDE VIALLAT

2019.10.26 – 2019.11.23



1994/061, 246 × 208 cm, 1994



2018/0489, 310 × 264 cm, 2018



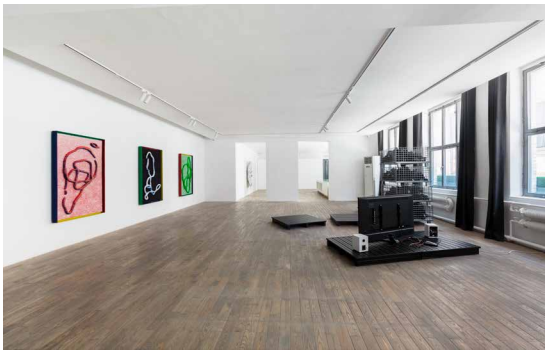
1995/065, 170 × 250 cm, 1995

HdM GALLERY Beijing is pleased to present a solo exhibition of Claude Viallat. The show will open on Oct 26th, 2019 and last until Nov 23rd, 2019. This is the second presentation for the artist in the gallery after a dual show with Wang Yi entitled “Inside and Outside” in 2018. This will be the first solo show of Claude Viallat since “Repetition” in 1999 was shown in Chengdu, Kunming and Shenyang. The exhibition in Beijing will include more than 15 works dated between 1992 and 2018 on curtains, parasols, table cloths and canvases.

Claude Viallat was born in Nimes, France in 1936. Following a traditional artistic education, he became a founding member of the Supports/Surfaces movement during the early 1960' s. Influenced by Marxism and deconstructivist theories, the adepts of the movement sought to desacralize and reify painting. Painting was seen by them as too bourgeois and traditional, elitist and confined to the precincts of exclusive museums and galleries. In effect, Claude Viallat tried to liberate painting by taking away the stretcher. He made without traditional canvases and would paint on any type of cloth he found: curtains, parasols, table cloths and military hatches. He also removed any figure, character, emotion, political or societal connotation from his works and kept only a single pattern repeated thousands of times over hundreds of works; a pattern akin to the shape of the most basic and earliest artistic gesture available to man: the shape left by a hand applied onto a wall.

Despite being a local movement started by artists from the same region, Supports/Surfaces in general and Claude Viallat in particular share similarities with simultaneous movements outside of France. Thus, the use of parasols and everyday cloths reminds the viewer of Arte Povera, unstretched canvases had previously been used by Simon Hantai and painting on printed cloth had already been experimented by Pablo Picasso in the painting “Femme à leur Toilette” . Supports/Surfaces and Claude Viallat were an integral part of the worldwide desire to break the established order and start afresh. His artistic practice was radical and questioned the foundations of art, painting and their ecosystem.

Claude Viallat was exhibited widely in dozens of institutions around the world. His work was the object of solo exhibitions at the Fabre Museum (Montpellier, France), Ludwig Museum (Coblenz, Germany), Frost Art Museum (Miami, USA), MuBe Museum (Sao Paulo, Brazil) and many others. Furthermore, he represented France at the Venice Biennale in 1988.



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, Laurent 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 Toguero 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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 Duration: 26 October 2019 - 23 November 2019  
 Opening Hours: Tuesday - Saturday from 11am to 6pm  
 (Or by appointment)  
[www.hdmgallery.com](http://www.hdmgallery.com)



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