

For Immediate Release



Raoul De Keyser, Untitled, 1968, Acrylic on Canvas, 70 x 70 cm

WHERE THE RIVER TWISTS

PRESENTED BY WANGSIM

Reception: 18.01.2019, 4pm - 7pm

Media Preview: 18.01.2019, 3pm - 4pm

Duration: 18.01.2019 - 27.01.2019, 10am - 7 pm

Venue: No. 15, Lane 131, Section 4, Minsheng East Road, Songshan District, Taipei

Exhibiting Artists

Carl Andre

Daniel Buren

Günther Förg

Gilbert & George

Keith Haring

Hans Hartung

Thilo Heinzmann

Liu Jianhua

Raoul De Keyser

Walter Leblanc

Sol Lewitt

Robert Mangold

A.R. Penck

Richard Serra

Niele Toroni

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Andy Warhol

Wangsim is pleased to present its first traveling exhibition *Where the River Twists* in Taipei's historical Songshan District. The ambitious group exhibition of 16 artists showcases a wide range of important artworks from two major art movements, Minimalism and Pop Art. While exploring the most celebrated names in both "camps" with audience from Taiwan and beyond, the show also boasts a presentation featuring several important European abstract painters and Pop artists, whose works have not only championed multiple resonating European art movements, but also celebrated a highly productive, more fluid post-war art world. The exhibition also debuts the first encounter of the Chinese artist Liu Jianhua and the late Belgian conceptual artist Walter Leblanc, and highlights points of their mutual approaches to art making and interacting with space.

Sparking in the late 1950s art world of the United States were the Pop Art and Minimalism, two primary movements that departed from the gestural and subjective nature of the previous generation. Pop artists blurred the boundaries between "high" and "low" culture by creating art pieces of mass culture objects, media and political stars. Minimalism notably introduced highly simplified geometric forms, reductive serial compositions, and the use of unmodified industrial materials and fabrication methods. Meanwhile, the show also features European artists that are not associated with either movement, but master the techniques, procedures, and style resonating these movements.

Apart from the others, the exhibition creates another extraordinary dialogue from artist to artist: from the Ji'an-born Chinese artist Liu Jianhua, and one of the closest Belgian associates of Zero Group, Walter Leblanc. Both known for their non-traditional materials, Liu stands away from the prevailing styles in contemporary art, and transfers paper, leaves, and ink drops into curious and fragile porcelain sculptures. Firm believer in strategies for painting without pigment, LeBlanc introduced "torsion" (twists) to his work—he tightened and twisted cotton threads, and eventually plastic ribbons, over traditional supports to create ray-like patterns and simple geometric shapes. Both talents have been primarily interested in motion, and the perfect balance between objects and space.

Founded by Maarten Simoens and Adel Wang, Wangsim is a Hong Kong based art consultancy firm specializing in modern and contemporary art. In partnership with a variety of artists, galleries and art institutions, Wangsim presents high caliber secondary market art pieces and results them into

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traveling exhibitions across the continent. Wangsim will also soon announce a list of emerging artists in collaboration and serve as an international platform for artists, collectors, institutions and art professionals.

Taipei's Songshan district was originally named Malysyakkaw, a lowland Ketagalan word meaning, "where the river twists". Geographically, it most likely suggests that the district is where the Keelung River twists, flows, and nourishes. "We hope that the exhibition upends the narrative of aggressive progresses by independent art movements and bridges the twisted rivers from the east and the west, and have forces generated from various artist practices mix, twist and flow in their very free, true and effortless forms", stated the Director of Wangsim, Adel Wang.

The exhibition is generously supported by Pace Gallery (Beijing / Hong Kong), Edouard Simoens Gallery (Knokke, Belgium), and QG Gallery (Brussels, Belgium).

Press

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