

## XIAO GUO HUI

born 1969, GuangZhou, China. Lives and works in Toronto, CA and Paris, FR

### BIO

Xiao Guo Hui grew up in a rural village in China. In alienation, he found himself on the royal road to the experiences that have been the heritage of the West for several centuries; after an initial stay in Canada, eight years in Paris has given him an index of vivid images which populate his imagination.

From 2010, at which time they lived in Toronto, Xiao Guo Hui has worked together with his wife Chen Wenqing in a collaborative process. With a background in fashion, Chen helps to design the costumes and outfits worn by the human figures in the large, fresco-style paintings.

In Xiao's works, a simultaneous, existentially absurd hustle and bustle is viewed from above. He draws on an encyclopaedic knowledge of the history of painting to create his own distinctive visual world. Only indirectly do his paintings recall Chinese life; more often, they seem to be memories from years walking in European cities. Not only the experiences of today but the entire heritage of modernity, is visible in his paintings. They effortlessly blend the early Renaissance, Mannerism, Ukiyo-e painting and perhaps a little Francis Bacon. Throughout, he demonstrates infinite patience and attention to detail. Despite all the painterly seriousness, his works always have something playful about them. As he said himself, his greatest love is egg tempera. This seductively old technique brings luminosity and radiance to his reduced colour palette, giving his paintings a special temperament.

### CV

#### Education

1993 Bachelor of Fine Art, GuangZhou Academy of Fine Art, GuangZhou, China

#### Grants and Awards

2021 Project Grant For Visual Artist, Canada Arts Council  
 2015 Project Grant For Visual Artist, Canada Arts Council  
 2014 National and International Residency, Ontario Arts Council  
 2012 Visual Arts Grant, mid-career, Ontario Arts Council  
 2010 Second prize, Art Interview 20th International Online Artist Competition  
 2010 Visual Arts Grant, Ontario Arts Council  
 2004 Ontario Arts Council, Visual Arts Grant

#### Selected Solo Shows

2023 *Le Théâtre du Paradis*, Galerie Fabian Lang, Zurich, CH

2020 *la Quotidienne...*, Art Paris, Christopher Cutts Gallery, Paris, FR

2015 *Feast*, Christopher Cutts Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2012 *In Search of Lost Time – A Tribute to Marcel Proust*, Christopher Cutts Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2010 *The Little Pleasure of Life*, Christopher Cutts Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2008 *An Hour of Play*, Gibsone Jessop Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2006 *Carravaggio's Circus*, Gibsone Jessop Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2004 *Play*, Gibsone Jessop Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2003 *Chinese – France Culture Year 2003*, MK2 Bibliotheque, Paris, FR

#### Selected Group Shows

2022 *Don't Fuck With Our Human (Ali Banisadr, Kim Dingle, Christina Forrer, Xiao Guo Hui, Tahnee Lonsdale, Annie Morris)*, Galerie Fabian Lang, Zurich, CH

2021 *Director's Choice*, Christopher Cutts Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2018 *Director's Choice*, Christopher Cutts Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2017 *Director's Choice*, Christopher Cutts Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2016 *Asian Now 2016*, Leap Pavilion, Paris, CA

2015 *Director's Choice II*, Christopher Cutts Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2014 *Winter Group Show*, Christopher Cutts Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2013 *Winter Group Show*, Christopher Cutts Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2012 *Winter Solstice Painting Extravaganza*, Christopher Cutts Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2011 *Baker's Dozen*, Christopher Cutts Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2009 *Group Show*, Gibsone Jessop Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2007 *Group Show*, Gibsone Jessop Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

2005 *Group Show*, Gibsone Jessop Gallery, Toronto, ON, CA

Selected Collections

Copelouzos Art Museum, Athens, GR

Selected Publications

Xiao Guo Hui, Le Théâtre du Paradis, Exhibition's Catalogue by Galerie Fabian Lang, 2024

Xiao Guo Hui, Catalogue by Xiao Guo Hui, Design by: Chen Wenqing, Review "Feast: Xiao Guo Hui's divine strategy" by: Ulysses Castellanos (momus.ca), 2015

Xiao Guo Hui, Catalogue by Xiao Guo Hui, Design by: Chen Wenqing, Text by: Sara drozdoski & Jean-François Gouin, 2008