

## GUO FENGYI

Born 1942, in Xi'an, Shaanxi Province, China; died 2010.

Guo Fengyi has drawn a spectacular amount of attention since her art came to light in recent years. She was born in Xi'an, central China, in 1942. She obtained her high school diploma in 1962 and found work in a rubber factory. However, severe bouts of arthritis forced her to give up her career at the age of thirty-nine. She turned to alternative medicine in the hope of alleviating her symptoms, and found a new spiritual path in Qi Gong. She started experiencing visions in 1989, as a result of which she produced large numbers of drawings, first on the backs of pages from calendars, then later on rice paper. She worked with Indian ink and brushes, producing works up to five meters long, drawn with no initial plan in mind, discovering her own creation as she worked. The multitude of delicate lines form ghostly figures, dragons, phoenixes, and faces, sometimes interwoven, smiling and serene or terrifying and monstrous.

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2014 *Guo Fengyi: LANDSCAPEPORTRAIT*, Long March Space, Beijing, China
- 2013 *Guo Fengyi*, Long March Space, Beijing, China
- 2012 *Guo Fengyi*, Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver, Canada
- 2011 *Guo Fengyi*, Collection de L'Art Brut, Lausanne, Switzerland
- 2010 *Guo Fengyi: A Chinese Rhapsody*, Galerie Christian Berst, Paris, France
- 2009 *China in Four Seasons: Guo Fengyi*, Govett Brewster Art Gallery, New Zealand  
*I am Guo Fengyi*, Long March Space, Beijing, China
- 2008 *Guo Fengyi*, Galerie Barbara Gross, Munich, Germany
- 2005 *Who is Guo Fengyi?*, Long March Space, Beijing, China

### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2013 *Carnegie International*, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA  
*The Alternative Guide to the Universe*, Hayward Gallery, London, UK  
*The Encyclopedic Palace: The 55th Venice Biennale*, Venice, Italy
- 2012 *Phantoms of Asia*, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, CA
- 2011 *Spring Group Exhibition in Long March Space*, Long March Space, Beijing, China
- 2010 *10,000 Lives*, Gwangju Biennale 2010, Gwangju, South Korea
- 2009 *The Kaleidoscopic Eye: Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary Collection*, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan  
*Exhibition #1*, The Museum of Everything, London, UK  
*Art Statement: Guo Fengyi*, Art Basel, Switzerland

- 2007 *China Welcomes You...Desires, Struggles, New Identities*, Kunsthhaus, Graz, Austria
- 2006 *Ink, Life Taste – To Sugar Add Some Salt* - 5th International Ink Painting Biennial of Shenzhen, He Xiangning Museum, Shenzhen, China  
*Dirty Yoga*, 2006 Taipei Biennale, Taipei Fine Art Museum, Taipei, Taiwan  
*Long March Yan'an Project*, Yan'an, Sha'anxi Province, China  
*Building Code Violations*, Long March Space, Beijing, China
- 2005 *Art Circus – Jumping from the Ordinary*, 2005 Yokohama Triennale, Yokohama, Japan  
*Drawing Connections*, conference exhibition, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia  
*A Second Sight*, 2nd Prague International Biennale of Contemporary Art, National Gallery, Prague, Czech Republic
- 2004 *The Long March Project - le moine et le demon* – Contemporary Chinese Art Exhibition, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Lyon, France
- 2003 *Power of the Public Realm*, 25000 Cultural Transmission Center, Beijing, China
- 2002 *The Long March – A Walking Visual Display*, “What if Women Ruled the World? –dialogue with Judy Chicago,” Lugu Lake, Sichuan Province

#### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Peiry, Lucienne, *Guo Fengyi*, Collection de L'Art Brut, Lausanne, 2011.

Jie, Lu, *WHO IS GUO FENGYI? A Long March Project*, Long March Space, Beijing, 2005.

#### ARTICLES

Sutphin, Eric, "Art in America Review: Guo Fengyi," *Art in America*, March 2016.

Doran, Anne, "Time out Critics' pick: The Art of Guo Fengyi," *Time Out New York*, January 2016.

"The Art of Guo Fengyi in the New Yorker," *The New Yorker*, January 2016.

Raczka, Robert, "An Unprized Favorite, Puzzling Inclusions, Best Dead Artists and More in the Carnegie International," *Pittsburgh City Paper*, March 5, 2014.

Kent, Sarah, "Alternative Guide to the Universe, Hayward Gallery: Visionaries, eccentrics and misfits share their visions of the future," *Theartsdesk.com*, June 12, 2013.

Yuanqing, Sun, "Marching to the Blues," *ChinaDaily USA*, May 3, 2013.

Hannon, Julie, "A Playful, Soulful Spectacle," *Carnegie Magazine*, Winter 2013.

Ditmars, Hadani, "Taking Charge," *Canadian Art*, Vol. 29:2, 2012.

Sin, Lena, "The E-List," *Province*, 2012.

Peiry, Lucienne, "Guo Fengyi," *L'Art Brut*, Vol. 23, 2011.

Chauvy, Laurence, "Guo Fengyi, Delicate Magicienne Chinoise," *Le Temps*, December 9, 2011.

Smith, Trevor, "10,000 Lives," *ARTnews*, Vol. 109:10, 2010.

"China in Four Seasons: Guo Fengyi," *Tourist Times*, November 2009.

"China in Four Seasons: Guo Fengyi," *Art & Artworks*, September 2009.

Rookes, Felicity, "Artist's Body of Work on Show," *Taranaki Daily News*, September 21, 2009.

#### **FILMOGRAPHY**

Alvarez, Andress and Philippe Lespinasse. *Guo Fengyi et les rouleaux magiques (Guo Fengyi and the Magic Scrolls)*, Lausanne/Le Tourne: Collection de l'Art Brut/Lokomotiv Films, 19 min, 2011.

#### **PUBLIC COLLECTIONS**

Lille Métropole Musée d'Art Moderne, d'Art Contemporain et d'Art Brut, France  
Collection de l'Art Brut, Lausanne, Switzerland  
The Museum of Everything, London, United Kingdom  
Collection Treger Saint Silvestre, Portugal