

Summer Group Show | Exhibition: 6th July – 3rd September 2017

Arthill Gallery is pleased to announce this year's Summer Group Show which showcases works by Cyrus Mahboubian, Sun Ju Lee and Shaoyan Li. Each of the three artists has their own approach, a clear vision, individual objectives and a very different way of expressing themselves through a wide range of media including photography, film, painting, digital print and installation.

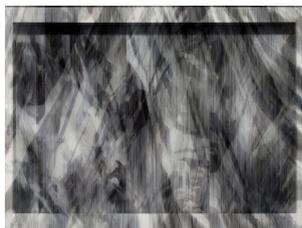
Cyrus Mahboubian (b. 1986, London) is a British-Iranian artist known for his contemplative approach to photography and his continued use of analogue materials, especially polaroid. He has stated that his intentionally slow process is a response to the increasing influence of technology in modern life.

His work has been exhibited in solo and group shows in London, Paris, Los Angeles, Moscow, Istanbul and Dubai. In 2014 he was artist-in-residence at the Gate Theatre in Notting Hill and in 2016 his work was exhibited at the 11th Fotografia Europea photography festival in Italy. He has taught workshops at venues including Tate Britain and The Photographers' Gallery.

Cyrus takes a thoughtful approach to his photography, manifest in his method and medium. In a culture becoming increasingly dependent on technological advances, Cyrus bucks the trend by utilising mostly instant film to create timeless and unique works of art. "The act of taking photographs is a meditative experience. I'm not a 'decisive moment' photographer. I don't set out to capture a moment in time, but rather a feeling; an atmosphere. It's the story of time spent with another person, or alone in contemplation."



Polaroid from the series
Encounters, 2017
Unique polaroid photograph,
8.5 x 10.8 cm



4. *Assembly Passage*, 2016
Painting and digital printing
on monofilament wire,
aluminium frame, 57 x 75 cm

Sun Ju Lee (b. 1978, Daejeon, Korea) is a London based artist. She studied Printmaking at the Royal College of Art and her work has been exhibited in solo and group shows worldwide. In 2009 she was artist-in-residence at the Cité Internationale des Arts Paris, France, and this year she is artist-in-residence at the National Glass Centre Sunderland. In 2016 her work was exhibited at the International Print Biennale in Newcastle and Seoul Olympic Museum of Art in Seoul. She has been visiting artist/lecturer at University of Leeds, Canterbury, Bedfordshire and in several locations in Korea. She has been

awarded the National Glass Centre Residency Award in 2016 and the Artist Fellowship Grant for International Residency Programme from the Arts Council Korea in 2009 and 2017.

Sun Ju's work tackles the way we recognise the significance of place. "Drawing on interpretations of spaces in which we live, I explore how people and space interact and create a place, thereby demonstrating how places reflect a variety of occurrences. I aim to reconstruct places by capturing the experience of environment as well as the visual evidence of time. Situated within the print-based process, my interest is developed through drawings, print and painting. I expand the printing methods incorporated into the multi-layered surface using wire. By winding transparent monofilament around a frame, I make surfaces on which to print and draw images that rebuild the selected scene. "

Shaoyan Li (b. 1980 in Shandong Province, China) graduated in 2002 from Qufu Academy of Fine Arts of Shandong Normal University. His work has been exhibited in a number of solo/group exhibitions and art fairs in Shandong and other parts of mainland China. The exhibition at Arthill Gallery is the first time the artist is showing his work outside of China. He is currently living and working in Shandong, and teaching at the Oil Painting department at Qufu Academy of Fine Arts of Shandong Normal University.

Shaoyan's work is about imperfection, diversity and weakness of human beings. The paintings appear mysterious in colour and content, confusing and intriguing at the same time. His works can be seen as the artist's diary which is "confessing" his thoughts quite frankly, thus recording his moment-by-moment ideas and attitudes.

The last solo show in 2011 in Shanghai was a turning point for the artist. As after the exhibition he felt no accomplishment just emptiness, he since rejected any exhibition to have time to refine his new artistic style.

This new series of works did slowly emerge in a long and contemplative process. "Every image in the picture, every line has a meaning, the boring process of this kind of almost neurotic thinking makes my creative process very painful. Each part of the picture is from reality, but the picture I create is not realistic. I change the image by connecting parts and merging plants and animals into some kind of monsters. Although it feels like a non existing scenery, it reflects the human state of life."



After the rain, 2017
Oil on canvas on board
40 x 60 cm



Located in a converted church in West Kensington, London, Arthill Gallery exhibits Asian alongside European art by established as well as emerging artists. Through its programme the gallery aims to encourage and create an artistic dialogue between the different countries and cultures, offering lectures, artist talks and events. The main goal is to identify and represent unique, talented and authentic artists working today.

For further details, please contact: ina@arthillgallery.co.uk