

CHONGGANG DU

INTERVENTION



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The recent paintings by Chonggang Du are interrogations of the qualities of nature and its representation. The works emerge in an epoch where hybridity is one of the general conditions. This is not only the emergence and prevalence of artificial intelligence and machine learning, but also the era of the 'great acceleration' in which human intervention is part of the 'complex, multi-causal [...] set of processes that have altered the Earth system' (Ellis 2018, p.53). Chonggang states: "environmental problems abound. There is global warming which increases the likelihood of natural disasters. Old forests are reduced in the name of construction, development and mining. The environmental damage – whether it be on land, in the sea, or the air – is severe."

Chonggang's distance from China, and life in Melbourne's suburban fringe, inform his creative practices which exist in varying tensions and resolutions. He curates his domestic space with plants, trees and arrangements which rub Chinese and Australian aesthetics up against one another. The garden material and his carefully designed and improvised space provides the source material which push his paintings into local and global concerns to the environment and its human intervention. His backyard may be idyllic and comforting; the paintings though are suggestive of an Anthropocenic dystopia.



CHONGGANG DU

Intervention No. 1, 2018
Oil, Charcoal, Chinese ink, acrylic, watercolour on linen
137h x 137w cm
A\$ 6,000



CHONGGANG DU

Intervention No. 4, 2018
Charcoal, Chinese ink, acrylic, watercolour,
newspaper collage on paper
76h x 106w cm
A\$ 2,900



CHONGGANG DU

Desert No. 1, 2018

Pencil, charcoal, Chinese ink, acrylic, watercolour on linen

122.50h x 82.50w cm

A\$ 6,500



CHONGGANG DU

Intervention Sculpture No. 1, 2018

Stone, acrylic, & glue

13h x 34w x 11d cm

A\$ 900



CHONGGANG DU

Intervention No. 2, 2018

Charcoal, Chinese ink, acrylic,
watercolour on linen 137h x 183w cm

A\$ 8,800



CHONGGANG DU

Intervention No. 3, 2018
Charcoal, Chinese ink, acrylic, watercolour on linen
122.50h x 82.50w cm
A\$ 4,800



CHONGGANG DU

Intervention No. 11, 2018
Charcoal, Chinese ink, acrylic, watercolour on linen
183h x 137w cm
A\$ 8,800



CHONGGANG DU

Intervention No. 5, 2018
Charcoal, Chinese ink, acrylic, watercolour,
newspaper collage on paper
122.50h x 82.50w cm
A\$ 4,800



CHONGGANG DU

Intervention Sculpture No. 3, 2018
Stone, acrylic, & glue
19h x 10w x 8d cm
A\$ 750



CHONGGANG DU

Left to Right

Intervention No. 8, 2019

Intervention No. 9, 2019

Intervention No. 10, 2019

Charcoal, Chinese ink, acrylic, watercolour on canvas

50h x 50w cm

A\$ 1,600 (each)



CHONGGANG DU

Intervention No. 7, 2018
Charcoal, Chinese ink, acrylic, watercolour,
newspaper collage on paper
122.50h x 82.50w cm
A\$ 4,800



CHONGGANG DU

Intervention Sculpture No. 4, 2018
Stone, acrylic, & glue
21h x 29w x 12d cm
A\$ 750



CHONGGANG DU

Intervention Sculpture No. 7, 2018
Stone, acrylic, & glue
10h x 21w x 9d cm
A\$ 750



CHONGGANG DU

Intervention Sculpture No. 5, 2018
Stone, acrylic, & glue
15h x 26w x 14d cm
A\$ 750



CHONGGANG DU

Intervention Sculpture No. 6, 2018
Stone, acrylic, & glue
18h x 20w x 12d cm
A\$ 700

CHONGGANG DU is an academic artist who expresses both theoretical and artistic concerns through his work, actively engaging with issues of culture, power and politics. Using the languages of painting, photography, sculpture and video, Du explores the ethics of technological development and the environmental costs of human civilisation from the hybrid space between Chinese and Australian cultures.

Du was born in China in 1963. He received a Bachelor of Fine Art from Shan Dong University and went on to teach at Jinan Craft Arts School and Shan Dong Arts Academy for 18 years before moving to Australia in 2003. In 2009, Du completed a Master of Fine Art at Monash University.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 *Uncertain*, Ausin Tung Gallery, Melbourne
Paper in East and West, Jan Manton Art Brisbane
- 2010 *Ambiguous*, Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide
Background, Place Gallery, Melbourne
- 2009 *Hybridity*, Monash University, Caulfield, Melbourne
- 2007 *Civilised Phalanx*, Monash University Caulfield, Melbourne
- 2006 Span Galleries, Melbourne
- 2004 Span Galleries, Melbourne,
- 2002 Tenth Chinese Art Fair, Beijing, China
- 1992 Capital Museum, Beijing, China

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 Paul Guest Prize, Bendigo Art Gallery, Bendigo, VIC
Direction, E Hive Art & Design Gallery, Prahran, Melbourne
- 2017 Weifang International Art Biennial, Weifang, China
- 2014 *Ocher, Bones & Urine: A Painting Show*, Fehily Contemporary, Melbourne
Crossing Boundaries 2014, Sydney Town Hall, Sydney
- 2013 蛇 rǎn 蟒 *Snake - A Celebration of Asian Australian Art*, City of Sydney – Chinese New Year Festival Exhibition, Sydney Town Hall, Sydney
Small Sculpture Fair 2013, McClelland Sculpture Park + Gallery, Melbourne
- 2012 *Memento 2012*, Jan Manton Art Brisbane
Review, Australia China Art Foundation, Melbourne
Melbourne Art Fair, Ausin Tung Gallery, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
Art Melbourne, Ausin Tung Gallery, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
Chinese Australia, Ausin Tung Gallery, Melbourne
- 2011 *The Art of Christmas, Small Works Show*, Edwina Corlette Gallery, Brisbane
- 2010 *China Obscura*, MiFA, Melbourne
Fletcher Jones Art Prize, Geelong Gallery, Geelong, VIC
- 2009 *Post*, Place Gallery, Melbourne
Eight Ways of Being Here, New Work from Eight Emerging Artists of Chinese Descent, Museum of Chinese Australian History, Melbourne
- 2007 Span Galleries, Melbourne
- 2005 ANL Maritime Art Prize, Melbourne
- 2001 Selected to Participate in China Watercolor Figure Paintings Exhibition, China
- 2000 Selected to Participate in the Fifth National Watercolour and Crayon Exhibition, China
Selected to Participate in the Ya Heng Cup National Painting Exhibition, China
- 1999 Selected to Participate in the Ninth National Art Exhibition, China
- 1998 Selected to Participate in the Fourth National Watercolor and Crayon Exhibition, China
- 1997 Selected to Participate in Shan Dong, Hu Bei and Hong Kong Watercolor Exhibition, China
- 1996 Selected to Participate in the Exhibition of Chinese Oil Paintings Overseas Touring and Outstanding Chinese Oil Paintings Exhibition, Malaysia
- 1994 Selected to Participate in Shan Dong Art Exhibition, Credit Award, Shan Dong, China
Selected to Participate in the First Chinese Oil Painting Still Life Exhibition, Beijing, China
- 1989 Selected to Participate in Shan Dong Art Exhibition, Shan Dong, China
- 1988 Selected to Participate in Shan Dong Oil Figure Painting Exhibition, Shan Dong, China
- 1987 Selected to Participate in the National Art Exhibition of the 60th Anniversary of the People's Liberation Army, Beijing, China

A W A R D S

- 2018 Paul Guest Prize, Bendigo Art Gallery, Bendigo, VIC
2013 Small Sculpture Fair 2013, McClelland Sculpture Park + Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
2010 Fletcher Jones Art Prize, Geelong Gallery, Australia
2005 ANL Maritime Art Prize 2005, Melbourne, Australia
1999 First Prize, Shan Dong Art Exhibition, Shan Dong, China
1994 Credit Award, Shan Dong Art Exhibition, Shan Dong, China

S E L E C T E D C O L L E C T I O N S

National Art Museum of China
Private collections in Australia, Europe, China and USA

S E L E C T E D B I B L I O G R A P H Y

ISSUU - Stonnington Review Local by The Weekly Review, Local scene: Whats on, CHONGGANG DU – UNCERTAIN, Tuesday 30th October 2012.

Coming Clean Discarded Newspapers Inspire Creativity, Chonggang Du in the Stonnington Leader Tuesday 2nd October 2012.

All the News Fit to Paint, Chonggang Du interviewed for the Knox Leader, Tuesday 2nd October 2012.

Du Chonggang Works, Published on Chinese Oil Painting, issue No. 3, 2003.

Record in Asia Art Archive, www.aaa.org.hk/collection, 2004.

Heritage of Sui and Tang Dynasties, Published on The World of Water and Color.

Shan Dong Fine Art Press, 2001.

The Girl in red dress, 2001, 51cm x 72cm, watercolor, Published on China Watercolor Figure Paintings, Liao Ning Art Press, 2001.

Sui Tang Dynasty Charm, 1999, 99cm x 74 cm, Published on Watercolor, issue No. 1, 2001.

Ruin No.1, 2000, 104cm x 75 cm, watercolor, Published on Collection of works from 5th national watercolor painting and gouache exhibition, Ling Nan Arts Press, 2000.

Published Color and Techniques of Still Life, Guang Xi Art Press, China, 1999.

Record in the Famous Chinese Artists Dictionary, China, 1999.

Heritage of Sui and Tang Dynasties, 1999, 108cm x 153cm, watercolour,

Published on The 9th Chinese National Art Exhibition 1999, Watercolour & Gouache, Pastel Exhibition, Chinese Culture Ministry, Chinese Artist's Association and Jiangsu Fine Arts Publishing House, 1999.

Became a member of China Artist's Association, China, 1999.

Dreams Season, 1998, 78.3cm x 104cm, watercolor, Published on Collection of works from 4th national watercolour painting and gouache exhibition, China Literature and Arts Federation Press, 1998.

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