

GUO JIAN

30 JUNE - 25 JULY

PREVIEW

TUESDAY 30TH JUNE 6-8PM



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Guo Jian returns to Melbourne on the 30th June to exhibit a new body of work at Arc One Gallery, Melbourne.

Born in China in 1963, Jian was raised in a controlled political environment. He served over three years in the Peoples Liberation Army and bore witness to the horrific Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989, where he assisted carrying the wounded to the hospital.

Jian's personal atlas of history continues to feed his visual commentary. His voice is both satirical and erotic, challenging and confronting. He plays with irony and foreplay to exploit and raise potent questions surrounding propaganda and manipulation.

'As I have grown older, I have realized that all of the education I have received is rarely practical in real life. Reality and education are conflicting. The way in which you inherently view the world is influenced by education which is the perspectives of others. Our surrounding environment defines our perception of 'right' and 'wrong', 'enemy' and 'friend', 'them' and 'us'. But, if you dare to open your eyes and liberate your mind, you will find that the world is not exactly the way you have been told. Put your feet into someone else's shoes to think about the world and your own life differently. For me, if the surroundings change, are combined, are old or new, it doesn't matter. My life is defined relative to my self-experience and the things I have heard or seen. From this perspective, I have discovered the freedom to reopen my eyes to a new world and to new possibilities.' Guo Jian

Guo Jian has carved a strong international presence. Participating in numerous exhibitions, including, *The China Project*, QAG, (2009) the 2004 Sulman Prize and The Australian Drawing Biennale at the Drill Hall in Canberra, (2000). In 2001 Jian had a major solo exhibition at Heide Museum of Art.

Collections Include, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery Global Resources, Los Angeles, USA. Private collections in China, Mexico, Sweden, Belgium, New Zealand and Australia. Guo Jian will be available for interviews from the 30th June. For further information please contact Arc One Gallery

ARC ONE GALLERY
45 FLINDERS LANE MELBOURNE 3000
TELEPHONE + 613 9650 6710
FACSIMILE + 613 9650 0591
WWW.ARC1GALLERY.COM
MAIL@ARC1GALLERY.COM

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Front Image: Featured in John McDonald's, *Australian Painters on the Nature of Creativity*, 2007

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