

Galerie Ora-Ora proudly presents
“Step Back to Nature” – Stephen Wong’s Solo Exhibition

(Hong Kong – 3 March 2014) A city, although a symbol of progress, brings along an exhausting lifestyle. Living in a society where we are constantly overloaded with information, if we city dwellers choose to *step back to nature*, would we be inspired by a new insight? Following more than a year of meticulous preparation, Galerie Ora-Ora is proud to present Stephen Wong’s newest exhibition, “Step Back to Nature”, paying tribute to Stephen’s landscape paintings and sketches, with a focus on works from the past twelve months. The exhibition title, “Step Back to Nature”, as adopted by the artist, reveals the philosophy of life that turned him to observe nature primitively and experience the purest forms of landscape. Reminiscing his journey with nature, this exhibition not only seeks to provoke enjoyment in the slower pace of the outdoors, but also reflects on the artist’s imagination and contemplation when one from urban life makes contact with the wilderness.



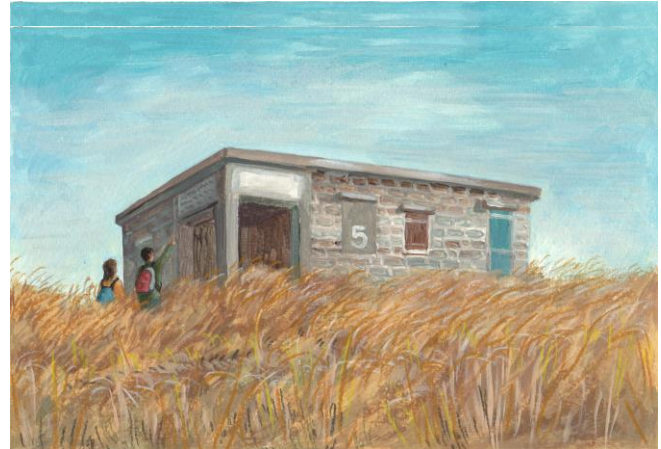
The Mudflat for Sunset, Oil on canvas, 90 x 120 cm, 2013

Sketching en plein air has been a habit, a progress and a form of meditation for Stephen. Developing a bond with landscape painting early on, the idea of the distance between man and nature has been a concerned topic within his art practice. While his inaugural series of landscape paintings focused on virtual scenery inspired by the world of video games, he began to actively explore his distance with nature by the time he presented his second series, a collection of pixelated landscape paintings. His latest body of works in “Step Back to Nature” is a critical transformation of Stephen’s artwork. To further minimize the distance

between himself and the landscapes he paints, he let himself be completely surrounded by nature. Since 2013, he began a weekly ritual of hiking with his painting tools and spending the day sketching on site. Observing nature most primitively through his bare eyes, he depicts the natural landscape by the purest approach. More than just a log of his journey, this routine led him to develop his approach to appreciating nature, where a gentle breeze among trees and bushes can be seen as a sign of tranquility, acting as a process of self-healing. Being able to focus his thoughts and emotions away from the noise in the city, the wilderness brings a sense of alleviation, serenity and calmness to his mind, allowing him to escape from the urban realities.



(Left) He photos the Sky (Hut 16) Acrylic on canvas 17.6 x 26.5 cm 2013



(Right) There are Some Words on the Hut (Hut 05) Acrylic on canvas 17.6 x 26.5 cm 2013

Stephen's works for this show mostly depicted the natural scenery of Hong Kong, where he was born and grew up. Although Hong Kong landscape has often been stereotyped as a harbour city with skyscrapers, Stephen chooses to present his hometown from a completely different perspective, in order to allow audiences to re-experience Hong Kong through his eyes. Not only do his landscape paintings reveal the various unique areas of the city's great outdoors, but the artworks also include man-made objects that coexist with the nature, telling stories about City and Nature.. In a small series of drawings, Stephen featured the twenty-one rock houses of Tai Tung Shan (Sunset Peak on Lantau Island) and those, from the city, who gathered around the houses. They are hastening on the path, indulging in their digital devices, and watching the landscape only through lens and screens. None of all seemed to stay for the sake of the landscape because they have never taken off their ritual of city life. This series has demonstrated the contrast and tension between human and the nature, which is also the inner struggle of the artist, as a city dweller himself.

Stephen is exploring the landscape scene that would catch his eyes and make him stay, In the same way, his paintings is attempting to catch the eyes of our city dwellers. Through his stepping back to nature, he offers the audiences his insights, inspiring them to rethink about the connection between the city, the nature, and themselves.

Exhibition Details

Exhibition period: 5 March – 30 April 2014

Venue: Galerie Ora-Ora, G/F, 7 Shin Hing Street, Central, Hong Kong

Opening Night

Date: 5 March 2014 (Wednesday)

Time: 6pm - 8pm

About Galerie Ora-Ora

Galerie Ora-Ora is an Asian Contemporary fine art gallery specializing in sculptures, Fresh Ink works and the discovery of emerging talents. Privileged with exclusive representation of artists from Europe, America and the Pan-Asia Pacific region, we strive to share high quality artworks with art lovers for appreciation, investment and collection. Galerie Ora-Ora represents many internationally renowned artists, such as Huang Yongyu, Xu Hongfei, Man Fung-yi, Kum Chi-Keung, Halley Cheng, Hao Liang, plus many emerging New Ink talents. Based in Hong Kong, we are also an international platform for local artistic talents. With Ora-Ora meaning "from one era to another" or "eternity", we believe that good quality art survives through generations. We believe that art has no frontiers and should be experienced by anyone in the world.

Art is a lifestyle.

About Stephen Wong

Born in 1986, Stephen Wong gained his BA in Fine Arts From The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2008. In his early years, he already demonstrated an interest in the relationship between human, nature and virtual reality. His recent artworks mainly focus on outdoor landscape paintings. Upon graduation, Wong had three solo exhibitions including Stay Lost (2012) and From a Distance (2011) at Galerie Ora-Ora and Someone Bending the Machine: An Exhibition Responding to the Artworks of Chow Chun Fai (2011). Wong also participated in numerous group exhibitions including Reundefined (2013), Traits (2012), No Between (2011).

Education:

2005-2008 Studied in Fine Arts Department, CUHK

1998-2005 Studied in C.C.C. Ming Yin College

1992-1998 Studied in S.K.H. St. Thomas Primary School

Selected exhibitions:

2013

REUNDEFINED Group Show (Galerie Ora-Ora)

2012

Stay Lost (Galerie Ora-Ora)

"Traits" Group Show (Macau)

AHAF Hotel Art Fair (Hong Kong)

2011

From a Distance (Galerie Ora-Ora)

No Between (Group show with Halley Cheng and Yolanda Yeung, Galerie Ora-Ora)

Someone Bending the Machine: An exhibition responding to the artworks of Chow Chun Fai (Solo exhibition)

2010

Tasting Hong Kong: Hong Kong Toy (Group show)

Haven't you Heard (Group Show)

Stretched Connotations (Group show)

2009

Hiking Arte (Group Show)

Dwelling (Group show)

Artwork-colour the shadow shown in "Point-to-point, Site Specific art project" organized by Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation

Fotanian: Fotan Artists Open Studios 2009

2008

Bystander Somewhere (Solo exhibition, Cattle Depot)

New Trend (Group show, Cattle Depot)

2007

Manifesto (Solo exhibition, Chien Mu Library of CUHK)

2006

Piecemeal 2 (Dual exhibition with Roy Ng, Chien Mu Library of CUHK)

Piecemeal (Dual exhibition with Roy Ng, Chien Mu Library of CUHK)

Selected work in the Department Exhibition, CUHK

Media enquiries, please contact:

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Galerie Ora-Ora 隆重呈獻

黃進曦個人展覽——《退步自然》

(香港- 2014年3月3日) 城市也許標誌著一種進步，卻同時帶來庸碌的生活。我們這群城市人整日活在資訊氾濫的社會當中，若有一天選擇退步大自然，可會發掘到另一種的視野？經過一年多的緊密籌備，Galerie Ora-Ora 是次的展覽「退步自然」展出了藝術家黃進曦於過去一年持續不斷的戶外寫生繪畫創作，回歸對自然風景最原始的觀察和最純粹的感受，藝術家以「退步自然」作為一種生活哲學，一方面鼓勵城市人放慢節奏去享受大自然的旅程，另一方面表達他作為城市人遊歷原野時所衍生的想像和思考。



The Mudflat for Sunset 油畫畫布 90 x 120 cm 2013

戶外寫生對黃進曦而言是一種習慣、一種過程、更是一種靜修。鐘情於風景繪畫的黃進曦對於人與自然的距離一直蘊釀著許多想法：他早期的創作常取電玩畫面作虛擬的風景寫生，後來，他更進一步地探索自己與自然的距離，以像素點描創作了第二個系列的風景寫生作品。是次「退步自然」展出的新作則反映了藝術家的一個重大的蛻變——他大大拉近了自己和風景之間的距離，甚至讓之包圍。自 2013 年開始，他每個週末都會手執畫具登

山取景寫生，以最原始的肉眼去觀察、最純粹的方式去繪畫自然風景。他的寫生之旅不單是記錄下旅程的種種，還建立了他細味自然之美的一套方式，靜觀微風緩緩牽動草木，成了藝術家一個自我治療的過程。黃進曦帶他的思緒離開城市繁囂而進入自然之中，在原野間得著釋放、平靜和安穩。



(左) *He photos the Sky (Hut 16)* 塑膠彩畫布 17.6 x 26.5 cm 2013



(右) *There are Some Words on the Hut (Hut 05)* 塑膠彩畫布 17.6 x 26.5 cm 2013

黃進曦是次的作品多取景自香港的自然山嶺，是他作為土生土長香港人的一個情意結。儘管一般人對香港的印象都不外乎海港和摩天大廈，他卻選取截然不同的角度去讓觀者重新體會這個地方，他的風景作品不只描繪了香港獨有的山林佈局，更常於畫面穿插許多與自然共存的人為事物，訴說著關於城市和自然的故事。是次展覽其中一系列廿一幅的作品繪畫了大東山上散落的石屋，以及該處所聚集各種來自城市的人：他們來去匆匆，慣常地投入於自己的電子器材，或隔著鏡頭去觀望，云云之中似乎沒有多少人願意為風景停留，因為他們即使身處郊野仍無法撇下都市習性。此系列的作品表現了人與自然之間的對照及張力，也正表達了同樣是城市人的藝術家自己的內心掙扎和疑問。

黃進曦在創作路上尋索那些可以讓他停留的風景，正如他的作品亦抓住了我們這群城市人的注目、留住了我們的腳步；他以退為進，回歸自然，藉繪畫開展一個嶄新的視野，啟發觀者再思城市、自然以至自身之間的關係。

展覽詳情

展覽日期：2014年3月5日（星期三）至2014年4月30日（星期三）

地點：Galerie Ora-Ora, 中環善慶街7號地下

開幕酒會

日期: 2014年3月5日（星期三）

時間: 下午6時至8時

關於 Galerie Ora-Ora

Galerie Ora-Ora 致力推動亞洲當代藝術，專營雕塑和新水墨作品，以及發掘新晉年青藝術家。Galerie Ora-Ora 代理一系列歐、美及泛亞太區的優秀藝術家，例如中國大陸、台灣、香港、日本，韓國、菲律賓、澳洲、葡萄牙、法國、美國等十多個國家及地區，而且更享有其中一些有國際拍賣記錄的頂尖藝術家的獨家代理權：包括黃永玉、許鴻飛、文鳳儀、甘志強、鄭哈雷，郝量，以及一眾新晉新水墨藝術家。憑著這優勢，Galerie Ora-Ora 能提供既高質素、又有創意、並具代表性的作品，供藝術愛好者欣賞、收藏及投資。

作為一家建基於香港的畫廊，Galerie Ora-Ora 非常支持本土創作，希望能為藝術家提供發揮藝術創作的空間，以及接觸國際舞台的機會。

提到其品牌的解釋，Ora-Ora 意指「由一個時代到另一個時代」或「永恆」。畫廊的宗旨是好的藝術作品能夠經得起時間的認定而長存於世，並且深信藝術絕無界限，任何人也應該能欣賞和分享。

藝術就是一種生活方式。

關於黃進曦

黃進曦於1986年生於香港，2008年畢業於香港中文大學(文學士)，主修藝術。黃進曦早期的作品以探索人、大自然及虛擬現實之間的微妙關係為主，而近期創作主力於戶外風景寫生方面。黃進曦畢業後至今已經舉行過三次個人展覽，2012年的於 Galerie Ora-Ora 舉辦的《保留的迷失》及2011年的《視乎距離》、2011年的《有人屈機：一個回應周俊輝作品的展覽》，黃進曦亦參與過很多聯展，例如2013年的《重未定》、2012年的《肖》、2011年的《自以為》等等。

學歷：

2005-2008 就讀於香港中文大學藝術系
1998-2005 就讀於中華基督教會銘賢書院
1992-1998 就讀於聖公會聖多馬小學

參與展覽選錄：

2013

重未定（於 Galerie Ora-Ora）

2012

保留的迷失（於 Galerie Ora-Ora）

《肖》聯展（澳門）

AHAF Hotel Art Fair (香港)

2011

《視乎距離》（於 Galerie Ora-Ora）

《自以為》聯展（於 Galerie Ora-Ora）

《有人屈機: 一個回應周俊輝作品的展覽》個展

2010

《品味香港:香港玩具》

《聽到嗎？》

《Stretched Connotations》

2009

《臥遊》

《斗室》

作品”為影子著色”展於香港賽馬會點對點社區藝術計劃（於屯門良景商場）

《伙炭藝術工作室開放計劃 2009》

2008

《有人射厘》個展（於牛棚藝術公社 A 展場）

《出爐 2008》聯展（於牛棚藝術公社）

2007

《酸言》個展（於香港中文大學錢穆圖書館展場）

2006

《碎料》雙人展（黃進曦、吳鈺灝聯展，於香港中文大學錢穆圖書館展場）

《碎料二》雙人展（黃進曦、吳鈺灝聯展，於香港中文大學錢穆圖書館展場）

作品”燈盒”入選香港中文大學藝術系系展

如欲查詢, 請聯絡 Galerie Ora-Ora :

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