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DARLA is honored to present 位 航 Andy H. Wei at NADA NY 2025.

Wei accidentally spent years living in Qingdao, when a visit to celebrate Chinese New Year in January 2020 turned into the mandatory quarantine in the international port city. An impromptu studio set up in his father's tearoom solarium reflects feelings of being both existentially apart from home, yet closer to origins such as the regional specificity of the north-eastern dialect on the Yellow Sea coast.

2020年春节短暂的探亲计划, 意外变成了长达几年的隔离滞留。位航在 父亲茶室的阳光房里搭起临时画室, 落地窗映出的人影离家遥远, 却又 贴近乡土和根源——黄海吹来的海风、四处响起的胶东方言。

An after-dinner stroll turns into a shimmering bioluminescent forest as we quietly pass around microbes like frantic moths — fantastic in unpredictable terrain. In Wei's haptic vernacular, muted moments roll on waves of anxiety that well up to allow for playful privacy. Sterile chambers woo investigation of bodily orifices opening at will, but are we ever safely far enough from the eerie phantasmagoria of an imagined outside?

在位航的笔触间,柔和克制的情景下翻滚着不安忧虑的浪涌,又时而流露出戏谑的私密,补偿以轻心的消解。晚餐后的漫步变成一座森林莹莹发光,围绕着不定的幻想,我们也像飞蛾扑腾,不知觉散播开细微的生命。纯净的内室引人窥探身体随意开合的腔孔,但谁又能够隔绝想象,逃离那些梦魇般变幻飞转的怪诞图景?

The paintings of this period are insides of insides and insides of outsides. Wei speculates on the interiors we think we know just like the back of our own hand — a bathtub soak, billowing curtains, moody obelisk moons. Yet we all got warped by the year of our lord 2020, and along with premature aging induced by constant worry, new kinks emerged: the gifts of this turbulent epoch.

这一时期的画作是内里的内里,亦是外部的内部。艺术家思索着人们以 为再熟悉不过的内部空间——浴缸里泡澡,飘动的纱帘,阴晴不定、方尖 碑般的月亮。然而我们其实已经被2020年扭曲,持续的忧虑令人提前衰 老,新的奇想也随之萌生:这是一个动荡时代的馈赠。

The borderline sense of how it felt back then has turned memories into speculations and rumors, rendered idiomatically into dizzying views (of bathroom tiles up close or strange stratospheres indecipherable between dust mote or blizzard). Somewhat despicable, awkwardly satirical reflections are admittedly embarrassing yet allow for a much-needed exhalation. Equal parts serene and circumspect, Wei recognizes his personal as well as our collective bewilderment and mortality, gently twinged with madness.

关于那时的感受已经含混模糊, 记忆变作纷乱的猜想和传言, 被绘成令 人眩晕的景象——近焦的浴室瓷砖, 模糊不清、难以辨认是尘埃还是暴 雪的奇异平流层。尴尬甚至有些可鄙的讥讽固然令人难为情, 却也提供 了我们亟需的喘息之机。平静而又谨慎地, 位航承认个体乃至集体共同 的脆弱和迷惘——其中或有一丝疯狂。 Heavily distressed saturated surfaces developed alongside the artist's self-understanding: Texan, Qingdaonian, a cosmopolitan deftness of spirit and layers of private play have evolved into an interiority accessible from anywhere. A presentation of paintings from 2020 to 2025, the works in this series mark the early onset of COVID to its perceived and felt aftermaths.

龟裂的高饱和度画面在艺术家对自我的逐渐认知中发展成型:德州人、青岛人,游刃于多元文化间的灵巧心性,以及私密游戏般的层层表现,它们 共同造就了一个随处都能通往的内在世界。这组画作涵盖位航从 2020 年疫情初期到 2025 年的作品,记录了新冠的爆发与它持续留存的创伤 与余波。

Dr. Darla Migan, Curator Translator 王啸尘 Will Wang

info@darlanyc.com

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