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tue – sun | 10am – 7pm 周二至周日，上午 10 点至下午 7 点

 ART+
SHANGHAI GALLERY

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8 Immortals: New Works by Tamen+



Tamen+, Eight Immortals Crossing the Sea 八仙过海 Acrylic on canvas 布面丙烯 120x150cm 2018

Exhibition Duration: March 18th to April 22nd 2018

Artist: Tamen + (Lai Shengyu and Yang Xiaogang)

About the Exhibition:

Art+ Shanghai Gallery is excited to announce that the artist collective Tamen+ is coming back to the gallery with the new series of works for their solo exhibition 8 Immortals. The exhibition teases the complexities of Tamen+'s new multilayered pictorial reality, examines the depths attainable by an inquisitive mind, and hints at themes that resonate in our patchwork, disordered modernity.

The title of the exhibition 8 Immortals is drawn from Chinese folklore, referring to the many legends surrounding the eight deities that abound in China's mythscape. Particular inspiration is drawn from The Eight Immortals Cross the Sea (八仙过海 bā xiān guò hǎi), a seminal literary work by Wu Yuntai, which brings all of the characters together on an expedition to a wondrous but fraught submarine world. Unable to ride a cloud, the usual

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means of celestial transportation, and pitched against a malicious sea king, the Immortals have no choice but to muster their wits and marshal their unique powers on a perilous odyssey.

The new works of Tamen+, collaboratively created by Lai Shengyu and Yang Xiaogang, evince a remarkably distinguishable style of artistic expression. In subject matter, their frank and ironically tinged observations on contemporaneity are accompanied by the artists' unique take on self-expression, identity and the human psyche in a confused and globalized world.

Tamen+'s new works in this exhibition are equipped with a striking array of clever compositional devices, symbolic references and visual metaphors, encouraging us to see more than ordinary paintings telling ordinary stories, pushing our mind and consciousness to go beyond the *sensus literalis*. Grappling with the hints left by the artists, engaging with their symbolism and subtexts, elevates both the paintings, and ourselves.

Tamen+'s realistic portrayals of surrealistic scenarios, unexpected juxtapositions, and irrational imagery provoke a long-lasting impression. Having an extraordinary knack for capturing a viewer's attention and inspiring inner dialogues, Tamen+'s carefully engineered paintings have their way with our consciousness, making us feel simultaneously erudite, silly, sophisticated, bemused and ultimately, like passengers in the boat.

About Tamen+

Tamen+ is an artist collective formed in 2003 by artists Lai Shengyu and Yang Xiaogang, who were born in China's Hunan Province in 1978 and 1979, respectively. Both received post-graduate degrees from the Central Academy of Fine Arts in the Department of Printmaking and are currently based in Beijing working at Beihang University (BUAA) in the Department of New Media Art. The duo has traveled widely and rejects contemporary society's infatuation with the individual by seamlessly collaborating on and co-painting each work. They have gained acclaim in China and abroad for their Same Room series of paintings, and have since shifted towards exterior scenes in natural landscapes, displaying Western-style painting techniques and thought-provoking conceptualizations.

Lai Shengyu and Yang Xiaogang's collaborations are part of the new trend of Chinese contemporary art where thought exercises are staged on canvas. Tamen+ has held numerous solo exhibitions in Beijing, New York, Seoul, and the Netherlands, and has participated in a range of art fairs including Art Central Hong Kong, Art Cologne, Art Beijing, Art Dubai, Art HK, SH Contemporary, and the New York Asian Contemporary Art Fair. The collective has been featured in publications such as *Young Chinese Artists: The Next Generation*, and their work can be found in the collections of the Eskenazi Collection of Chinese Art (London), Central Academy of Fine Arts Museum (Beijing), Guangdong Museum of Art (Guangzhou), White Rabbit Collection (Sydney), and Essl Museum (Vienna).

In addition, major solo exhibitions include *Mobile Theatre* (2018, Yang Gallery, Singapore), *One World, One Dream* (2017, Rong Bao Zhai Hong Kong Exhibition Space, Hong Kong), *Floating World* (2016, Yang Gallery, 798, Beijing), *Outside Within: New Works by Tamen* (2014, Art+ Shanghai Gallery, Shanghai), *Forget Themselves* (2013, Hunan Museum of Art,

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Changsha), Past and Present (2011, Beyond Art Space, Beijing), and The Lost Heaven (2009, Hunan Museum of Art, Changsha), and notable group exhibitions include Remote Streams and Mountains (2013, Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Japan, and Arts Santa Mònica, Barcelona), Chengdu Biennale (2011, Chengdu Museum of Art, Chengdu), and Pure Views: New Painting from China (2011, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco).

About Art+ Shanghai Gallery

Founded in October 2007 and located along the Suzhou River within walking distance to Shanghai's famous Bund area, Art+ Shanghai Gallery is a dynamic art space dedicated to the exhibition, promotion, and development of Chinese contemporary art. Art+ Shanghai Gallery showcases a range of established and emerging contemporary artists from within China and abroad, stimulating and celebrating the diversity of the sprawling contemporary art scene. In addition to holding group and solo exhibitions, Art+ Shanghai Gallery offers art consultation services, hosts cultural events, and participates in international art fairs.

八仙过海：他们 + 最新作品系列展

展期：2018 年 3 月 18 日至 4 月 22 日

参展艺术家：他们+（赖圣予、杨晓钢）

关于展览

艺术+ 上海画廊非常荣幸地宣布，艺术组合“他们+”将携其最新作品系列《八仙过海》重回我们画廊。本次展览旨在邀请观众解析“他们+”层次丰富的现实主义图像复杂性的同时，探讨人类好奇心的深度。

本次展览的标题《八仙过海》，灵感来自于古老的中国民间传说。相传八位神仙因对水下世界的好奇，决定通过各自的法力对其一探究竟。他们+ 从这一传说中汲取灵感，为我们呈现了一组全新的作品，在当代全球化进程下的世界，对“是否还存有独立性，多样性，以及自我表达的能力”等议题进行发问。

“他们+”在本次展览中为我们呈现出一些力精心构图的作品。形象符号和各种隐喻在提醒我们进行更高阶的思考。这些不是普通的绘画，讲述着普通的故事。他们将我们的思想和意识推向了超越语言学的范畴。

“他们+”通过看似超现实主义的场景，意料之外的组合，和感性的写照给观者留下深刻印象。“他们+”的作品总是那么引人入胜，令人心往神驰，同时激起观者与各自内心深处进行对话。“他们+”通过这些作品，潜入观者的意识，让我们在无意间，同时体味讽刺，愚昧，困惑等各种复杂心绪。

关于“他们+”

“他们”是一个艺术团体，由艺术家赖圣予和杨晓钢于 2003 年成立。这两位艺术家分别于 1978 和 1979 年出生于云南省。他们同时毕业于中央美术学院版画专业，获得硕士学位。现在，他们在北京航空航天大学（BUAA）新媒体专业任职。两位艺术家云游各地，运用二人通力合作和共同绘画来反驳当代社会的个人迷恋主义。随着“同一房间”系列作品的走红，他们获得了来自国内外的称赞。在此之后，他们的作品又开始转向自然景色的室外场景，展现西方风格的绘画技巧和发人深思的构图。

赖圣予和杨晓钢的合作也是中国当代艺术的一个新趋势，他们将思想运动反应在油画中。“他们”在北京、纽约、首尔、荷兰举办过多场个展，并参加了众多艺术博览会，包括科隆艺术博览会、北京艺术博览会、迪拜艺术博览会、香港艺术博览会、上海艺术博览会、及纽约

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亚洲当代艺术博览会。“他们”小组曾出现在多家出版物上，比如《中国年轻艺术家——新一代》。他们的作品在 Eskenazi 中国艺术收藏（伦敦），中央美术学院博物馆（北京）、广东美术馆（广州）、白兔中国当代艺术收藏基金会（悉尼）和埃索博物馆中均有展出（维也纳）。

此外，“他们”的主要个展有“移动剧场，他们+ 作品展”（2018，杨国际艺术中心，新加坡）、“同一个世界，同一个梦想：他们+ 作品展”（2017，荣宝轩，香港）、“里外：他们小组新作品展”（2014，艺术+ 上海画廊，上海）、“相忘于江湖”（2013，湖南省画院美术馆，长沙）、“前世今生”（2011，别处空间，北京）、“失落的天堂”（2009，湖南省博物馆，长沙），重要的群展包括“溪山清远—流觞故事”（2013，福冈亚洲美术馆，日本、圣坦莫妮卡艺术中心，西班牙）、“成都双年展主题展”（2011，成都）、“溪山清远—中国新绘画”（2011，旧金山亚洲艺术博物馆 美国）。

艺术+上海画廊简介

创办于 2007 年 10 月，坐落于上海外滩名胜之地的苏州河畔，艺术+上海画廊致力于宣传与推动中国当代艺术，是一处充满活力的艺术场馆。艺术+上海画廊不仅展示来自中外的知名艺术家，也同时支持有潜力的新兴艺术家，旨在能够不断催促和激励当代艺术舞台的多样性不断延伸扩大。除了举办艺术家群展和个展，艺术+上海画廊也同时提供艺术品咨询服务，文化活动策划服务以及参加各大国际展会等。