

Press Release From: **The Contemporary Art Modern Project**

Contact: Andres J. Mora, Gabriel Torres

Phone (786) 614-3059, (305) 742-4735

***On Oriental Reveries: A Guang Yu Zhang Solo Show***

Opening January 8 - February 1, 2021



**Guang Yu Zhang** brings forth an elysian world ever-filled with mystified fauna and vegetation, finding inspiration in Western elements and merging it into his own Eastern techniques. Influenced by the technical teachings of his fine art training at Central Saint Martins in the UK, he furthers this approach by integrating both painting and digital photography practices into his work.

The Shanghai-based artist honors his roots by emulating the finishing of ink-based art in the portrayal of idealized landscapes, flipping the script by integrating the Westerner approach of occupying all available negative space with more saturated elements than is expected of Oriental art. His eclectic compositions convey a nostalgia driven by traditional Chinese motifs, featuring a world filled with auspicious symbolism such as: cranes (longevity), goldfish (wealth), horses (power), and dragonflies (new beginnings). These motifs conflate seamlessly with the artist's eye for soft yet striking color schemes. The Western inspiration is further evidenced in works such as the *Fairyland* series, where **Guang** incorporates Western imagery such as gnome statues, airships, paper planes, and UFOs into his landscapes. The inclusion of such elements cement the surreal nature of the artist's aesthetic, achieving a collage-like quality in his pieces by introducing characters that, at first glance, don't belong within his conception, illustrating how his work speaks of the artist's own imagination.

**Guang** often features concentric geometry within his work, separating compositions into two realms in which one appears to encapsulate another. As seen in works such as *Fairyland G-II*, *Fairyland G-III*, and *Fairyland G-V*, he presents a deviation of elements while remaining harmonious and interconnected. This compositional decision can be said to be a self-referential analogy that speaks to his own dichotomy of influences, as well as being a direct reference to the ancient Chinese belief that the earth was flat and encapsulated under a dome-like sky. His color choices set him apart as an artist, presenting a diffusion of tones that yield sometimes dreamy and other times nightmarish qualities to his work, creating an immersive paradisiacal although surreal realm that draws those who set eyes on the same.

Like suspended in time, **Guang's** work acts as a window towards a freeze frame of the artist's perception. A soothing world, a thrilling world, an Elysium where earth and sky intertwine, where light and darkness are one and the same.

**ABOUT THE CAMP GALLERY: ART IS INTENTIONAL.**

**The Contemporary Art Modern Project, (The CAMP)**, focuses on bringing exposure to the artist, without exposing the artist to exploitive practices rampant in the art world. Also part and parcel of this new venture is The Camp Gang, who through their own unique and creative insight add to the fresh approach of marrying the online world with the traditional art world. Our goals are to create collaborative relationships with the artist and the collector through partnering with online giants to increase exposure, to creating and curating unique and innovative pop up exhibitions, both physical and virtual. We aim and strive to make connections and relationships between ourselves, the artist and both the collector and the public, thereby removing the curtain that distances connection. The CAMP's entire modus operandi is to: protect art, the artist, to keep them in the realm of their art and vision as it is always the art that matters.

Location: The CAMP Gallery, 791 NE 125th Street, North Miami, FL, 33168

RSVP: [hello@thecampgallery.com](mailto:hello@thecampgallery.com)

[www.thecampgallery.com](http://www.thecampgallery.com)