

Zhang Jian-Jun

HUMAN TRACES

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ONLINE RESOURCES

This kit is designed to provide context for the exhibition *Zhang Jian-Jun: Human Traces*, through a range of potential focus areas and curriculum links. It includes various materials about the artistic practice of Zhang Jian-Jun and the curatorial practice of Wu Hung. You can draw from the resources below to open up discussion and responses to explore and exchange with your peers your thoughts, ideas, observations and interpretations about the works and the exhibition.

Human Beings, Nature and Time

The resources below assist you in navigating your artistic exploration of the three core concepts in art history – the interaction between nature and humans, the traces people leave behind over the course of time, and the relationship between traditional and modern living.



ARTICLE

Intellect | Landscape without nature: Ecological reflections in contemporary Chinese art

Author: Chang Tan, Published: 2016, [More info](#)



BOOK

Chronicle Books | Traces of Time: The Beauty of Change in Nature an Exploratorium Book

Author: Pat Murphy, Published: 2000, [More info](#)

Oxford University Press | Anthropocene: A Very Short Introduction

Author: Erle C. Ellis, Published: 2018, [More info](#)

The Experiment | How to Read Nature: Awaken Your Senses to the Outdoors You've Never Noticed (Natural Navigation)

Author: Tristan Gooley, Published: 2017, [More info](#)

University of Michigan Press | Traces of the Past: Classics between History and Archaeology

Author: Karen Bassi, Published: 2016, [More info](#)

ZHANG JIAN-JUN ARTISTIC PRACTICE

From abstract art to figurative art, Zhang Jian-Jun is regarded as one of the pioneers of Chinese Abstraction. To recognise the formative period of his artistic practice, his involvement in the Chinese Avant-grade Artistic Movement and the evolution of his artwork, this section includes interviews and articles that illustrate his personal stories and experience intertwined with his exploration and interests in Eastern philosophy and human's relationship with the environment.

ARTICLE

Asian American Arts Centre | Visual Experience of Time and Cultural Form Installations by Zhang Jian-Jun

Author: Britta Erikson, Published: 2002, [More info](#)

CoBo Social | Chinese Abstraction Series: Jian-Jun Zhang and Karen Smith in Conversation

Author: Karen Smitch, Published: 2019, [More info](#)

CoBo Social | The Human Experience Through Zhang Jian-Jun's Cosmopolitan Vision of Art

Author: Jacob Dreyer, Published: 2019, [More info](#)

CoBo Social | Zhang Jian-Jun — A Pioneer of Chinese Abstraction

Author: Selina Ting, Published: 2019, [More info \(ENG\)](#) [More info \(中文\)](#)

CoBo Social | Zhang Jian-Jun's Human Traces: Interview with the Artist

Author: Sonia Kolesnikov-Jessop, Published: 2019, [More info](#)

RADII China | Watch: Trailblazing Artist Zhang Jianjun on the Art of Seeing, and Learning Painting in Secret Under Mao

Author: Adan Kohnhorst, Published: 2017, [More info](#)

Sine Theta Magazine | Conversation: Zhang Jian Jun

Author: Emily Chen, Published: 2019, [More info](#)

**Yishu: Journal of Contemporary Chinese Art | More than Forms:
Decoding Circles in the Works of Zhang Jianjun and Yu Youhan**

Author: Li Yiqing, Published: 2021, [More info](#)

**Yishu: Journal of Contemporary Chinese Art | Zhang Jian-Jun:
Memory and the Process of Historical Time**

Author: Robert C. Morgan, Published: 2007, [More info](#)

BOOK

**Metropolitan Museum of Art | Ink Art: Past as Present in
Contemporary China**

Author: Maxwell K. Hearn, Published: 2013, [More info](#)

INTERVIEW

Asia Art Archive | Interview: Zhang Jianjun (Chinese subtitles)

Interviewee: Zhang Jian-Jun, Published: 2009, [More info](#)

**RADII China | Zhang Jianjun: From Mao to China's Modern Art
Frontier**

Interviewee: Zhang Jian-Jun, Published: 2017, [More info](#)

**The Metropolitan Museum of Art | Zhang Jianjun Discusses His
Work in "Ink Art: Past as Present in Contemporary China"**

Interviewee: Zhang Jian-Jun, Published: 2014, [More info](#)

WEBPAGE

Asia Art Archive

83 Experimental Painting Exhibition, [More info](#)

Art Projects International

ZHANG JIAN-JUN, [More info](#)

The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Ink Art: Past as Present in Contemporary China Exhibition, [More info](#)

WU HUNG CURATORIAL PRACTICE

To discover the wonders of Chinese contemporary art and beyond, the academic writings and publication written by the curator Wu Hung below, provide context and critical analysis on the development of Chinese contemporary art in relation to social and political changes that had taken place over the years.

ARTICLE

M+ | Negotiating with Tradition in Contemporary Chinese Art: Three Strategies

Author: Wu Hung, published: 2013, [More info](#)

BOOK

Chambers Fine Art | Variations of Ink: A Dialogue with Zhang Yanyuan

Author: Wu Hung, Published: 2002, [More info](#)

Lingnan Fine Arts Publishing House | Wu Hung on Contemporary Chinese Art: Art and Exhibition

Author: Wu Hung, Published: 2005, [More info](#)

Shanghai People's Fine Arts Publishing House | History of Contemporary Chinese Art 1985-1986

Author: Gao Minglu, Shu Qun, Tong dian, Wang Mingxian, Wang Xiaojian, Zhou Yan, Published: 1991, [More info](#)

Thames and Hudson | Contemporary Chinese Art : A History 1970s-2000

Author: Wu Hung, Published: 2014, [More info](#)

The David and Alfred Smart Museum of Art, The University of Chicago | Exhibiting Experimental Art in China

Author: Wu Hung, Published: 2000, [More info](#)

EXTENDED RESOURCES & TEACHING MATERIALS

Tracing back the origin of Zhang Jian-Jun's concepts in his artistic practice, it is inevitable to understand the Eastern philosophy in relation to Chinese contemporary art field. This section provides teaching materials for educators to ease into the complex concept and expand their understanding in art in Asia, highlighting the diversity in contemporary art practices of Asia.



Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia | Traces of Words: Art and Calligraphy from Asia

Published: 2017, [More info](#)

Guggenheim Museum Publications | Teaching Modern and Contemporary Asian Art

Published: 2018, [More info](#)

RMIT University | A Contemporary Interpretation of Daoism and Installation Art Practice

Author: Chui Lee; Published: 2014, [More info](#)