

BEIJING

PACE WILDENSTEIN

Pace Beijing, the Chinese outpost of the ubiquitous New York-based gallery Pace Wildenstein, has now been open for 5 months. Located in the famous 798 Art District of Beijing and housed in a 22,000-square-foot former factory, the gallery arrived with a blockbuster in August 2008 — a star-studded group show titled “Encounters,” with artists so famous there’s no need for surnames, Andy, Cindy, Jeff, Takashi, Marlene, among others. With the new year welcomed in, Pace Beijing is looking to its future while still completing some construction work at the gallery. Indeed, this work will occupy the first two months of 2009, with the next show a Chuck Close solo due to appear in March or April. On top of this, two solo shows will feature Zhang Xiaogang and Li Song Song respectively, with a group exhibition “Great Performance,” currently being researched.

MIAMI

ART BASEL

The seventh edition of Art Basel Miami Beach (4 - 7 December 2008) attracted more than 40,000 visitors and 1,800 journalists from all over the globe. Words like ‘cautious’ and ‘level-headed’ have described the mood of the market of late in the art press but Art Basel Miami, with steady sales and strong booth presentations, proved that high-quality works remain in demand. Andrej Przywara of the Foksal Gallery Foundation commented, “The sales exceeded our expectations by far and we even sold the huge aluminium cast sculpture by Pawel Althamer to a private American collection.” Some dealers reported with modest satisfaction. Italian gallerist Franco Noero said, “In general the quality of this year’s show is very high. For us it went really well and we made some very interesting new contacts.”

VIENNA

COLLECTORS GATHERING

Concluding on the 23rd November, 2008, Vienna Art Week hosted around 5000 guests for a showcase event that included tours, discussions and studio visits to highlight the richness of the contemporary art scene in the city. Organized by Art Cluster Vienna, galleries were at the heart of the program, however the museums played their part too, with MUMOK hosting a show by one of Austria’s most internationally recognized artists: Peter Kogler. Included was the Vienna Art Book Award, which carries a prize of 25,000 euros. The winner was *Foto: Modernity in Central Europe 1918–1945* by Matthew S. Witkovsky, which was published in 2007 by the National Gallery of Art, Washington, in collaboration with Thames & Hudson. 56 national and international publishers participated in the competition.

NEW YORK

OUR CITY DREAMS

With a deliberately equivocal title, *Our City Dreams* — our city dreams, or, the dreams of our city — the documentary film by filmmaker and producer Chiara Clemente is a turn of the screw of five different generations of women artists: Swoon, Ghada Amer, Kiki Smith, Marina Abramovic and Nancy Spero, each of whom made New York the city of their dreams. It’s a female film because “what differs from men,” explains the eldest daughter of the painter Francesco Clemente, “is that in a woman different ages mean, physically, different things.” In this sense, these five generations, referring to Henry James, compose together a portrait of a lady to recount the artist in her different stages of life. *Our City Dreams* will be screened at the Film Forum, New York, from the 4th to the 18th of February.

BRAZIL

CONSTRUCTION/DECONSTRUCTION



Zhou Wenzhong, *Untitled*, 2008. Acrylic and oil on canvas, 200 x 200cm. Courtesy Chinablue Gallery, Beijing.

At first reckoning, a group show of Chinese artists hosted in Brazil might appear to be a peculiar endeavor. However, their respective artistic hubs, Beijing and São Paulo, have a particular link. Further than the fact that both these cities have the same population, of the approximately 200,000 Chinese in

Brazil, 90% live in São Paulo. Building partly on this localized prompt, the Museum of Art of São Paulo is hosting the first exhibition of Chinese contemporary art specifically designed for a Brazilian museum, titled “Construction/Deconstruction” (through February 15, 2009). Conceived by Brazilian/German curator Tereza de Arruda following on-the-ground research into the current Chinese art scene, the exhibition (as its title suggests) responds to the symbiotic forces that characterize Chinese society and which are replicated through much of the work of its artists: its heritage has undergone monumental upheaval in the current reality of the country becoming a world power. With a list of artists that includes Wang Quingsong, Qiu Xiaofei and Zhou Wenzhong, this show is testing its vision in a city closer to home than first thought.

Find-A-Text: B. Bischofberger, Gavin Brown, James Cohan, Paula Cooper, Simon de Pury, J. Deitch, R. Feldman, V. Fremont, L. Gagosian, B. Gladstone, The Glimchers, M. Goodman, Jay Jopling, Yvon Lambert, N. Logsdail, L. Luhring, M. Marks, Robert Mnuchin, P. Painter, E. Presenhuber, Tony Shafrazi, Per Skarstedt, A. Verna, David Zwirner. (For solution visit www.flashartonline.com)

Charles Gute, *Big Dealers*, 2008. Print on canvas, 99 x 99 cm. Courtesy Jason Rulnick, New York.

N A M D L E F R N R J M Z D M S A
V L D W G B P I T A E Y M Z T R C
G N D A L A H R Y M R T T A E N G
T U T R L C V J E U G O N G R P L
R R E Y U I O I P S N O R I E K B
E A E N T P A E N Y E E O R A G S
P M M B L H D D S B B N S D L P I
O R J I M N E H S F R K H A M T P
O S N A O A A G O G A O D U N A G
C G A M M F L H L R O S W O B O N
A E I N R E C N S I T L M N S E I
L S W A R S S T O O M E N E F E R
U O Z L I E E C N V R C C I S L H
A I G B H D V E O F Y D H N S L U
P C B P T S U A V H C T I E D J L
R E N R I W Z D I V A D R J R L L
L I N A I S O G A G L N S P C S E