

## Editors Note

In China, contemporary art has a relatively short history, and one that is considerably different from that of other regions in the world. While artists living in China avidly began exploring new forms and content during the 1980s, it was only in the 1990s that their art received widespread attention from beyond China's borders, and by the turn of the millennium, its place in the international realm was clearly secured. But as history progresses, and as a younger generation of artists brings forth new ideas and approaches to art making, critical attention towards many of those earlier artists often wanes. *Yishu* continues to follow those groundbreaking artists, and in this issue we present some fresh perspectives on the work of Wang Guangyi, Xiao Lu, Fang Lijun, and Zhang Peili, all artists who established their reputations at the end of the 1980s and into the early 1990s.

Continuing an exploration into the recent past, 2009 marks twenty years since the conception of the *Goddess of Democracy*, a sculpture that radiated a compelling presence during the Tian'anmen Square protests. Rarely has this historic icon, which has been reproduced and placed in public spaces around the world, directly been discussed within the context of the students who constructed it and the various influences that determined its aesthetic form and symbolic meaning.

The thoughts of artists Zhang Peili and Jin Jiangbo are presented in separate conversations. Although they represent different generations, each brings into consideration the impact of new media on art within the context of contemporary China. Jin Jiangbo's conversation is preceded by an introduction to his art and a selection of images from one of his most recent photographic projects, which records the impact of the economic downturn on the manufacturing industry in China.

Finally, we have three features on artists Conroy/Sanderson, Wu Gaozhong, and Jin Feng. These artists are perhaps less well known but, through the nurturing of three distinctly different sensibilities, they are making important contributions to contemporary art.

Keith Wallace

### YISHU EDITIONS

Now available. Four limited-edition prints by some of the most important Chinese artists.

Please see inside back cover for images and contact information.

## YISHU: Journal of Contemporary Chinese Art

**PRESIDENT** Katy Hsiu-chih Chien  
**FOUNDING EDITOR** Ken Lum

**EDITOR** Keith Wallace  
**MANAGING EDITOR** Zheng Shengtian  
**ASSOCIATE EDITORS** Julie Grundvig  
Kate Steinmann  
**EDITORIAL ASSISTANT** Chunyee Li  
**CIRCULATION MANAGER** Larisa Broyde  
**ADVERTISING MANAGER** Joyce Lin  
**WEB SITE EDITOR** Chunyee Li

### ADVISORY BOARD

Judy Andrews, Ohio State University  
Melissa Chiu, Asia Society Museum  
John Clark, University of Sydney  
Lynne Cooke, Dia Art Foundation  
Okwui Enwezor, San Francisco Art Institute  
Britta Erickson, Independent Scholar & Curator  
Fan Di'an, National Art Museum of China  
Fei Dawei, Guy & Myriam Ullens Foundation  
Gao Minglu, University of Pittsburgh  
Hou Hanru, San Francisco Art Institute  
Katie Hill, University of Westminster  
Claire Hsu, Asia Art Archive  
Martina Köppel-Yang, Independent Critic & Historian  
Sebastian Lopez, Institute of International Visual Arts  
Lu Jie, Independent Curator  
Charles Merewether, Critic & Curator  
Ni Tsaichin, Tunghai University  
Apinan Poshyananda, Ministry of Culture, Thailand  
Chia Chi Jason Wang, Independent Critic & Curator  
Wu Hung, University of Chicago  
Pauline J. Yao, Independent Scholar

**PUBLISHER** Art & Collection Group Ltd.  
6F. No. 85, Section 1,  
Chungshan N. Road,  
Taipei, Taiwan 104  
Phone: (886)2.2560.2220;  
Fax: (886)2.2542.0631  
E-mail: coart@ms37.hinet.net

**DESIGN AND PRODUCTION** Leap Creative Group

**CREATIVE DIRECTOR** Raymond Mah  
**ART DIRECTOR** Gavin Chow  
**DESIGNER** Philip Wong

**WEBMASTER** Website ARTCO, Taipei

**PRINTING** Chong-yuan Image Ltd., Taipei

**ISSN 1683-3082**

*Yishu* is published bi-monthly in Taipei, Taiwan, and edited in Vancouver, Canada. The publishing dates are January, March, May, July, September, and November.

All subscription, advertising, and submission inquiries may be sent to:

**Yishu Office**  
200-1311 Howe Street  
Vancouver, BC, Canada V6Z 2P3  
Phone: 1.604.649.8187; Fax: 1.604.591.6392  
E-mail: info@yishujournal.com

**Website: [www.yishujournal.com](http://www.yishujournal.com)**

Subscription rates:

1 year (six issues): \$84 USD (includes \$24 for airmail postage);  
in Asia \$78 USD (includes \$18 for airmail postage).  
2 years (twelve issues): \$158 USD (includes \$48 for airmail  
postage); in Asia \$146 USD (including \$36 for airmail postage).

No part of this journal may be reprinted without the written permission from the publisher.