



# THE WELCOME SWALLOW GALLERY

## 中國藝術：傳承與創新



## Chinese Art: Inheritance & Innovation

catalogue

14.5.21 – 16.7.21



*Anything. Anywhere.*

# Chinese Art: Inheritance & Innovation



The *Welcome Swallow Gallery* is extremely proud to present an exhibition featuring art that is inspired by Chinese history and traditions. Throughout Chinese history, the practice of art is first learned by rote, in which the master shows the "right way" to draw. Every generation of new artists is encouraged to demonstrate mastery of continuous brush strokes and movement until it becomes instinctive.

However, in contemporary times, debates have established the limits of this tradition. Within modern art scenes, innovation is now more the rule. As with Western traditions, changing lifestyles, tools, and colors are also influenced by new waves of master painters.

This exhibition spans these artistic canons. Several of **Yong Ming Liu's** exquisite watercolours scrolls are based on his interpretation of masters that were painting during the Ming Dynasty some 650 years ago. This is seen in his superb composition, *Horseback Riding into the Spring Mountains*. Conversely, *Playing the Flute on the Autumn Water*, shows Yong Ming's personal imprimatur in terms of the composition of the painting, colours used and details added, such as trees, rocks and water.

His daughter, **Jing Liu**, while inheriting many of the Chinese artistic methods and traditions, explores innovative representations in art that include mixing sketching on rice paper with

traditional Chinese watercolours. This method can be seen in the evocative composition, *Alice*. whereas a elaborate or realist style is evident in the paintings *Flying Apsaras* and *Light Fragrance*. Both represent a state of peace and calm.

The paintings by **Dejin Lu** present a Chinese light expressive style known as Xieyi that requires a deft and delicate use of watercolours and when required, a careful balance between water and ink, a style inherited from past generations. This is represented in the painting *Poetic Feeling of Fallen Flower*. His compositional work also acts as a hybrid with New Zealand-based subject matter. The result is an innovative impressionistic rendering of familiar subjects to a New Zealand audience that can be seen in *Spring Magnolia & Kereru*.

All three exhibition artists are firmly anchored in the three Chinese taxonomic themes; Flower and Birds; Landscapes, and Figures. In this exhibition we have a wonderful opportunity to view this world through their eyes. We move from inheritance of traditions to innovations in method, form and content.

As you browse through this catalogue, we encourage you to enjoy these art pieces in the comfort of your own surroundings. The artists and the cause are well worth your investment.



*Rice-paper scrolls are mounted on ling, a type of silk*

1.



**Yong Ming Liu**  
Morning Reading into the  
Autumn Mountains: 秋山勤讀  
Watercolour on Rice Paper  
1360x485mm  
Price: \$3500

2.



**Yong Ming Liu**  
Woods and Creekside  
in Spring: 溪岸春林  
Watercolour on Rice Paper  
1360x495mm  
Price: \$3500



3.



### Yong Ming Liu

Horseback Riding in the Spring

Mountains: 春山遊騎

Watercolour on Rice Paper

1300x500mm

Price: \$4200

4.



### Yong Ming Liu

Seeking Secluded

Scenic Places: 尋幽圖

Watercolour on Rice Paper

890x470mm

Price: \$3000





5.



**Yong Ming Liu**

Autumn Mountains and Trees:

秋山紅樹

Watercolour on Rice Paper

1190x500mm

Price: \$2100

6.



**Yong Ming Liu**

Autumn Dawn at a Viewing

Terrace: 觀台秋曉

Watercolour on Rice Paper

820x570mm

Price: \$1300

7.



**Yong Ming Liu**

Small House by the Water in

Autumn: 秋水倘閣

Watercolour on Rice Paper

665x430mm

Price: \$1200



8.



**Yong Ming Liu**

Looking for a Pavilion on a  
Summer Day: 盛日尋亭  
Watercolour on Rice Paper  
690x310mm  
Price: \$1000

9.



**Yong Ming Liu**

Playing the Flute on the  
Autumn Water: 秋水長笛  
Watercolour on Rice Paper  
665x395mm  
Price: \$900





10.



**Dejin Lu**

Spring Azalea & Silvereye:

春天的杜鵑花和繡眼鳥

Watercolour on Rice Paper

420x297mm

Price: \$650

11.



**Dejin Lu**

Poetic Feeling of Fallen Flower:

落花詩意圖

Watercolour on Rice Paper

297x420mm

Price: \$240

12.



**Dejin Lu**

Poet on a Mountaintop:

題杖藜远眺圖

Watercolour on Rice Paper

297x420mm

Price: \$240

13.



**Dejin Lu**

Spring Magnolia & Kereru:

春天的木蘭和凱雷魯鳥

Watercolour on Rice Paper

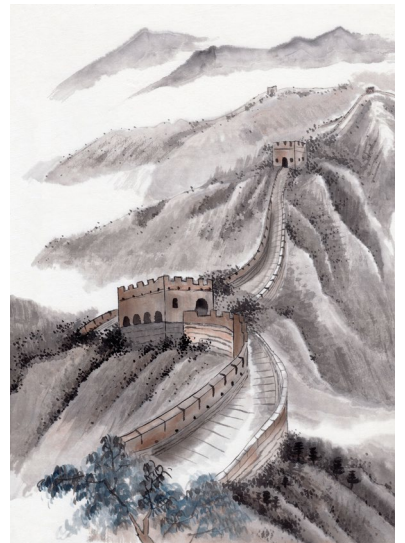
420x297mm

Price: \$650



14.

15.

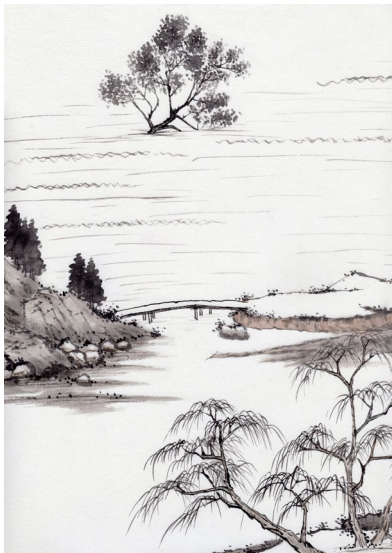


### Dejin Lu

Spring Iris: 春天的鳶尾花  
Watercolour on Rice Paper  
420x297mm  
Price: \$450

### Dejin Lu

The Great Wall: 萬里長城  
Watercolour on Rice Paper  
420x297mm  
Price: \$500



16.

17.



### Dejin Lu

The Lone Tree of Lake Wanaka:  
瓦納卡的孤樹  
Watercolour on Rice Paper  
420x297mm  
Price: \$450

### Dejin Lu

Auspicious: 吉祥  
Watercolour on Rice Paper  
420x297mm  
Price: \$450



18.



**Jing Liu**

Alice: 愛麗絲

Watercolour and Mixed Sketching

420x300mm

Price: \$850

19.



**Jing Liu**

Pink Lotus: 荷花蜜蜂

Watercolour on Rice Paper

320x320mm d.

Price: \$860

20. 21.



**Jing Liu**

White Lotus: 荷花蝴蝶

Watercolour on Rice Paper

320x320mm d.

Price: \$860



**Jing Liu**

Cyclamen: 仙客來

Watercolour on Rice Paper

320x320mm d.

Price: \$860

22.



**Jing Liu**

Flying Apsaras: 飛天

Watercolour on Rice Paper

650x450mm

Price: \$1200

23.



**Jing Liu**

Light Fragrance: 有暗香盈袖

Watercolour on Rice Paper

420x300mm

Price: \$1080

24.

**Jing Liu**

Crab-apple

and Peach Blossoms:

海棠桃花

Watercolour on Rice Paper

320x320mm d.

Price: \$860







25.

26.

### Jing Liu

Darkness: 暗夜荷花

Watercolour on  
Watercolour Paper

370x220mm

Price: \$250

27.



### Jing Liu

Mountain Visitor: 山中留客

Watercolour on Rice Paper

390x220mm

Price: \$500



### Jing Liu

Southern Hills: 採菊東籬下

Watercolour on Rice Paper

170x250mm

Price: \$450



28.



**Jing Liu**

Inner Strength:

內在力量

Charcoal and Ink  
on Rice Paper

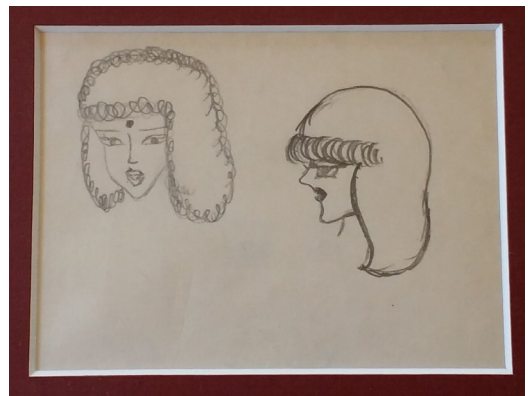
450x320mm

Price: \$950

29.



30.



**Xian Liu (L), (Jing Liu's son) & Jing Liu (R)**  
**when both aged 4**

Price: NFS



# The Exhibition Artists



Yong Ming Liu

Based in China, Yong Ming Liu is a self-taught artist. He is the father of Jing Liu, who is also a self-taught artist based in Hamilton New Zealand. Yong Ming has a passion for the elaborate style of landscape watercolour painting that is a Chinese tradition. He is also fond of Chinese calligraphy. All the calligraphy on his artworks are written by himself. In his spare time and in the morning, Yong Ming enjoys practising martial arts. His favourite form is *Xing Yi Quan* that is based on twelve animal forms. He also likes *Ba Gua Zhang*, which is called the *Eight Fixed Palms* routines.



Jing Liu

Jing Liu was born and bred in Beijing China and is now living with her family in New Zealand. Ever since she was a child, she loved drawing and painting; a state of mind that allows her to creatively express herself and communicate with the world.

Being a self-taught artist, she likes sketching and the elaborate style of the traditional Chinese watercolour painting the most, and enjoys using lines, shapes, colours, light and shadow to create an illusion of feelings and emotions for audiences. She also enjoys experimenting with different drawing ideas, such as combining sketching and Chinese watercolour while working on both sides of rice papers to create a subtle and interesting visual look.



## Dejin Lu

Dejin Lü (AKA Dejin water ink) was born in Nanjing, China. He has shown huge passion for traditional Chinese water ink painting, one of the oldest continuous artistic traditions in the world. Like calligraphy, it is done with bamboo brush dipped in black ink or coloured pigments, usually on rice paper or silk. Lines are used not only to draw contours but also to express the artist's concepts and feelings. The use of lines and strokes is one of the elements that give Chinese water ink painting its unique qualities.

Inspired by nature, Dejin mainly does freehand style of Bird & Flower (or Flora & Fauna), one of the 3 categories of Chinese water ink painting.

In 2005, Dejin started study in Nanjing University and he graduated in 2009 with bachelors degree in Biological Science. In 2011, Dejin moved to New Zealand.

Since then, Dejin has started learning the unique Flora & Fauna in New Zealand and publishing articles to introduce them in Chinese magazines of *China Nature* and *Life World*. Dejin has also started exploring them in his paintings, trying to achieve "something between likeness & unlikeness".





# GALLERY EXHIBITION LIST

1. Various Artists, ***Celebration with Celebration - Redux***, 1<sup>st</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019
2. Various Artists, ***Threads of Life***, 9<sup>th</sup> August – 20<sup>nd</sup> September 2019
3. Various Artists, ***Raglan Art with Risk***, 27<sup>th</sup> September – 27<sup>th</sup> October 2019
4. Various Artists, ***Christmas in the Gallery***, 1<sup>st</sup> November – 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020
5. Various Artists, ***The Waikato Watercolourists***, 14<sup>th</sup> February – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020
6. Various Artists, ***A New Zealand Story***, 3<sup>rd</sup> April – 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020
7. Various Artists ***It's all in the Mind***, 10<sup>th</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020
8. *Various Artists*, ***A Welcome Swallow Exhibition – F5***, 18<sup>th</sup> September – 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021
9. Various Artists, ***Joy of Humanity: People & Place***, 22<sup>nd</sup> January – 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021
10. Students Artists, ***The Artful Four: 40 Shots*** 12 April - 10 May 2021 [A Schools' Competition]
11. Various Artists, ***Chinese Art: Inheritance & Innovation*** 14<sup>th</sup> May – 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021



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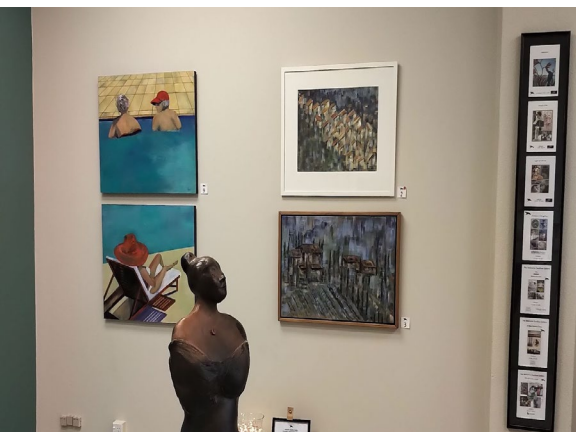
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