



## Hou Zhuowu

Hou Zhuo Wu, born in 1968, is a painter known for his work in ink painting. He studied traditional Chinese painting at Xi'an Academy of Fine Arts and furthered his studies in history and archaeology at Northwest University. A cultural scholar, collector, appraiser of Chinese classical calligraphy and painting, and a contemporary ink artist, he has lived and worked in both New York and the historical city of Xi'an, China. This dual perspective has led him to focus on the complex, multifaceted impacts, correspondences, symbioses, and evolutionary forms of modern cultural phenomena within a globalized context and historical viewpoint.

His work is built on a deep foundation of research and learning in classical Chinese painting, showcasing long-term experimental explorations. His ink paintings are spiritually rich and sensitive, incorporating elements like image collage and AI-generated art to create a slightly strange and absurd visual composition. The fragmented multilingual elements suggest the plurality and juxtaposition of postmodern civilization, as well as the confusion, anxiety, and ambivalence of people, filled with multiple historical and political metaphors.

He maintains a keen sensitivity and adaptability to cultural variations in different social environments. Compared to the coherence of Eastern cultural logic and the textual recounting of Western political identity, he places greater emphasis on the independent intertextual relationship between the two civilizations, valuing personal experiences and authentic expressions of "movement." He views the ink medium as a highly sensitive and holographic trace carrier, aiming to achieve a concise and exquisite abstraction through a long-neglected Zen-like refinement and an immediate recording of psychological states. His rich cultural spirit and social experiences support the ongoing deepening and refinement of his unique perspective.

## **Selected Exhibitions**

2024 - To Light a Candle, Unveil Gallery, Irvine, CA

2018 - Casa dei Carraresi, Treviso, Italy, Boundary of Freedom

2017 - Pursuit By Ink, Minsheng Art Museum, Beijing, China, The Exhibition of Annual of Contemporary Art of China,

2017 - Wuhan Art Museum, Hubei Provincial Museum, Wuhan, Hubei, China, Wuhan Ink Art Biennale

2017 - Breaking the Barrier, Blue Roof Art Museum, Wuhan Art Museum, Xi'an Art Museum, China

2016 - Contemporary Chinese Works on Paper, Waterfront Gallery, London

2016 - Postscript to the Story of Mount Gen, Xi'an Art Museum, Xi'an, Shaanxi, China

2016 - The Dairy Written on the Langdu Paper, Tai He Art Gallery, Beijing

2014 - Ink Mutation, Today Art Museum, Beijing

2013 - Landscape in Ancient Chinese Paintings, Art Museum of Nanjing University of Arts, Nanjing, China