

Zhang Guo-Long Statement

The world is developing day after day. Compared to the longevity of nature, the long life of human being presents only a short appearance. However, there is one object which can exist independently in the long run without withering, and after unlimited circles of walks, it returns to the origin. Laozi reluctantly named it as “large,” this being perhaps what is modernly referred to as the “spirit” of humans or the universe.

Since the 1990's, I have created a series of large works such as Life, Black-White, Loess, Feminine-Masculine, Heaven-Earth, Square-Round and Space-Time. These works were created during my study in Germany in 1991 and were founded on the transition from the village style. When I studied with new western expressionism artists, I found a chance to rid myself of confusion. The Life series was created when I just arrived in Germany. I understood the abstract drawing as the energy of life to reflect; which in turn enables the life to be reflected through unconscious creation. People can feel the life force through the drawings and instinctually create a spirit world, and force of life will resound in the universe. I tried to create a kind of vitality and force—a kind of life conscience or condition that is impetuous in the female, as well as a human spirit that strives to break tradition. The Black-White series combine two abstract languages “cold” and “hot.” These were created from the opposing and unifying factor of Chinese philosophy. And these two series expressed a life on the basis of self-appreciation on an art experience, which enables people to feel the released force and energy of life. The nerve of nature is the origin of life, and it is bound to introduce the audience to involuntarily accepting the passion and surge of the nature.

The loess expresses my personality and it provides a chance to innovate vision topics. As a result, I designed the yellow as the basic color of the drawing. And the loess constituted the background, which transformed the horizontal space to a deep space and also built into the loess the faint memory through the front and back relationship. It creates a symbol-like cultivation for the national spirit, and thus provides a chance to feel the national sensibility through life experience.

The Feminine-Masculine series presents a view of the universe. Yin (Feminine) decides the character and Yang (Masculine) designs the shape. Reason is created by character and impulse is created by shape. Yin is the background of shadow and Yang is the reality. Yin is the base and Yang presents the change. Change can be practiced when the base is established. The drawing reflects the transferring between the contradictions of Yin and Yang, and is developed into a deep and reflective result.