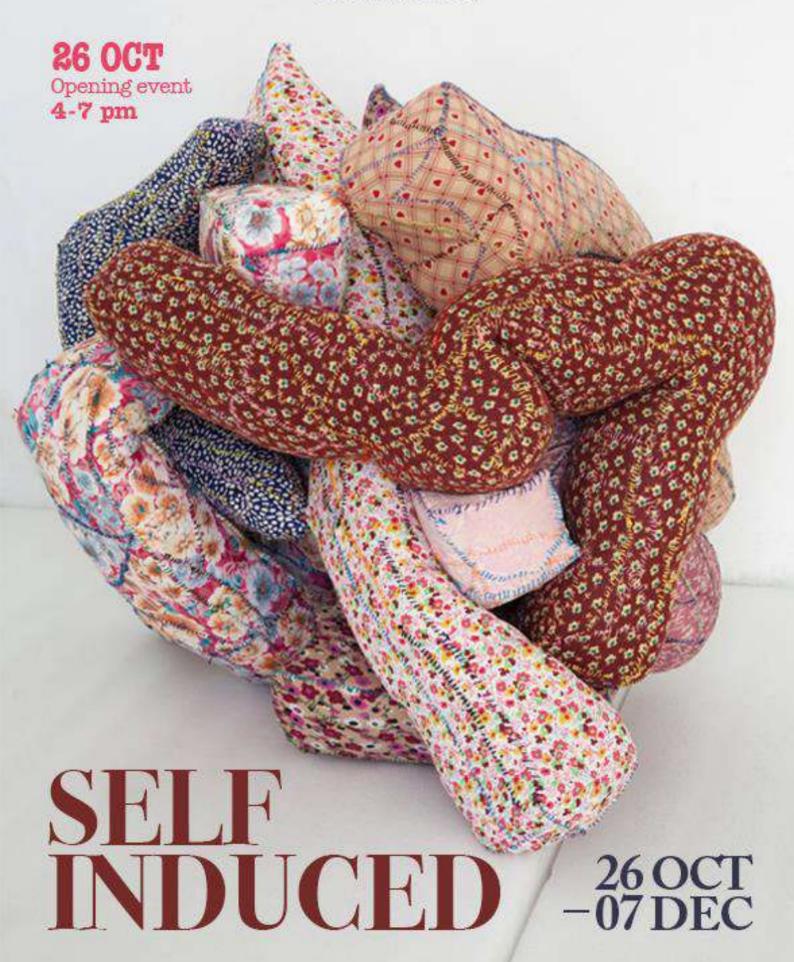


# GAO RONG | DING HUI

## A DUO EXHIBITION





### **SELF INDUCED**

REDBASE is pleased to present *Self-Induced*, a duo exhibition featuring Gao Rong and Ding Hui, a husband-and-wife artists from China. This exhibition highlights a diverse array of works from each artist, alongside their collaborative pieces. Since their partnership, they have focused on the artificial scenes of daily life, employing the variability and semantic characteristics of matter to reimagine physical forms. Their works establish critical connections between line, density, and the tactile softness of fabric.

The attributes of packaging, folding, and the plasticity and elasticity of sponges, combined with the labour inherent in human craft and the evolution of mental will, situate their practice at the intersection of geometry and nature. This complex interplay reflects reality while generating fiction, culminating in a self-adaptive body of matter and sentiment that intertwines.

Utilising hand-stitching techniques, Gao Rong and Ding Hui integrate personal perception and transformative processes into quotidian objects, articulating a journey that transcends the self and oscillates between the mundane and the artistic, as well as the practical and the poetic. By constraining the intrinsic functions of materials, they forge a dialectical relationship between the individual and the collective, as well as between poetic imagery and spiritual artefacts. This methodology adds layers of individual agency, serving as cues for contemplation on "signs" and "devices," and ultimately presenting a poetic visual dialogue that reflects the complexities of the social landscape.





#### **GAO RONG**

Gao Rong, steeped in the traditional embroidery techniques passed down from her grandmother, now serves as a guardian of Shaanxi Province's native cross-stitching folk art. Infusing her life's narrative and subtle perceptions of reality into her craft, she creates pieces that often fixate on singular moments, transforming them into hyper-real home decor pieces that encapsulate the essence of a particular time and place, thereby imbuing them with narrative depth. *Mailbox* (2011) exemplifies her artistry, presenting a flawless replica of her apartment's letterbox, meticulously sewn with distinctive imperfections. Encased within is a perfect copy of her mother's handwritten letter, untouched for thirteen years. Both the mailbox and the letter transcend their utilitarian roles, becoming storytellers in their own right, leaving the viewer to decide whether to delve into the narrative within.

Delving further into her daily life, *After the Rain: Shipping Crate* (2013) captures a moment when rain has weathered a shipping crate, offering a glimpse into the ephemeral nature of existence. Similarly, *Water Stain: The Bed* (2014) portrays the mould and stains on her bedsheet, reflecting on the transience of time amidst Beijing's rapid urban evolution. In her early works, Gao Rong utilised needle and thread to transform mundane objects into visually striking installations, drawing from the traditionally feminine craft of folk embroidery. In contrast, her *Skin* Series repurposes surplus light-textile materials, winding them into intricate leather-like shapes. This series unfolds with a sense of boundless expansiveness, transcending conventional artistic boundaries and blurring the distinctions between textile crafts, sculpture, and painting.

Born in Hang Jin Hou Qi, Inner Mongolia, China, in 1986, Gao Rong earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing. She currently resides and works in Beijing, China, and her artworks have been showcased in museum exhibitions worldwide, including "I Call the Shots of My Youth" at the Today Art Museum in Beijing (2010), "Super-Organism" at the Central Academy of Fine Arts Museum in Beijing (2011), and "All our relations" at the 18th Biennale of Sydney, Australia (2012), among others.





#### **DING HUI**

Ding Hui wields a utility knife as his tool of choice, guiding its blade across a wooden canvas adorned with layers of vibrant hues. In his *Ploughing Series*, Ding Hui displays a remarkable blend of precision and artistry, choreographing a meticulous dance of dense horizontal and vertical incisions. He employs an ingenious framing technique to elevate his creations to a mesmerising complexity.

Through Ding Hui's deliberate craftsmanship, the internal layers of his artwork undergo a captivating chromatic inversion, resulting in a mosaic-like tapestry pulsating with irregular dynamism. This transformative approach transcends the conventional boundaries of two-dimensional art, infusing his work with a vibrant spatiality that challenges traditional notions of painting. The enduring traces of Ding Hui's labourintensive process remain visible on the canvas, bearing witness to the manual skill involved and preserving the organic, non-mechanised essence of the artwork's structural composition. These residual imprints not only attest to the artist's meticulous craftsmanship but also contribute to the spatial architecture extending beyond the confines of the piece, creating a symbiotic relationship between the tangible and the intangible realms.

Ding Hui, a graduate of the Mural Painting Department of the Central Academy of Fine Arts, has showcased his talent through solo exhibitions in Beijing and earned recognition in prestigious collections such as the Art Museum of the Central Academy of Fine Arts and the Yijia International Gallery. His influence extends beyond China, with exhibitions held in renowned galleries worldwide, including the Kommunale Galerie Berlin in Germany and the Art Museum of the Central Academy of Fine Arts.





Self-Induced Substances #2

Cloth, embroidery, thread, shaping cream and sponge

78 x 65 x 72 cm





Self-Induced Substances #9

Cloth, embroidery, thread, shaping cream and sponge

150 x 93 x 17 cm





Self-Induced Substances #13

Cloth, embroidery, thread, shaping cream and sponge

116 x 82 x 26 cm





Self-Induced Substances #15

Cloth, embroidery, thread, shaping cream and sponge

167 x 121 x 18 cm





Gao Rong | Ding Hui Skin 9 Fabric and thread 135 x 95 x 28 cm 2019





*Winter-Bathroom Wall* Cloth, embroidery, wooden board and sponge 220 x 155 x 155 cm





Water Stain-Washing Machine

Cloth, embroidery, knitting wool and latex

80 x 60 x 55 cm





*Water Stain-The Door* Cloth, embroidery, knitting wool and latex

230 x 75 x 5 cm





Water Stain-Droplight

Cloth, embroidery, knitting wool and latex

160 x 53 x 53 cm





Gao Rong *Mailbox* Cloth, embroidery and foam 68x 70 x 21 cm 2011





*Water Stain – The Bed and Pillow* Cloth, embroidery, cotton and latex

210 x 132 x 20 cm





After the Rain – Shipping Crate

Cloth, embroidery, wooden board and sponge

76 x 74 x 92 cm





Expression 11

Acrylic on canvas, plastic paste, cloth, thread and sponge

120 x 80 cm





Untitled 6

Acrylic on board and wooden frame

36 x 45 x 11 cm





Untitled 11

Acrylic on board and wooden frame

44 x 46 x 8 cm





Untitled 18

Acrylic on board and wooden frame

54 x 52 x 6 cm



#### **GAO RONG**

Gao Rong was born in Inner Mongolia in China in 1986 and moved to Beijing in 2004.

#### **Solo Exhibitions**

- 2019 The Simple Line, Klein Sun Gallery, New York, USA
- 2013 I Live in Beijing, Klein Sun Gallery, New York, USA
- 2012 Weaving As a Tread, Up Space, Beijing, China

#### **Group Exhibitions**

- 2024 Self Induced: Gao Rong | Ding Hui Duo Exhibition, Redbase Art, Sydney, Australia Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Redbase Art, Sydney, Australia Flow, China Cultural Centre, Sydney, Australia Silent Threads, Redbase Art, Sydney, Australia
- 2023 *Sydney Contemporary Art Fair*, Redbase Art, Sydney, Australia *I Am the People*, White Rabbit, Chippendale, Australia
- 2022 *I Loved You*, White Rabbit, Chippendale, Australia
- 2018 Datong Sculpture Biennial, Datong Sculpture Museum, Shanxi, China The Unseen, Eli Klein Gallery, New York, USA
- 2017 Nest Planning-The Women's' Art Exhibition, ZERO Art Space, Beijing, China
- 2016 Half the Sky, Hong Men Gallery, Beijing, China Summer Selections, Eli Klein Gallery, New York, USA Art Central, Hong Kong, China
- 2014 Nanjing International Art Festival, Nanjing, China
- 2013 5th Biennale of Moscow "More Light", Moscow, Russia
- 2012 Chinese Contemporary Art Exhibition, Istanbul Modern, Turkey 18th Biennale of Sydney, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia Sculpture China CAFA, Sculpture Institute, Beijing, China
- 2011 *CAFAM Biennale*, CAFA Art Museum, Beijing, China *4th Painting and Handwork Partial*, Front Gallery, Beijing, China *Material to Object*, Eli Klein Fine Art, Beijing, China *Fabricator*, Soka Art Centre, Beijing, China
- 2010 *White Rabbit Decade Show*, White Rabbit Gallery, Sydney, Australia *A Thousand-Ii Journey*, CAFA Art Museum, Beijing, China



#### **DING HUI**

Ding Hui was born in Shandong in 1983. He lives and works in Beijing.

#### **Solo Exhibitions**

2019 Pigments and Fabrics Solo Exhibition, Tiandi Art Center, Beijing, China

#### **Group Exhibitions**

- 2024 Self Induced: Gao Rong | Ding Hui Duo Exhibition, Redbase Art, Sydney, Australia Aotearoa Art Fair, Redbase Art, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2023 Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Redbase, Sydney, Australia
- 2021 Art Discovery, Li Xinghang Cultural and Art Centre, Beijing, China Poem of Time, Hongyi Art Space, Shenzhen, China Overflow-Breaking Ice Art Project, Red Plum Culture and Creative Park, Shenyang, CN Art Beijing, Beijing Exhibition Centre, Beijing, China New Trend Power Contemporary Art Exhibition, Chaoshan Art Museum, Guangdong, CN New Trend Power Contemporary Art Exhibition, MUXIN Art Museum, Shenzhen, China
- 2020 *Embarking on Art Public Art Exhibition*, Beijing Tianqiao Art Center, Beijing, China *Vision Code*, Kommunale Galerie Berlin Museum, Berlin, Germany
- 2019 Hi21 Art Market, Kun Tai Jiarui Cultural Center, Beijing, China
- 2017 End of the World is Close by, 3 Gallery, Beijing, China
- 2016 Aurora, SoArt Gallery, Beijing, China
  Zero State, Oiao Art Center, Beijing, China
  China Creativity Contemporary Art Exchange Exhibition, Qiaoshe Art Center, Beijing, CN
- 2015 Guangzhou University Art Fair, Guangzhou, China
  Youth Art 100, Agricultural Exhibition Center, Beijing, China
  The Meaning of Form-Youth Abstract Art Exhibition, Phoenix Art Town, Shanghai, China
  Beauty of Dwelling, Ming Tai Space, Beijing, China
- 2014 Submerge-Art Exploration of Post-Academy, Jindu Art Center, Beijing, China Youth Art 100 in 2014, Beijing, China Artron Poly New Force, National Convention Center, Beijing, China SA YA Elite International Youth Art Exhibition, Yijia International Gallery, Chengdu, China Yan's Art V "Strongest Academy Style" at Central Academy of Fine Arts, Zhongsen Huiqiang Art Center, Beijing, China
- 2014 Art Canton Fair, Guangzhou, China Multidimension: Scattered Exploration in a Fractured Era, Wanhe Museum, Beijing, CN
- 2012 China International Art Fair, Beijing, China
- 2009 China Art Expo GREEN Contemporary Art Exhibition, Beijing, China
- 2008 Excellent Graduates' Works Exhibition, Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing, China
- 2005 Light of the Academy, Central Academy of Fine Arts Museum, Beijing, China

#### Collections

- 2014 Stripes Reflected in Shadows at Yijia International Gallery
- 2008 My Story Series at Central Academy of Fine Arts Museum

#### Awards

- 2014 International Young Artists Support Program
- 2008 First Prize for Excellent Graduation Works, Central Academy of Fine Arts