

Shi Hengbo

MAGICIAN SPACE  
魔金石空间

In the new paintings by Shi Hengbo shown here, we can see that the artist has used various black oil paints in sequence to cover the canvas. Even the tiny white cracks between the black paint have been filled with pencil. The black, dense surface imparts a sense of softness, a joy like reading scenic prose.

Shi Hengbo graduated in 2005 from the representational art studio in the Xi'an Academy of Fine Arts Oil Painting Department. It has been a five- to six-year journey from his early focus on public symbols and avant-garde ideas to his later daily formulations of concepts and narratives. He removed the people, then became fed up with figuration entirely. He discovered that these fabricated narratives increasingly influenced the truth of the painting, and that confronting the essence of his paintings had become burdensome. In 2013, Shi began to experiment with dissecting the innermost parts of himself. He says that he gave himself space to better know himself. He does not care about the contours of the space he creates; he cares about the presence inside the space. With *Inside* and *Gravity Duplicate*, he constantly recovers the harmony in the practice of painting, which might be the medium for Shi's conversations with himself.

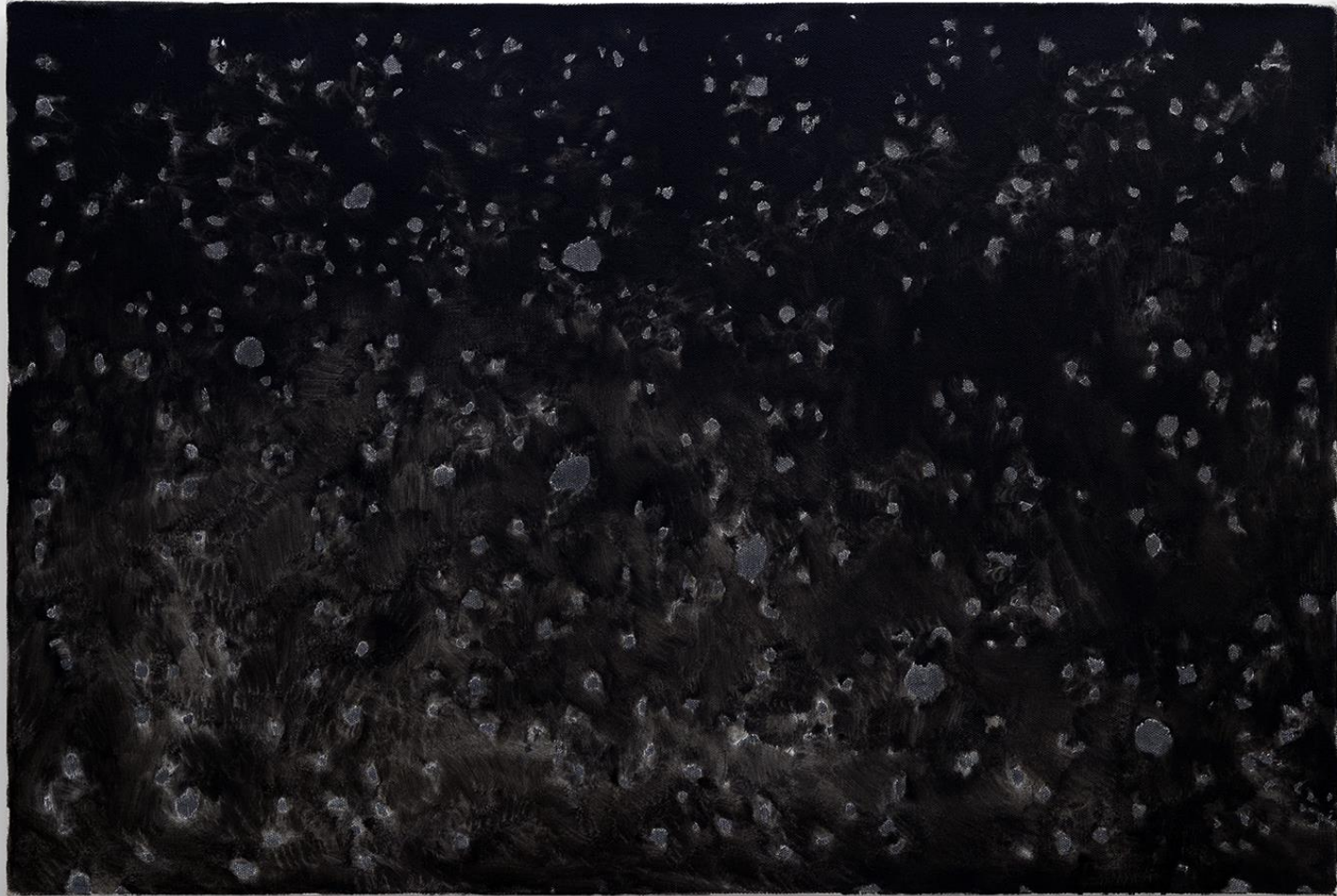
Shi Hengbo's *Black Painting* intends to completely abandon all narrative and drama, and simply consider the relationship of the body, emotion, and experience to the canvas, color, and brushstrokes. Although ordered writing, disordered traces, and basic lines are neatly arranged, they are repeatedly covered, adjusted, and mixed with bodily effort and internal emotion. Thus, *Black Painting* are records of the painter, and the basis for Shi exploring the essence of painting.

Shi Hengbo's words best describe his current state and work. He said, "Guo Xi had a theory of painting centered on ideal landscapes for walking, viewing, traveling, and living. I only care about living, a home for body and spirit; I place it within the constructions in my painting process. I finally construct my experiences on the canvas, and the viewer sees what he sees!"





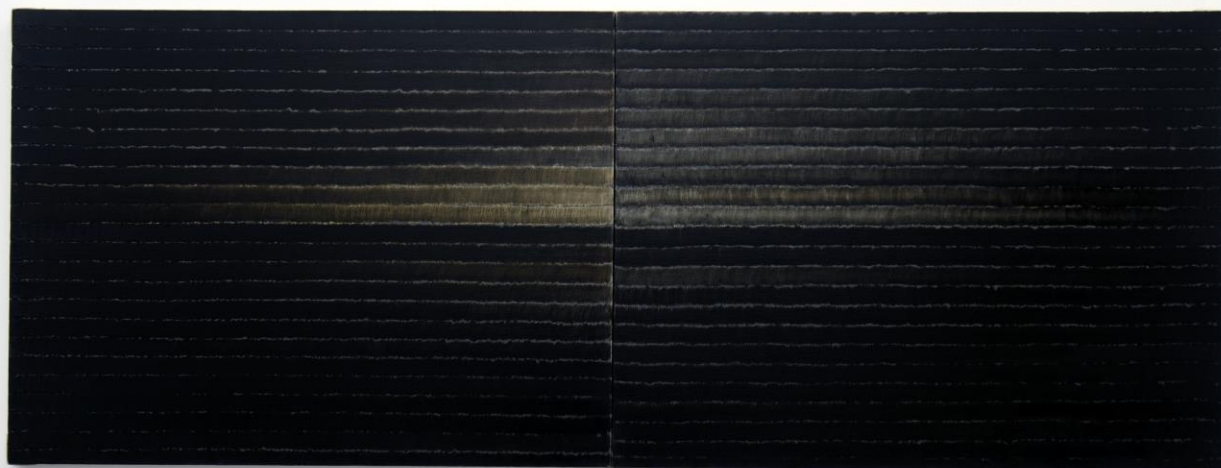


















## Shi Hengbo

- 1981 Born in Qianyang, Shanxi Province, China
- 2005 BA in Painting, Xi'an Academy of Fine Arts, Xi'an, China
- Teach in Baoji University of Arts and Sciences

### Solo Exhibition

- 2016 *Shi Hengbo*, Magician Space, Beijing, CN  
REMEMBRANCES, OCAT XI'AN SHOWCASE, OCAT Xi'an, Xi'an, CN
- 2012 BEAUTIFUL SEMBLANCE, DOU Space, Xi'an, CN

### Group Exhibition

- 2016 EACH TO HIS OWN - Li Wendong | Wei Xingye Collection Exhibition, OCAT Xi'an, Xi'an, CN
- 2015 2015 ART CRITICS NOMINATED EXHIBITION, Chinese Businessman Museum, Beijing, CN
- 2014 CIVILIZATION ROUND2 YU LIN, OCAT Xi'an, Xi'an, CN
- 2013 @ME MY OWN VISIBILITY, Artist-in-Residence for Contemporary Art Shijiazhuang, SHIJIAZHUANG ART MUSEUM, Shijiazhuang, CN  
Xi'an – Situation inside and outside, BLUE ROOF MUSEUM OF CHENGDU, Chengdu, CN  
Cultural Crossroads "Providence", Kuala Lumpur, MAS  
CONFRONTING ANITYA-Oriental Experience in Contemporary Art, Venice, IT
- 2011 Textile City Art District Five Years Retrospective, XCOMA, Xi'an, CN  
Difference in Temperature, Los Angeles, USA
- 2010 Gwangju Art Festival, Gwangju, KOR
- 2009 Home court, Beijing, CN  
The Fifth Cultural & Arts Festival of Songzhuang China, Beijing, CN  
RAVE FORUM, LI-SPACE, Beijing, CN
- 2008 The 23<sup>rd</sup> Asian International Art Exhibition, Ucity Art Museum of GAFA, Guangzhou, CN  
Shan shui, Three Artists Exhibition, Xi'an, CN
- 2007 BACK IN THE USSR, XI'AN DOCUMENTA BEIJING EXHIBITION, FUNARTSPACE, Beijing, CN  
Xi'an Textile City Open Workshop Exhibition, Textile City Art District, Xi'an, CN  
XI'AN DOC U+ME NTA, Xi'an, CN

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