

Ao Jing: In the Pit

2023.07.20-08.26

Clay, stone, wood, metal, a variety of artifacts......

Although Ao Jing's recent works are comprised of many materials, the focus is not on the finished form. Rather, the focus is on the way they were organized.

The process is similar to the growth of a plant becomes clear when looking closely at the works in the exhibition. Branch-like threads sprout from lumps, stretching outward until they meet up with other materials to forge a new part. They seem unpredictable—unlike a predetermined layout of some blueprints— but start from a nucleus and grow progressively and gently.

Ao Jing consciously undermines the purpose of creation throughout the process. Time and contingency are at the core of it all. Under her intervention, objects become another kind of nature after mixes with humans, but not new evidence or new forms in the existing Anthropocene. Instead, it is a field to rethink the relationship between human and nature by bringing human back into the realm of nature. Here, nature is the potential of things to arise in different situations. It is another possibility of randomness that exists beyond simple consciousness and objective.

Therefore, "In the Pit" is a metaphor for this kind of spontaneous growth: When one feels alive in the exhibition hall, it is because each work is an assimilated evolving event. When they repeatedly transcend the framework of teleology, a kind of natural vitality emerges.

## About the Artist

Ao Jing (b.1993) currently works and lives in Beijing. She graduated from Goldsmiths College, University of London and the Royal College of Art's Contemporary Art Practice (Pathway: Public Sphere). Ao's artworks explore how different materials transformed into varied series of sculptures, performances and visuals under artistic expressions in different environments. In turn, the ambiguous relationship between "material" and "immaterial", "conscious" and "unconscious", is explored in a non-dualistic context.

Compared to the current mode of artistic production, which is dominated by dialectical thinking, Ao's work is more narrative literature, constantly asks questions and wanders through doubts. In the process, all her attitudes, choices, confusions, etc. about life are honestly presented in her works.

Her recent solo exhibition: *In the Pit*, Magician Space, Beijing, 2023.

Her recent group exhibitions include: *Where Wood Stands*, P.art Group, Shanghai, 2023; *Invisible V.4: The Silence of Nature*, Zhi Art Museum, Chengdu, 2023; *Vacuum*, Yuan Art Museum, Beijing, 2023; *To the Public: Please Read the Exhibition the Way One Perceive the Woods*, Magician Space, Beijing, 2022-2023; *Encounter & Foresight: A Contemporary Art Exhibition Recommended by Collectors*, Blanc Art Group, Beijing, 2022; *A Couple of*, Hive Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, 2021; *When and Only When, the Strong Wind Rolled up the Surge*, Aranya Art Center, Aranya, 2021; *Hereditary Territory*, Powerlong Museum, Shanghai, 2021.





In the Pit 2023 Wood, copper, strings, iron, ceramic, cinnabar ball 60 x 40 x 100 cm





In the Pit 2023 Wood, copper, strings, iron, ceramic, cinnabar ball 60 x 40 x 100 cm



Clever Disguise 2022 Aluminum, tree branch, wood 24 x 12 x 18 cm



Standing Struck 2023 Aluminum, ceramic, horsehair 163 x 14 x 9 cm



Standing Struck 2023 Aluminum, ceramic, horsehair 163 x 14 x 9 cm



Flush 2023 Copper, ceramic, horsehair, iron 28 x 60 x 17 cm



Flush
2023
Copper, ceramic, horsehair, iron
28 x 60 x 17 cm





Artificial Worm 2023

Stainless steel, ceramic, horsehair, stone, spring, iron, tree branch, wax rope  $115\,x\,100\,x\,67\,cm$ 





2023 Aluminum, ceramic, horsehair, grass, iron wire 138 x 100 x 88 cm





Wobbly Bug 2023 Copper, ceramic 105 x 43 x 96.5 cm

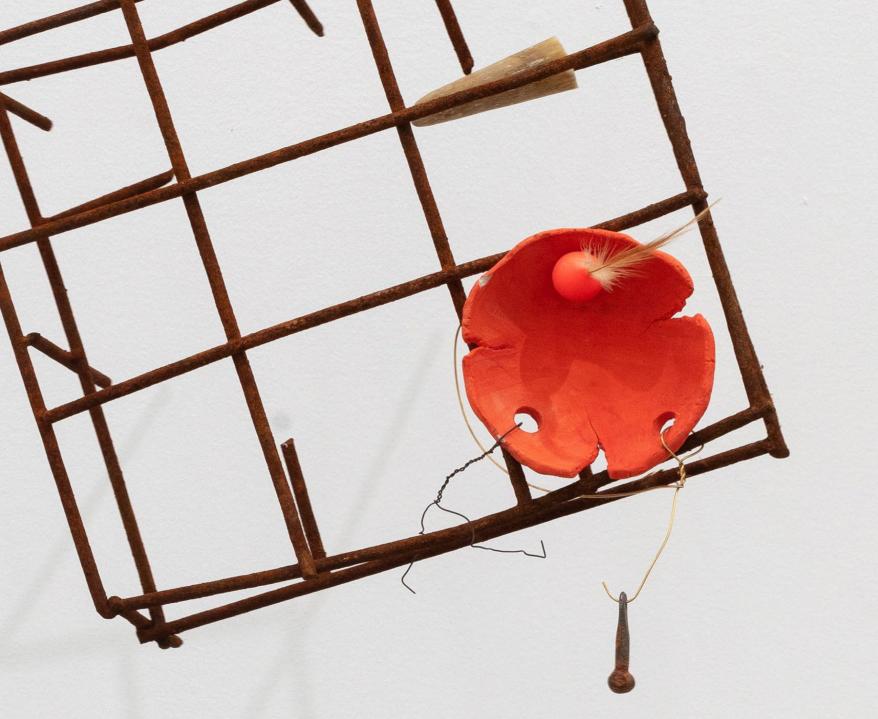


Metaphor 2023 Stone, plank, ceramic, tree branch 80 x 27 x 28.5 cm





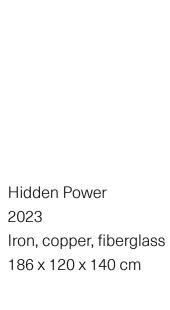
The Moist Sun
2023
Iron, deer horn, ceramic, copper, iron, cat's ball
43 x 34 x 30 cm

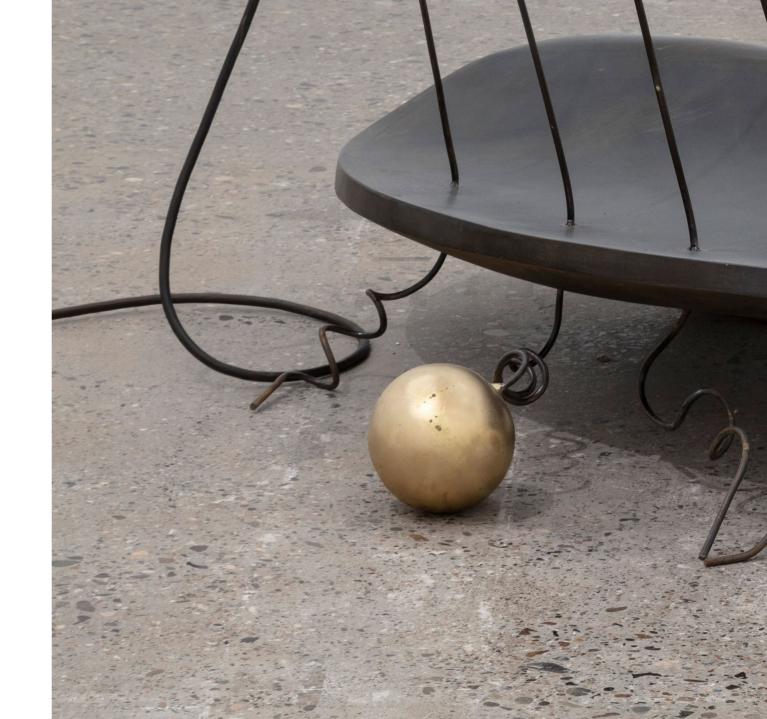


The Moist Sun 2023 Iron, deer horn, ceramic, copper, iron, cat's ball



Hidden Power 2023 Iron, copper, fiberglass 186 x 120 x 140 cm







Hay Wagon 2023 Ceramic, sheepskin, horsehair, wax rope, ginkgo

27 x 22 x 35 cm





Floating Delusion I
2023
Ceramic, copper, electric motor, wax wire
266 x 60 x 65 cm



Floating Delusion I
2023
Ceramic, copper, electric motor, wax wire
266 x 60 x 65 cm



Floating Delusion I 2023 Ceramic, copper, electric motor, wax wire 266 x 60 x 65 cm



Floating Delusion II
2023
Ceramic, copper, electric motor, wax wire
168 x 65 x 80 cm





Floating Delusion III
2023
Ceramic, copper, electric motor, wax wire
276 x 65 x 60 cm



Floating Delusion III
2023
Ceramic, copper, electric motor, wax wire
276 x 65 x 60 cm



Floating Delusion III
2023
Ceramic, copper, electric motor, wax wire
276 x 65 x 60 cm



Golden Chopsticks 2023 Copper, coral, horsehair, aluminum, ceramic 92 x 104 x 100 cm









A Pea-like Candy Ball 2023 Copper, Chinese Honeylocust Spine, ceramic, iron, cinnabar bead  $24 \times 22 \times 18$  cm





Vicious Pills 2023 Ceramic, clay, iron wire 23 x 27 x 25 cm



Vicious Pills 2023 Ceramic, clay, iron wire 23 x 27 x 25 cm

magician.space info@magician-space.com +86 01 59789635 D, 798 Art Zone, Beijing 北京, 798 艺术区, D