

2012“关注未来艺术英才”计划评选在京揭晓

2012年5月12日，北京。由今日美术馆携手马爹利艺术基金共同推出的2012“关注未来艺术英才”计划颁奖暨入围展开幕仪式在今日美术馆举行。本次入围展将于5月13日至5月27日向公众开放。评委代表吕澎、凯伦·史密斯、谭平、吴洪亮、徐累（按姓氏拼音排序）、今日美术馆馆长张子康以及保乐力加（中国）传播总监王珏出席了当日的颁奖典礼。

作为中国首个非盈利民营美术馆，今日美术馆长期以来一直以挖掘和培养年轻艺术人才、推动当代艺术发展为己任。而秉承法国著名干邑品牌马爹利对艺术世界的长久关注与支持，马爹利艺术基金则诞生于2007年，此次二度携手今日美术馆推出的“关注未来艺术英才”计划，旨在不断为推动中国当代艺术发展及优秀青年艺术人才助力。

2012“关注未来艺术英才”计划拥有专业的推荐评选团队。参与此次评选的评委有中国美术馆馆长范迪安，艺术家陈丹青，策展人黄专，策展人、评论家吕澎，策展人凯伦·史密斯，艺术家、中央美术学院副院长谭平，艺术家、北京画院美术馆馆长吴洪亮，艺术家、今日美术馆艺术总监徐累。为保证评选公平公正，评选委员均未参与艺术家候选人的推荐。

经过历时近半年的作品征集、专家推荐以及评委会审核，十位优秀年轻艺术家从四百多位候选人中脱颖而出，他们分别是：陈飞、陈轴、胡昀、韩冰、黎薇、刘国强、潘泓钢&胡有辰、王海洋、鄢醒、赵婧妍（按姓氏拼音排序）。入围艺术家的作品涵括绘画、影像、装置等多种形式，展现了当下青年艺术家的丰富想象力和实验精神。此外，2012年适逢马爹利经典产品蓝带诞生一百周年，10位入围艺术家还应邀分别以“百年”主题展开创作，对过去，现在与未来百年展开灵感畅想，其主题作品与入围展作品一并展出，呈现了本次入围艺术家的多样才华。

首届“关注未来艺术英才”计划于2011年推出后，引起了广泛的社会关注，吸引了众多的年轻艺术家参与其中，其中两位艺术家陆扬和应歆珣摘得首届“英才奖”桂冠。而今年，第二届“英才奖”则授予了年轻艺术家陈飞、黎薇、王海洋、赵婧妍，他们在各自领域的突出表现赢得了评委的一致好评。

评委代表陈丹青表示：“今年送交的作品中，多媒体越来越多被使用，绘画少了，这是好现象。当代艺术的多种媒介，在八零后那里已经不太是问题。至少入选的艺术家多数摆脱了我们这代人的绘画阈限，他们很自然，很本能地就介入到影像、装置、行为等媒介，走出以绘画主要媒介的限制，我早就希望看到这一天。”而评委代表徐累则认为：“作为一个公益性的美术馆，今日美术馆能够与马爹利这样的有社会责任感的品牌或者基金来合作，是一个值得肯定的形式。希望在客观条件允许的情况下，‘关注未来艺术英才’计划可以坚持做下去，给予年轻艺术家精神和物质上的持续的关注和社会力量的支持。

本届评选出的“英才奖”获奖艺术家作品继续由马爹利艺术基金收藏并捐赠给今日美术馆，成为今日美术馆馆藏作品。此外，为了进一步鼓励和肯定青年艺术家的创作，“英才奖”得主还可获得马爹利艺术基金在艺术家个展或参与国外艺术交流项目方面的资助。同时，今日美术馆还将邀请文化学者、艺术教育专家等参与到此计划中，与高等院校、艺术机构等共同探讨中国当代艺术发展的未来。

近三个世纪以来，以创造极品佳酿享誉全球的马爹利，始终与艺术界保持着紧密的联系，并在全球范围内积极参与各类艺术活动。继五月“关注未来艺术英才”计划奖项揭晓后，在中国当代艺术界享有盛名的“马爹利非凡艺术人物”2012年度颁奖典礼也将于6月26日在今日美术馆举行，为生活艺术鉴赏家们带来非凡体验。

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Press Release

For Immediate Release

2012 Focus on Talents Announced in Beijing

May 12th, 2012, Beijing — Jointly organized by Today Art Museum and Martell Art Fund, the award ceremony for “2012 Focus on Talents” as well as the shortlisted exhibition were held at Today Art Museum. The shortlisted exhibition will open to the public from May 13th to May 27th. Judging committee members Chen Danqing, Lv Peng, Karen Smith, Tan Ping, Wu Hongliang and Xu Lei, as well as Zhang Zikang, Director of Today Art Museum, and Kathie Wang, Communications Director of Pernod Ricard (China), were amongst the attendees.

As China’s first non-profit, non-governmental art museum in China, Today Art Museum has been cultivating talented young artists and promoting the contemporary art development in the long term. Founded in 2007, Martell Art Fund upholds the spirit of Martell, the famous French cognac brand, which has long been supporting the art world. The cooperation between Martell Art Fund and Today Art Museum to launch “Focus on Talents” is aimed at continuously promoting the development of Chinese contemporary art and outstanding young art talents.

The judging committee of “2012 Focus on Talents” is composed of a team of professional judges, who are responsible for the recommendation and selection of talents. The judges participating in the selection include Fan Di’an, Director of National Art Museum of China, artist Chen Danqing, curator Huang Zhuan, curator and critic Lv Peng, curator Karen Smith, Tan Ping, artist and Vice President of the Central Academy of Fine Arts, Wu Hongliang, artist and the curator of Beijing Academy Gallery, as well as Xu Lei, artist and Art Director of Today Art Museum. To ensure the fairness and equity of the selection, the committee members will not take part in the recommendation of artist candidates.

After works submission, expert recommendation and committee review, a process which has been nearly six months, ten young artists stood out from more than 400 candidates. They are: Chen Fei, Chen Zhou, Hu Yun, Han Bing, Li Wei, Liu Guoqiang, Pan Honggang & Hu Youchen, Wang Haiyang, Yan Xing, and Zhao Jingyan (in alphabetical order by last name). The shortlisted artists’ works encompass paintings, videos, installations and other forms, displaying the wealth of imagination and experimental spirit of contemporary young artists. In addition, the year 2012 marks the centenary of Martell's classic product — Cordon Bleu, the 10 shortlisted artists were also invited to create "One Hundred Years" themed works and conduct centenary conversation with the past, present and future. Their works are displayed with the shortlisted exhibition works, showing the diverse talents of the artists.

The launch of the first “Focus on Talents” project in 2011 received wide social recognition and many young artists have been attracted to the initiative. Last year Lu Yang and Ying Xinxun won the first “Talent Awards” among shortlisted artists. This year the second “Talent Awards” have been granted to the young artists Chen Fei, Li Wei, Wang Haiyang and Zhao Jingyan, whose exceptional artworks in respective fields



won great recognition of all judges.

Judge Chen Danqing says, “Among the works delivered this year, those making use of multimedia have grown significantly, with a parallel decrease in paintings. This is a good phenomenon. The various media in contemporary art are no longer an issue to the post-80s. At least, most of the shortlisted artists have got rid of the painting threshold of our generation. They have the natural instinct to be involved in the media, such as video, installation and behavior, etc. They are not confined to painting. This is what I have expected for a long time.” Meanwhile, judge representative Xu Lei says, “As a public art museum, Today Art Museum’s cooperation with Martell, a brand and fund that has a strong sense of social responsibility, is worthy of affirmation. It is expected that “Focus on Talents” project will last long into the future, given proper objective conditions, to provide the young artists with the sustained spiritual and material attention and social supports.”

The artwork of the final “Talent Awards” winners will continually to be collected by Martell Art Fund and donated to Today Art Museum for collection. Besides, to further encourage and identify the creation of young artists, “Talent Awards” winners will be funded by Martell Art Fund for its solo exhibition or art studio exchange program in France. At the same time, Today Art Museum will also invite cultural scholars and art education experts, etc. to participate in this program and discuss the future of China’s contemporary art development with higher education institutions and art institutes.

For nearly three centuries, Martell, the world-renowned cognac maker, has always been closely connected to the art world. Following the awards announcement of “Focus on Talents” in May, the award ceremony of “2012 Martell Artists of the Year” will be held on June 26th at Today Art Museum. This will provide an extraordinary experience for the true life connoisseur.

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