

LI CHEVALIER 诗蓝
DARK FLAME

M I C H A E L
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DARK FLAME

Born 1961 in Beijing, Li Chevalier therefore spent her childhood and early adolescence through the Cultural Revolution in China. Fortunately, she was recruited by the Opera Ensemble of the Chinese People's Liberation Army as a gifted musician and vocalist in 1976.

She met her husband, then a French diplomat in Beijing, in the early 1980s and embarked on a politically bold and dangerous marriage in China. They both left for Paris in 1984 and Li won a scholarship to the elite college L'Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris where she focused on trying to understand the democratic institutions in the West. She followed these studies with a further degree in philosophy at the Sorbonne. Here her interest was directed at trying to come to terms with the philosophical paradigms that are most relevant to the individual in the modern world confronted, as it is, with the indifference of a vast universe. She refers to Rilke's "the immense loneliness that inhabits man" which goes some way to expressing her existential anguish. She subsequently spent an intense period of study of the Old Masters in Italy and lived with monks from the Dominican Order which she followed up with time in Florence and the Central St Martins College of Art and Design in London.

Her fundamental thesis, which she expresses through her ink paintings on canvas, is the attempt to find a reconciliation between Chinese thought, with its acknowledgement of life's impermanence and absence of answers, with Western reason and science. The long history of ink painting in China attempts to catch precisely this fluidity and elusiveness of life's journey and life's eternal mystery. Her incorporation of ink's application on canvas with pigments and sand and collage is her attempt to incorporate the fusion of the two world views.

She is one of the few Chinese contemporary artists who has completely immersed herself in Western culture as well as in Eastern. She has been given major exhibitions in China including at the National Art Museum of China in Beijing in 2010, a retrospective at the China Art Museum in Shanghai in 2010, as well as at the Museum of Contemporary Art of Rome (MACRO) in 2017 and a major multimedia installation in Santa Maria della Scala, the museum in Siena last year. In brief, she has been widely recognised by institutions in both China and the West, with important collections in both worlds.

MICHAEL GOEDHUIS



HISTORY, 2019

Ink and mixed media on canvas
104.5 x 104.5 cm (41½ x 41½ in)



ANTI-HISTORY, 2019

Ink and mixed media on canvas
104.5 x 104.5 cm (41½ x 41½ in)



ANDANTE, 2018

Ink and mixed media on canvas
104.5 x 104.5 cm (41½ x 41½ in)



ZENITUDE, 2018

Ink and mixed media on canvas
92 x 43 cm (36 x 17 in)





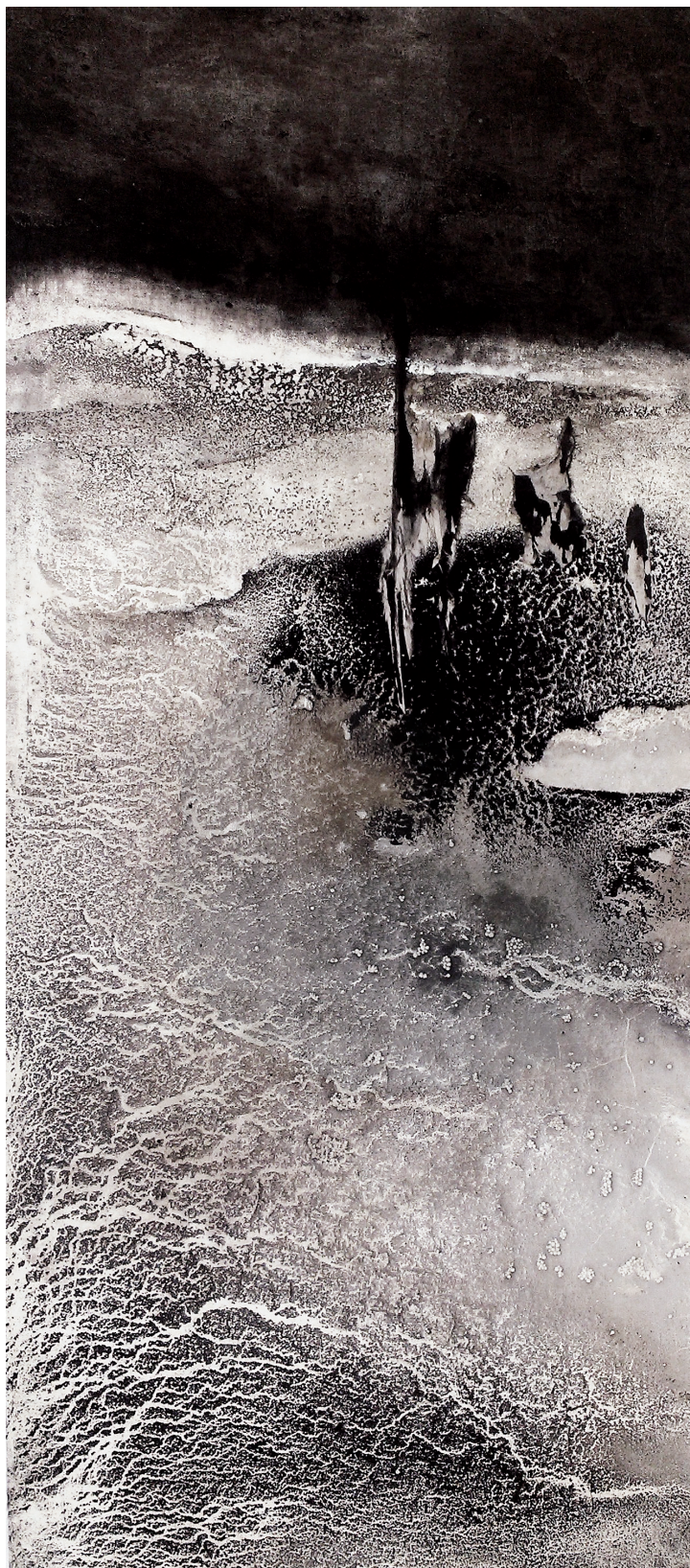
MIRAGE, 2019

Ink and mixed media on canvas
74.5 x 154 cm (29¼ x 60½ in)



FLAME NOIR II, 2016

Ink and mixed media on canvas
154 x 154 cm (60½ x 60½ in)



HOME ANIMAL, 2019

Ink and mixed media
154.5 x 74.5 cm (61 x 29¼ in)





PROCESSION LEAD BY SAINT MICHAEL, 2019

Ink and mixed media on canvas
104.5 x 104.5 cm (41½ x 41½ in)



ON THE RIDGE, 2018

Ink and mixed media on canvas
104.5 x 104.5 cm (41½ x 41½ in)



RESCAPÉS ÉPHÉMÈRES, 2015

Ink and mixed media on canvas
154 x 154 cm (60½ x 60½ in)



LI CHEVALIER 诗蓝

Born Beijing, China 1961

Education

1987 L'Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris, France
 1991 Sorbonne University, MA Philosophy, Paris, France
 2007 Central St Martins College of Art and Design London Fine Arts
 (Dali Studio 2003)

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2019 *Obscure clarté*, Santa Maria della Scala, Siena, Italy
 2017 *Trajectory of Desire*, Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Roma (MACRO), Rome, Italy
 2016 *Art pour la paix*, UNESCO, Paris, France
 2013 *Visual Symphony*, National Opera of China, Beijing, China
 2012 *The Stele of Light*, National Library of China, Beijing, China
 2011 *Li Chevalier Retrospective*, The Museum of Fine Arts, Shanghai, China
 2011 *Contemplating the Orient*, Today Art Museum, Beijing, China
 2010 *The Poetic Orient*, National Museum of Fine Arts, China

Selected Group Exhibitions

2017 *If I Disappear*, IFA Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
 2015 *Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy of Arts, London, United Kingdom
 2015 *New Face of the East*, Art Museum of the University of Saint Petersburg, Saint Petersburg, Russia
 2013 *New Oriental Spirit*, Peking University, Beijing, China
 2012 *Ink Structured*, Museum of Modern Art, Beijing, touring to Museum Fine Art Dolande, Shanghai, China
 2009 *The Expression on Paper*, University of Missouri, Columbia, United States
 2007 *Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy of Arts, London, United Kingdom

Collections

National Art Museum of China, Beijing
 The Art Museum of the State Opera of China, Beijing
 French Embassy of China, Beijing
 The Santa Maria della Scala Museum Complex, Siena, Italy
 Hauntie Times Art Space, Beijing, China
 Bernard Magrez Cultural Institute, Bordeaux, France

