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Zhu Wei- New Pictures of Strikingly Bizarre

Apr 13-23, 2005

Plum Blossoms Gallery Hong Kong is pleased to present **New Pictures of the Strikingly Bizarre**, a solo exhibition of vividly colored prints that Beijing-based Chinese artist Zhu Wei created at the Singapore Tyler Print Institute (STPI) under its artist-in-residence program in 2004.

Zhu Wei was invited as the first artist from China to participate in this program and he took the opportunity to utilize printing techniques including woodcut, etching, lithograph and screenprint on handmade STPI paper to produce 13 different brightly colored prints while staying at STPI for 8 weeks collaborating with professional printers and papermakers. Providing the series of prints with a title from Chinese classical literature (二刻拍案驚奇 **Erke Paian Jingqi**), Zhu Wei further explores his familiar subject matter of common people and their lives in contemporary China. Images of peasant workers, figures from his previous ink painting series such as the Festival series and the Heavenly Maiden Scattering Flowers series as well as his records of the SARS event appear in the prints, revealing the artist's concerns with society and the real sentiments of common people.

Born in Beijing in 1966, Zhu Wei began studying art at a young age. He joined the People's Liberation Army in 1982 and graduated from the PLA Art College in 1989. A few years later, his division was decommissioned and he attended the Beijing Film Academy, graduating in 1993. Upon graduation, he started his own art studio and his work has been shown and widely collected in Europe, the US, and Asia for the past twelve years.