

Editor's Note

The art market is currently a topic of heated discussion, and so it should be. This is an unprecedented moment in the history of contemporary art, one in which the prices of artworks are escalating at an unheard-of pace, with some magazines even providing quarterly reports about which works and artists are increasing in value, and by how much. This has led to confusion about what is determining the real value of contemporary art. Does value lie primarily within the artwork as a philosophical or perceptual proposition, or is it based on how much money it commands?

Yishu 23 has been guest-edited by Dr. Britta Erickson, who, during this past year, carried out research on the art market in China with the assistance of a Fulbright Fellowship. Along with her own incisive observations and thoughts, she invited other writers to comment upon the implications of the current art market. Their response was so strong that the core of this issue is dedicated to this topic. Dr. Erickson has gathered together writers with varying points of view about the art market and its stakeholders—artists, galleries, auctions, and collectors. *Yishu* extends its thanks to her and all the writers who have contributed to this important issue. It is especially appropriate that *Yishu* 23 will be launched at Art Basel/Miami Beach, one of the most important international art fairs, where the market is expressed in its full glory.

On a different note, the staff at *Yishu* is pleased to announce that the journal will be published bi-monthly as of January 2008. The encouraging response we are receiving from individuals who want to know about contemporary Chinese art, and the number of writers who want to participate in a discourse about it, has increased to the point that more frequent publication is necessitated. We will continue to maintain our intentions of producing a publication that is not a throwaway, but one that will stay on bookshelves and become an important source for future research about the history of contemporary Chinese art.

Keith Wallace

YISHU EDITIONS

Now available. Xu Bing's limited edition print of his new project at MOMA/NYC in the exhibition *Automatic Update*, June 27-September 10.

Book from the Ground, 2007, digital print, 29.7 X 35.6 cm, produced by Xu Bing Studio, New York. Edition Size: 199.

For more information please see www.yishujournal.com

YISHU: Journal of Contemporary Chinese Art

Volume 6, Number 4, December 2007

PRESIDENT	Katy Hsiu-chih Chien
FOUNDING EDITOR	Ken Lum
EDITOR	Keith Wallace
MANAGING EDITOR	Zheng Shengtian
ASSOCIATE EDITORS	Julie Grundvig Kate Steinmann
WEB SITE EDITOR	Julie Grundvig
PROJECT COORDINATOR	Larisa Broyde
ADVERTISING MANAGER	Joyce Lin
INTERN	Chunyee Li

ADVISORY BOARD

Judy Andrews, Ohio State University
Melissa Chiu, Asia Society Museum
John Clark, University of Sydney
Lynne Cooke, Dia Art Foundation
Okwui Enwezor, San Francisco Art Institute
Britta Erickson, Independent Scholar & Curator
Fan Di'an, National Art Museum of China
Fei Dawei, Guy & Mariam Ullens Foundation
Gao Minglu, University of Pittsburgh
Hou Hanru, San Francisco Art Institute
Katie Hill, University of Westminster
Claire Hsu, Asia Art Archive
Martina Köppel-Yang, Independent Critic & Historian
Sebastian Lopez, Institute of International Visual Arts
Lu Jie, Independent Curator
Charles Merewether, Australian National University
Ni Tsaichin, Tunghai University
Apinan Poshyananda, Ministry of Culture, Thailand
Chia Chi Jason Wang, Independent Critic & Curator
Wu Hung, University of Chicago
Pauline J. Yao, Independent Scholar

PUBLISHER	Art & Collection Group Ltd.
DESIGN AND PRODUCTION	Leap Creative Group
CREATIVE DIRECTOR	Raymond Mah
ART DIRECTOR	Gavin Chow
WEBMASTER	Website ARTCO, Taipei
PRINTING	Chong-yuan Image Ltd., Taipei

ISSN 1683-3082

Yishu is published quarterly in Taipei, Taiwan and edited in Vancouver, Canada. As of 2008 *Yishu* will be published bi-monthly on the first day of January, March, May, July, September, and November.

To subscribe please go online www.yishujournal.com or call 1.604.649.8187.

Subscription rates: one year: US \$60; two years: US \$110. For air-mail delivery please add US \$18 per year for Asia; US \$24 for other regions.

All subscription, advertising and submission inquiries may be sent to:

Yishu Office
410-650 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, BC
Canada V6B 4N8
Phone: 1.604.649.8187; Fax: 1.604.591.6392
E-mail: info@yishujournal.com

Distributors:

U.S.A.
Journals Department, University of Hawai'i Press
www.uhpjournal@hawaii.edu
Canada
Disticor Magazine Distribution Services
www.disticor.com
Australia
Selectair Distribution Services
www.selectair.com.au

Advertising inquiries may be also sent to:

Art & Collection Ltd.
6F. No.85, Section 1, Chungshan N. Road, Taipei, Taiwan 104
Phone: (886)2.2560.2220; Fax: (886)2.2542.0631
E-mail: coart@ms37.hinet.net

www.yishujournal.com

No part of this journal may be published without the written permission from the publisher.

We thank Mr. Milton Wong, and Mr. Daoping Bao, Paystone Technologies Corp., for their generous support.

Cover: Zhong Biao, *Beyond Painting* (detail), 2007, charcoal and acrylic on canvas, 380 x 1200 cm. Courtesy of the artist and Xin Dong Space for Contemporary Art, Beijing.