

Chen Ching-Yuan

Card Stunt

|

18 May - 27 July, 2019

Opening
Saturday, 18 May — 18h - 21h



Chen Ching-Yuan, *Card Stunt VII (Red, Blue and White)*, 2019

mor charpentier is delighted to present the first solo show in France of Chen Ching-Yuan (Taiwan, 1984). He captures, with a set of new paintings, the complex and ambivalent relationship between collective and individual existence among a society in a deep identity quest.

Chen Ching-Yuan, quickly nourished by the social, economic and politic situation in Taiwan, expands, in the course of its practice, the spectrum of his reflexions and observations to other areas in the world. Each of his paintings approaches in subtle way, the omnipresence of social conventions, the paradox of national political structures, but also the absence of a common cultural history in a Taiwanese society that has assimilated under duress various cultures and historical reconstructions for centuries. This inability to draw a memory and a collective imagination, maintains a recurrent identity uneasiness within the nation, an erratic population in search of representation.

In this new series, Chen Ching-Yuan is inspired by the spectacular performances of “*Card Stunt*” born in North Korea at sports or political events. Performed today in many festivals, these events where each member of the public follows in a specific order the presentation of large colored cardboards to form a global images, are also widely associated with the propaganda of the North Korean political regime and the supports of a strong authoritarian ideology.

In a kaleidoscopic movement, Chen Ching-Yuan multiplies plans and voluntarily chooses to extract certain individual

portraits creating within the representations itself a hiatus between individual and community, which he emphasizes moreover by a dialectical use of figuration and abstraction.

Where group portraits seem to be absorbed by collective action and colors, symbolizing the power of the State, the single characters bring a singular identity out.

They can also recall the posture of protestors with placards (space of the individualization of ideas and philosophies to which they are attached or identify) of which slogans would be replaced by a set of colors and their symbolic (to Taiwan the use of colours is generally associated with a political affiliation).

In line with those preoccupations, Chen Ching-Yuan combines another series of new productions that come together around the common theme of worker status staged in different contexts, acting as a broader portrait of society. Close to genre painting or sometimes still life, each canvas conjures an enigmatic atmosphere combining characters and objects, attributes, writings, colors and scale games.

Deprived of a distinct spatio-temporal framework, the painting acts as a fable, a parable questioning with metaphor or hints the rights and social status but also the relationship between individuals themselves. Forming an actual maze of imagery and symbol, Chen Ching-Yuan's pictorial practice expresses itself in the construction of fragmentary narrative spaces bathed in an unreal or oneiric ambiance allowing everyone to take hold of the scene depicted into each canvas.

LIST OF WORKS

Upper Floor

Card Stunt VI (Blue and Pink), 2019

Oil on canvas
33,5 x 24 cm

Card stunt VIII (Pink Blue and Deep Blue), 2018

Oil on canvas
60,5 x 73 cm

Card stunt I (Blue), 2018

Oil on canvas
31 x 41 cm

Card stunt III (White), 2018

Oil on canvas
27 x 31 cm

Card stunt X (White Yellow and Red), 2018

Oil on canvas
60,5 x 73 cm

Card stunt V (Yellow, Blue and Red), 2019

Oil on canvas
24 x 33,5 cm

Card stunt IX (Orange Yellow Blue and White), 2019

Oil on canvas
45,5 x 38 cm

Card stunt IV (White, Green and Black), 2019

Oil on canvas
24 x 33,5 cm

UP, 2019

Oil on canvas
146 x 112 cm

UP 2, 2018

Oil on Paper
43 x 34 cm

UP I, 2018

Oil on paper
41 x 31 cm

Card Stunt II (The Next Page), 2018

Oil on canvas
31 x 41 cm

Lower Ground

Utopia, 2019

Oil on canvas
90 x 70 cm

High heel from the lady, 2018

Oil on canvas
27 x 22 cm

Whispering, 2018

Oil on canvas
27 x 22 cm

Pool, 2019

Oil on canvas
27 x 22 cm

New wave, 2019

Oil on canvas
27 x 22 cm

Frame, 2019

Oil on canvas
60,5 x 72,5 cm

Blue, 2018

Oil on canvas
33 x 24 cm

White, 2018

oil on canvas
35 x 27 cm

Blue, Red Green and White, 2019

Oil on canvas
46 x 35 cm

Blue and Red, 2019

Oil on canvas
46 x 38 cm

The Golden Things II, 2019

Oil on canvas
38 x 46 cm