

Lychee One 荔枝一号

Constellations and Folds

Lian Zhang

09 July – 08 August 2020

Lychee One 荔枝一号

Lychee One proudly presents *Constellations and Folds*, Lian Zhang's first solo exhibition with the gallery features ten new paintings.

Rather than being introduced into a leaden sense of suspended time, we are instead invited to roam through a lost or yet to come labyrinth of temporalities. The dominant mood circulates around various modes of enchantment, as opposed to anxieties born out of late time. Attached to this circulation are registers related to virtual, childhood, mythic, and mystical spaces that all float free from the weight historical exactness. Following from this the tone of the paintings are light in ways that induce sensations related to reverie or imaginative drifting.

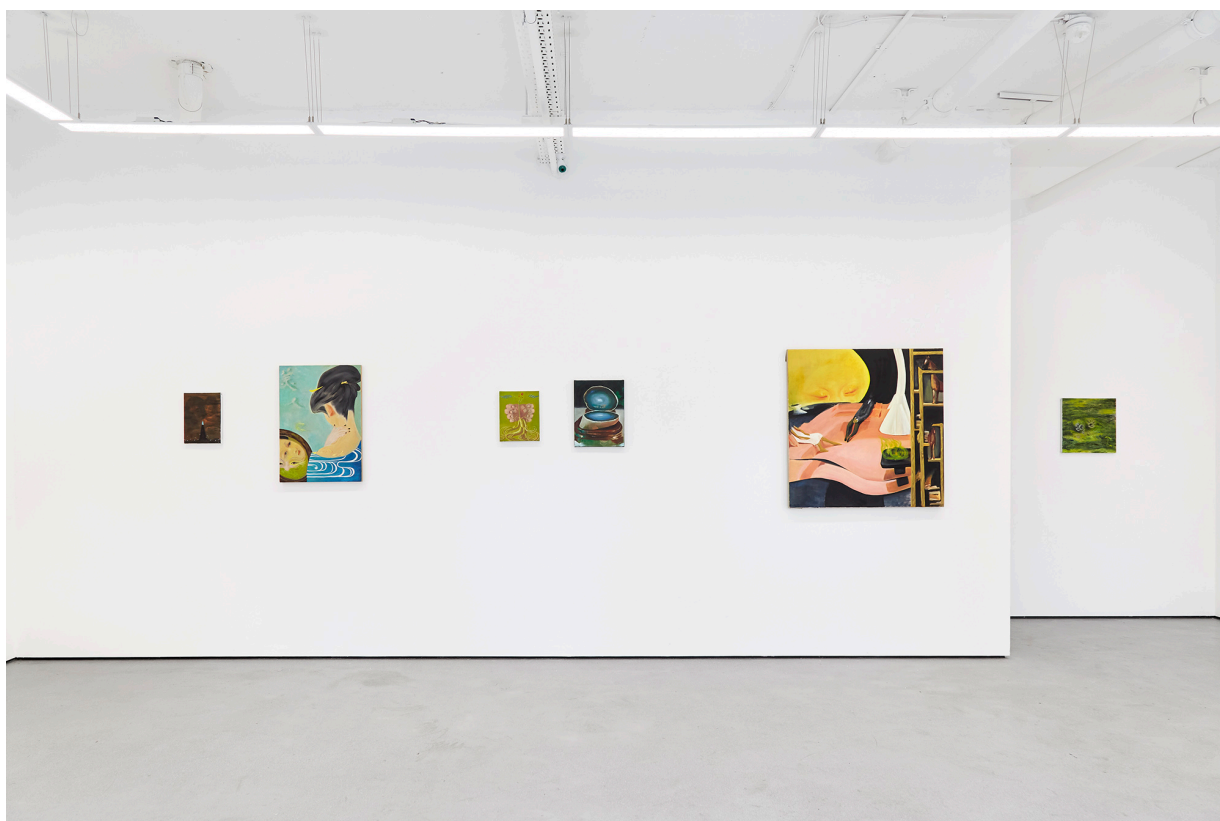
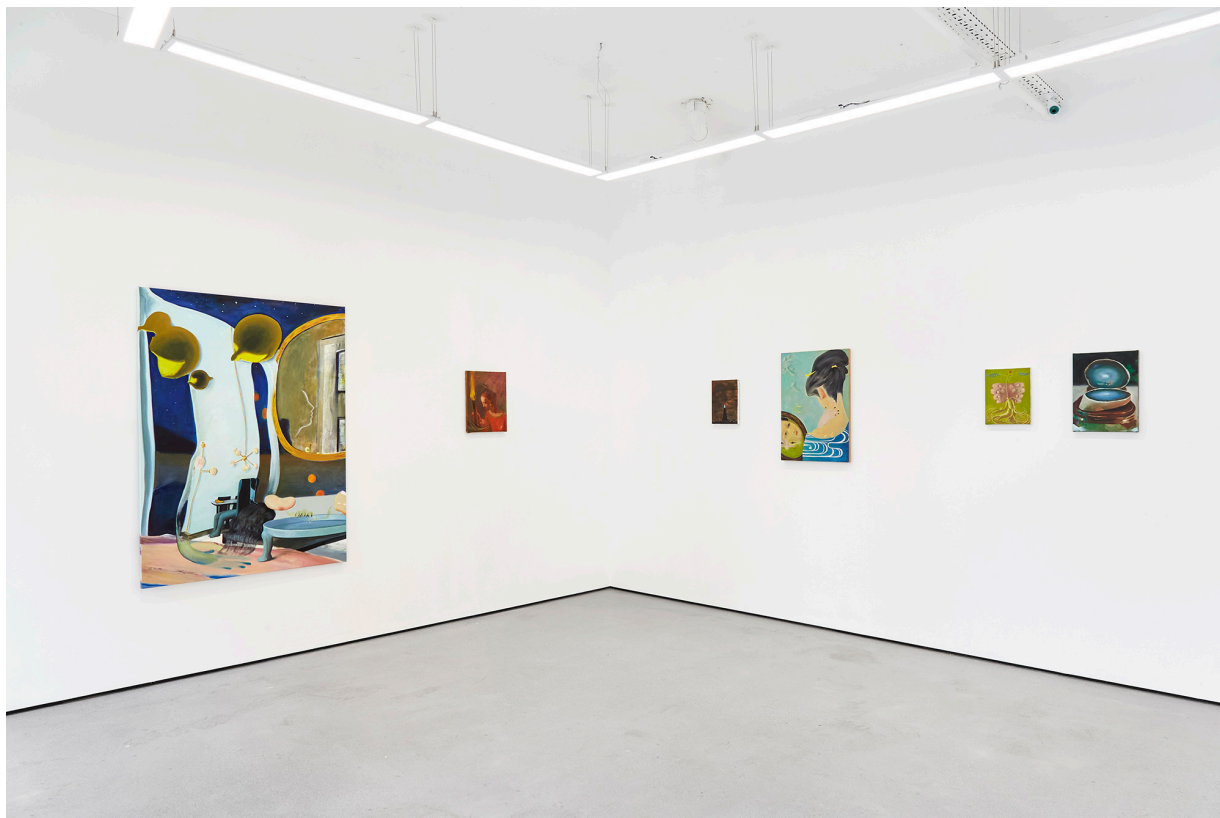
These paintings are born out of the last three months of 'lock down' in which other resources of living and absorption have to be invented. A counterintuitive response has been formed within this contraction of social space, a response that invites a multiplicity of optical attachments that pass over, through and before. All of this occurs without the process of objectification or fixed modes of identification manifesting as a constellation of images as opposed to a serialised progression.

Part of this difference between constellation and serialised progression is, or can be viewed as a relationship between fragmentation and detachment becoming re-inscribed into metamorphic patterns of becomings born out a belief in the world being composed out of a single substance. In this world all elements appear to reconnect with disparate realms in a series of fresh encounters mixing the realms of the vegetal, animal, insect, human, objects, elements, and gestures. Within this, there are the circulation of moods connected to the play of absorption and fascination in which detachment and abstract measure are abolished. The paintings themselves are sensual, even fleshy, inviting a touch-feel relationship as a way of being-with as surface encounter.

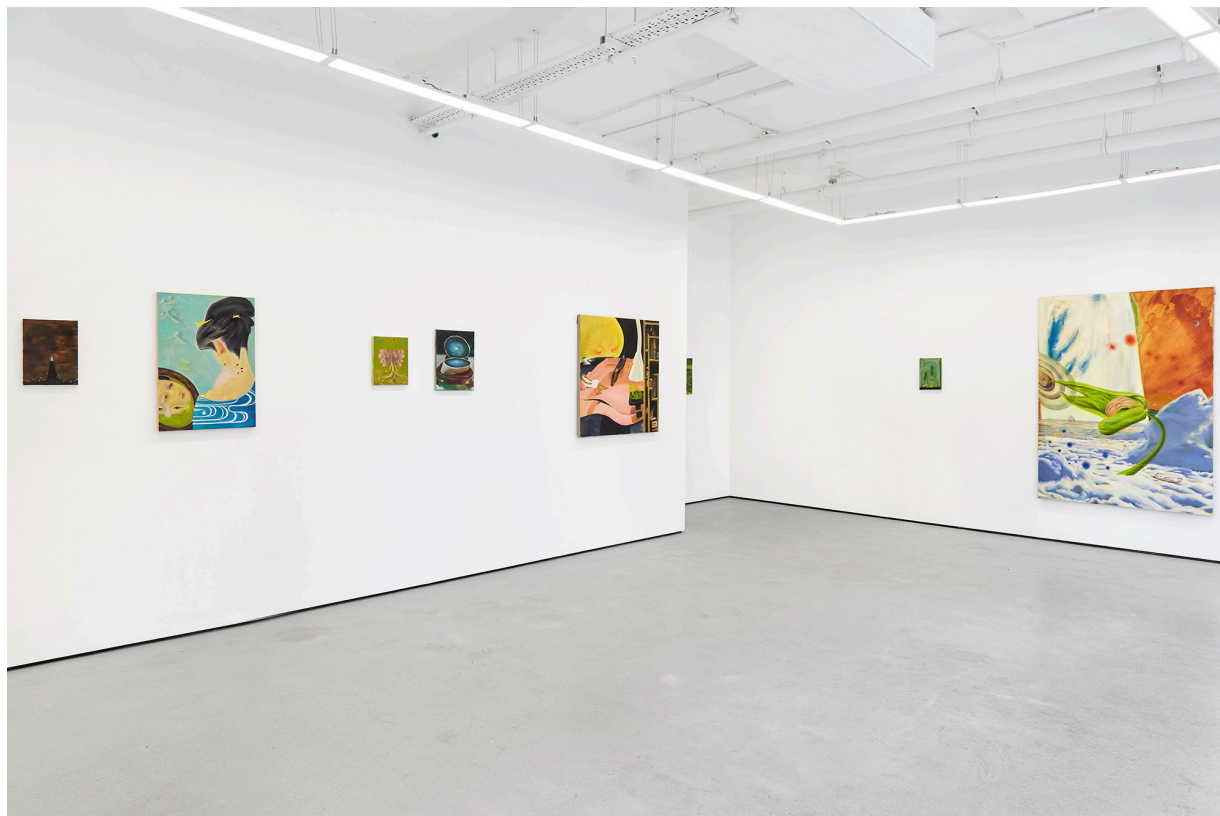
In many ways this marks a turning away from earlier work with its pre-occupations with the detached fragment, image appropriation, visual arrest, collage and layering. This indicates quite another perspective not only in regard to painting but more fundamentally the world in its passage from one schema to another. The question which is being posed within this shift relates to how the artist might make manifest this moment of both temporal register and schematic reconfiguration. Being thrown to the wind and finding a place within a remote order of things is to follow a gesture, a mode of gesture that finds its coherence within the multiplicity of folds of temporality and the image.

Text by Jonathan Miles

Lychee One 荔枝一号



Lychee One 荔枝一号



Lychee One 荔枝一号



Lychee One 荔枝一号



Lychee One 荔枝一号



Homecoming
2020
Oil on canvas
150 x 110cm
£4,500

Lychee One 荔枝一号



Black obsidian
2020
40 x 33.5cm
Oil on canvas
£1,600

Lychee One 荔枝一号



Seeds
2020
31 x 22cm
Oil on canvas
£1,500

Lychee One 荔枝一号



Swimming eyes
2020
70 x 50cm
Oil on board
£2,200

Lychee One 荔枝一号



Ginseng elixir
2020
30.5 x 24cm
oil on canvas
£1,500

Lychee One 荔枝一号



Blue chalcedony
2020
40 x 30cm
Oil on canvas
£1,600

Lychee One 荔枝一号



Night shift
2020
95 x 93cm
Oil on canvas
£3,000

Lychee One 荔枝一号



Best wishes (祝福)
2020
40 x 40cm
Oil on canvas
£1,800

Lychee One 荔枝一号



Sprouts
2020
31 x 22cm
Oil on canvas
£1,500

Lychee One 荔枝一号



Water town
2020
180 x 130cm
Oil on canvas
£5,000

Lychee One 荔枝一号

Lian Zhang

Born in 1984, lives and works in London and Hangzhou

Education

2011-2013 MA Painting Royal College of Art, London
2007-2010 MA Painting China Academy of Art, Hangzhou

Selected Exhibitions

2020 Constellations and Folds (solo)	Lychee One, London
2019 Bone Memory	Lychee One, London
2018 Rifts in silence	M Art Center, Shanghai
2018 Flickering Boundaries	Madein Gallery, Shanghai
2017 Mingled Spaces	Lychee One, London
2015 Elsewhere	Lychee One, London
2014 10 Year Anniversary show	Cynthia Corbet Gallery, London
2014 The Open West 2014	The Wilson Cheltenham Art Gallery & Museum, Cheltenham
2014 Deserts of Humanity	Display London, London
2013 Painting Show & Performences	Winter Projects, London
2013 Young Masters	Sphinx Fine Art, London
2013 The masks we wear	Arteco gallery, London
2013 RCA degree show	Royal College of Art, London
2013 Notes to Self-Thinking	Royal College of Art, London
2012 Summer show	Royal College of Art, London
2012 Interim show	Royal College of Art, London
2012 RCA secret	Royal College of Art, London
2010 Graduation show	China Academy of Art, Hangzhou
2010 Giant	Today Gallery, Beijing
2009 Utopia	Regina Coffee, Hangzhou
2008 Art Spring	Orientation Gallery, Hangzhou
2008 Spade	798 T space, Beijing
2007 New Generation of South River	Eye Level Gallery, Shanghai
2007 Star of the Century 2	China Academy of Art, Hangzhou
2007 Personate	Hong Temple Art, Shanghai
2006 Reflection	Zhejiang Museum, Hangzhou

Awards and Residency

Curator's Prize The Open West 2014
Hine Painting Prize 2013
Shortlisted for Valerie Beston Award 2013
International City of Arts Paris 2009

Lychee One 荔枝一号



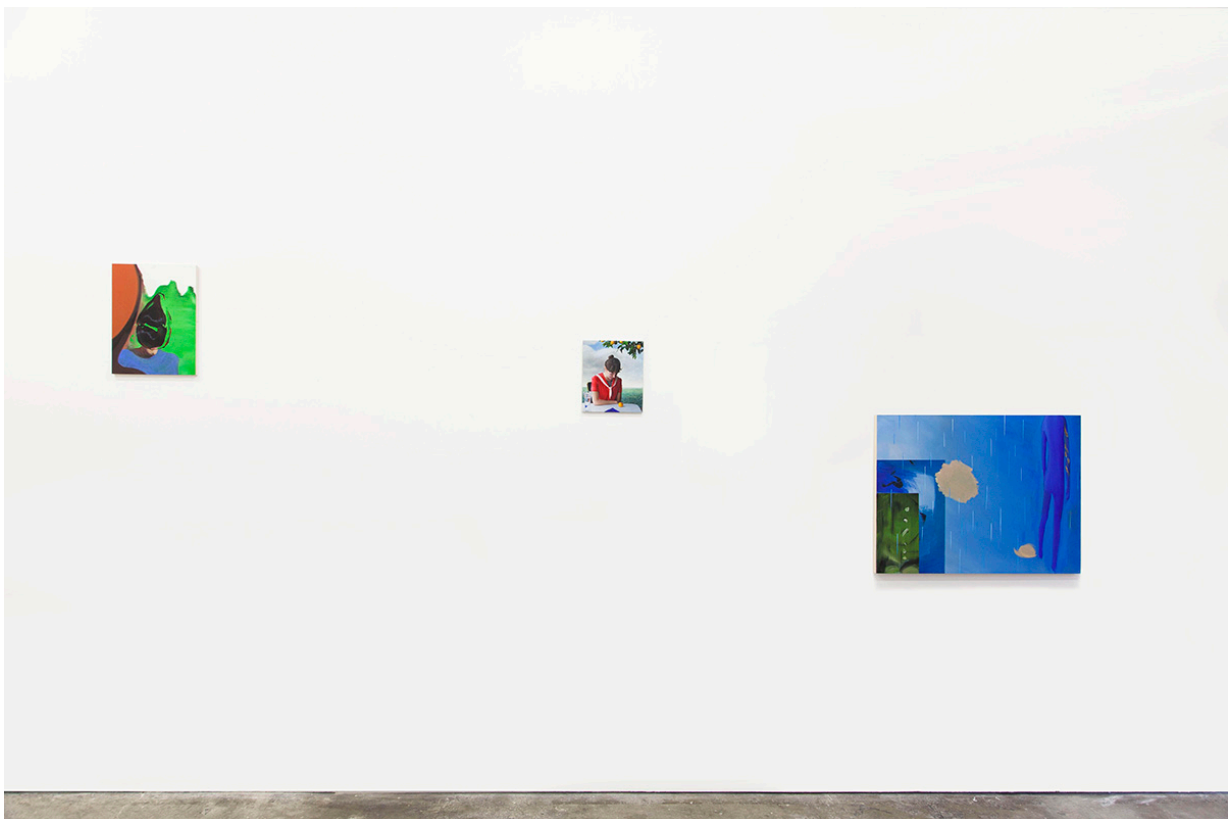
Rifts in silence (with Wu ding, Zhao Qian), Installation view, M art center, Shanghai, 2018

Lychee One 荔枝一号



Flickering boundaries (with Elliot Dodd, Xu zhen@, Yang jun, Zheng yuan, Zhu yu), Installation view, Madeln Gallery, Shanghai, 2018

Lychee One 荔枝一号



Mingled Spaces (with Caroline Walker and Gareth Cadwallader), Installation view, Lychee One, London, 2017