

# MICHAEL KOHN GALLERY

## JINBIN CHEN TIANYI

Born 1994, Xiamen, China

Lives and works in Oslo, Norway

Jinbin Chen's delicate color palettes create environments that house his male subjects in themes of vulnerability, fragility, honesty, and comfort. These spaces seek to uncover a language of intimacy that excludes the sexually explicit, and rather, paint his own vocabulary of desire: a vernacular that absorbs a viewer's gaze. In his portraiture, the masculine traverses a terrain of liminal gender dispositions that embrace the freedom of becoming sans societal boundaries of gender. In its essence, Chen's work depicts the encounter of bodies, those significant and seemingly insignificant, that have the potential to impact the trajectory of one's life. Bridging his practice to the personal, Chen excavates topics on gender temperament, sexuality, inbetweenness, the abject, identification and differentiation.

Jinbin Chen Tianyi was born in Guangdong, raised in Xiamen, China and is currently based in Oslo, Norway. He received his MFA from the Oslo National Academy of the Arts in 2021 and his BFA from the Royal Academy of Art, The Hague, in 2019. Chen is a recipient of the *The Cultural Council Project Grant*, Norway; *BKV Project Grant*, Norway; and a recent nominee for the *Blixsprisen Award*, Denmark. Chen's work is included in the collections of the Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, FL and Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO, amongst others. Recent exhibitions include *Prophecies of the Post-Angel Era*, Kunstnerforbundet, Oslo, Norway (2023); *Swallow Mountain, Drain Sea*, Linseed Projects, Shanghai, China (2023); *Myth of the Cherry Tree*, Standard (Oslo), Oslo, Norway (2023), and his U.S. debut, solo exhibition, *Returnees*, at Michael Kohn Gallery, Los Angeles, CA (2022).

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## EDUCATION

- 2021 MFA, Oslo National Academy of Arts, Oslo, Norway  
2019 BA, Royal Academy of Art, The Hague, the Netherlands

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Portholes*, Standard (Oslo), Oslo, Norway  
*Prophecies of the Post-Angel Era*, Kunstnerforbundet, Oslo, Norway  
2022 *Returnees*, Michael Kohn Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
*Omega and (Anti-)Decay Atlas*, Northing Space, Bergen, Norway  
2021 *The Heimlichkeit of the Home*, Fotogalleri Vasli Souza, Oslo, Norway

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Swallow Mountain, Drain Sea*, Linseed Projects, Shanghai, China  
*Myth of the Cherry Tree*, Standard (Oslo), Oslo, Norway  
*Indoctrination: Multivalent Gestures*, Fotogalleriet, Oslo, Norway  
2022 *Pyton Place 2022* curated by Richard Oiestad and Are Blytt, *London Craft Week*, Cromwell Place, London, Britain, UK  
*UTOPIA*, Tegnerforbundet, Oslo, Norway  
*Matrix of Gender*, Bomuldsfabriken Kunsthall, Arendal, Norway  
*FUS*, Kösk, Oslo, Norway  
2021 *True Love is Searching Too*, Otteudstilling, Copenhagen, Denmark  
*Intersension(al)*, Northing Space, Bergen, Norway  
*Norwegian National Art Exhibition 134*, Kunsternes Hus, Oslo, Norway  
*Paper Planes*, Standard (Oslo), Oslo, Norway  
2020 *The Moment You Told Me You Wanted to Experience It, I Thought About Giving You That Experience*, White Box KHiO, Oslo, Norway  
*Norwegian National Art Exhibition 133*, Kunsternes Hus, Oslo, Norway, NO  
2019 *The Here and Now*, Oslo, Norway  
*Landing*, KHiO, Oslo, Norway  
*KABK Graduation Show 2019*, KABK, Den Haag, the Netherlands  
2018 *A Foreign Affair*, Billytown, Den Haag, the Netherlands  
*Bouncing off*, Billytown, Den Haag, the Netherlands  
*Overprint*, The Centre for Engravings and Prints, La Louvière, Belgium  
*Deep Floor*, KABK Gallery, Den Haag, the Netherlands

## AWARDS

- 2021 Kulturrådet Prosjektstøtte, Norway (awarded)  
The Cultural Council Project Grant, Norway

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BKV Prosjektstøtte, Norway (awarded)  
BKV Project Grant, Norway

## COLLECTION

Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, FL  
Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2022 V. Perella, "Jinbin Chen", *ODDA Magazine*, December 13  
O.C. Yerebakan, "7 Artists on the Resilience of Depicting Queer Intimacy in Public", *Artsy*, June 13  
S. Ghassemitari, "Kohn Gallery Announces Representation of Chinese Artist Jinbin Chen", *Hypebeast*, April 19
- 2020 M. Moldvær, "Meetings with Measurement and Icebergs - About the Powerless in Jinbin Chen's Works 09.10.2020 Autumn Exhibition", *Norske Billedkunstnere*, September 9