



Mok Wai Hong 莫伟康

Mok Wai Hong works with paintings, installations and performance arts. Previously focused on Hong Kong and China, and on the metropolitan topography and cityscape, the subject of his oeuvre has expanded into international topics and figures such as Steve Jobs or the Japanese idol, Miko. Calmly and consciously, Mok Wai Hong poses through his works thoughtful questions about the undergoing transitions and changes of the society in which he lives in. He poses criticisms and provokes reflections on the ways that modern society is run, and the challenges a metropolitan is faced with to stay sober amidst a world that is becoming more and more accustomed to the hegemony of the media and the influx of excessive graphical information. Canvases, pairs of multi-layered mixed-media paintings with drawings on acrylic boards floating aside, bronze sculptures, a mock newspaper distributed through performances and left in newsstands or public places, are all media of artistic expression for Mok Wai Hong. The artist explores the relationship between fake and real, flat and three-dimensional, unique and multiple, free and for sale, material and ephemeral. Mok Wai Hong invites the viewer to look for the centre of attention outside of the frame. Through this displacement, the artist stimulates the viewer to question the roles of the media, of the audience or of the subject itself and their relationships.

"Art, to me, has no reason and no result.

I use painting as the method and the police as the vector. The police enforce the law without asking for a reason, and since the police have no right of jurisdiction, the result of its law enforcement isn't in its hands either. Artists are only responsible for the creative process, the result is assessed by time."

Mok Wai Hong

Born in 1977 in Hong Kong, Mok Wai Hong lives and works in Beijing. He graduated in 2007 from the Oil Painting department of the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing with a bachelor's degree, after which he moved on to the Experimental Art department and obtained a master's degree in 2010. Mok Wai Hong's works have met with critical acclaim and is one of the select few to have been nominated as a finalist for the Sovereign Asian Art Prize in 2005, 2006 and 2009. He was also present among the artists showcased by the *Philippe Charriol Foundation 18th and 19th Art Competition Finalists Exhibition*, in 2004 and 2005 and part of the *Hong Kong Art Biennial Finalists Exhibition* in 2005. In 2011, *Turn Around* is the artist's second solo show at Schoeni Art Gallery, following *Behind* which took place in 2007. His works were exhibited in major museums in Asia such as the Museum of Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music in 2009, or the Museum of Guangzhou Academy of Fine Art, in 2010.