



By Vivian Yeung

Stir Art Gallery



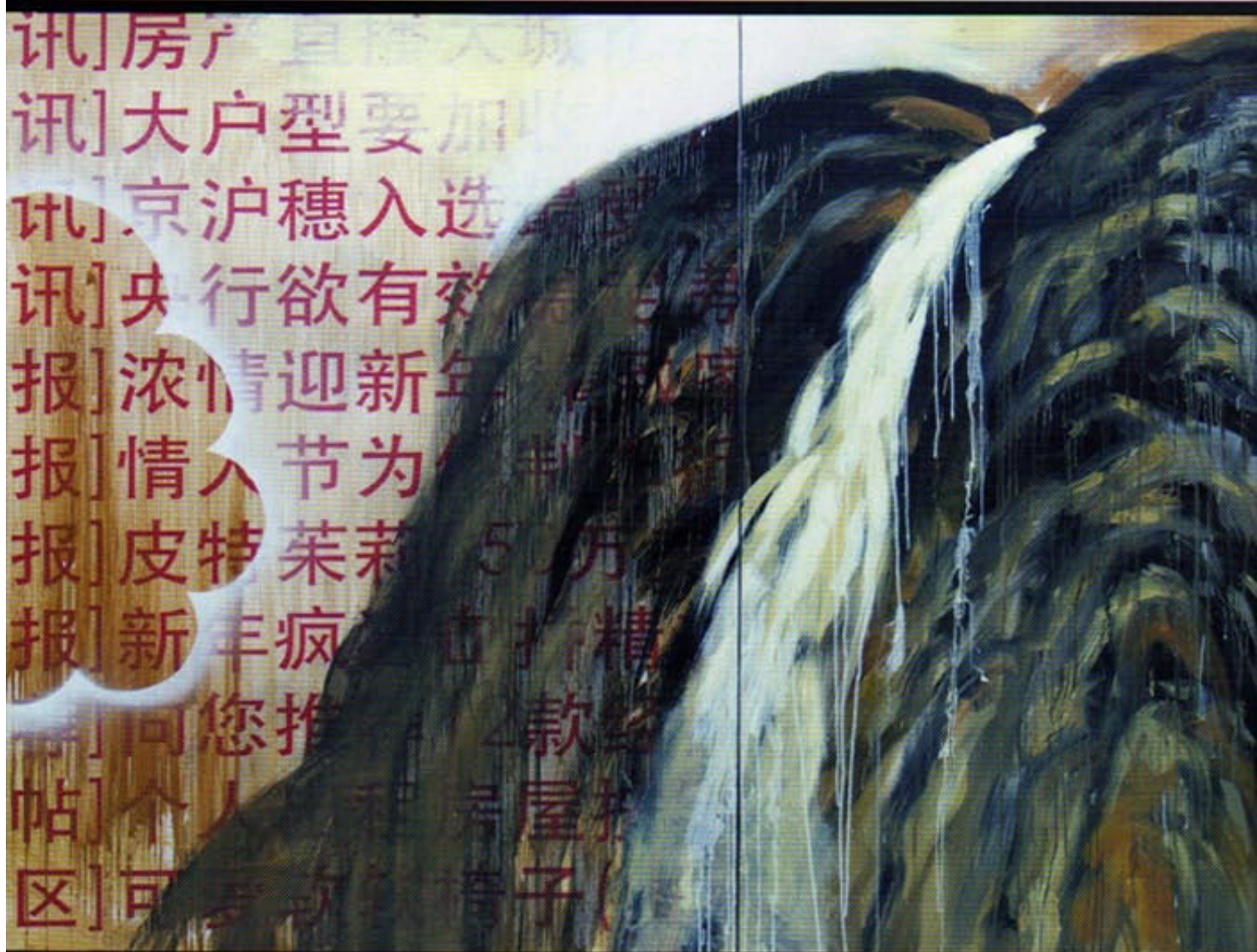
IN a mere couple of years, the city has birthed a myriad of galleries with all forms of art on display. Among its promising new glimmers in the city's contemporary art scene is Stir Art Gallery.

Tucked away in a nook of Jinxian Road, a small road connecting Shaanxi Road S. and Maoming Road S., the 60-square-meter gallery looks more like an unassuming boutique.

Fong Jianwei, a Chinese-American artist, opened Stir in late 2006. The 40-something man would have entered Guangzhou Academy of Fine Art if he hadn't emigrated with his family to the United States some 20 years ago.

Later, Fong began to work as a designer after his graduation from California College of Arts. After his success in business, Fong returned to painting and opened a gallery to realize his art dreams and display those artworks that he thinks are meaningful.





To promote contemporary Chinese and international artists, Fong has been seeking and establishing long-term working relationship with innovative talents who are engaged in different forms of art creation.

So far, the gallery has hosted about 10 exhibitions featuring some big names in the international art community such as Ward Schumaker, Chris Rekrutiak, as well as some less prominent, young local artists like Hu Xingyi and Wang Peng.

From June 29 through July 30, it will run Fong's second solo

exhibition — "Me, The Picture Maker." Using advertising billboards and blown-up Website pages as backdrops, Fong juxtaposes in-your-face visual information with imageries drawn directly from Chinese landscape paintings, cultural symbols and traditionally depicted objects.

He combines these seemingly conflicting elements into his eight large paintings that question the aesthetic and cultural value in the context of an ever-changing society. "The current economic explosion and infusion of Western pop culture

constantly shifts traditional Chinese values. So I'm trying to capture this moment as contemporary Chinese cultural identity is in the process of being defined," Fong remarks.

As Fong tries to work out what this new identity is, the artist also defines himself through his art. For more information, please visit www.stri-art.com.

Stir Art Gallery
Address: 172 Jinxian Road
 地址: 进贤路172号
Tel: 5157 5985
Opening hours:
 10:30am-9:30pm daily