

## Artist Resources – ZENG Fanzhi 曾梵志 (Chinese, b. 1964)

[Zeng at Gagosian](#)

[Zeng Fanzhi Studio](#)

[Zeng at Hauser & Wirth](#)



Zeng, ca. 2015  
Photograph: Ericka Burchett

Read a [review](#) of Zeng’s 2009 solo exhibition at [Acquavella Contemporary Art](#) in Whitehot Magazine.

[AnOther Magazine](#) published a profile of the artist in 2012 by John-Paul Pryor. In it, the artist said: “I am always very fascinated by delicate and micro-aspects of the world, and usually when I discover the beauty of these aspects I will amplify and multiply the effects of what I see into the paintings. This is why I make such huge paintings. I want to exaggerate and underscore the beauty of these delicacies and these minor aspects. I believe that many artists are moved by the micro-aspects of the world and this is what inspires them.

[Zeng Fanzhi](#) was an exhibition on display at the Musée d’Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris featuring 40 paintings and sculptures in reverse chronological order from 2012 to 1990.

Read a conversation between Zeng and Phong Bui for the [Brooklyn Rail](#) when the artist opened [Zeng Fanzhi: Paintings, Drawings, and Two Sculptures](#) at Gagosian Gallery New York.

[Zeng Fanzhi: Parcours](#) was installed at UCCA in 2016, the largest and most comprehensive exhibition of Zeng’s work to that date.

Read an [interview](#) with the artist in The Ohio State University’s Modern Chinese Literature and Culture Journal by Amy Qin.

The Van Gogh Museum launched [Zeng Fanzhi | Van Gogh](#) in 2017-2018, where Zeng recreated some of Van Gogh’s masterpieces in his own signature style. Watch a [conversation](#) with Zeng and Willem Van Gogh in association with the exhibition and a [timelapse](#) of Zeng’s new paintings.

Watch a [video](#) produced by Frieze in anticipation of the artist’s solo exhibitions at Hauser & Wirth [Zürich](#), [London](#), and [Hong Kong](#). Also read an article in [The Art Newspaper](#): “Three cheers for Zeng Fanzhi.”

In 2019, Zeng curated the exhibition [Cézanne, Morandi, and Sanyu](#) at Gagosian Hong Kong. Read an interview with the artist in [Gagosian Quarterly](#) with Jin Jing about the exhibition and Zeng’s work in curation.

Read a [Cultured Magazine](#) article about Zeng’s first [solo exhibition](#) at Hauser & Wirth Los Angeles in 2023. Take a virtual 3D tour of the exhibition with [V21 Artspace](#).



Zeng with his painting, *Untitled* (2018) at LACMA  
Photograph: LACMA

ZENG Fanzhi 曾梵志 (Chinese, b. 1964)

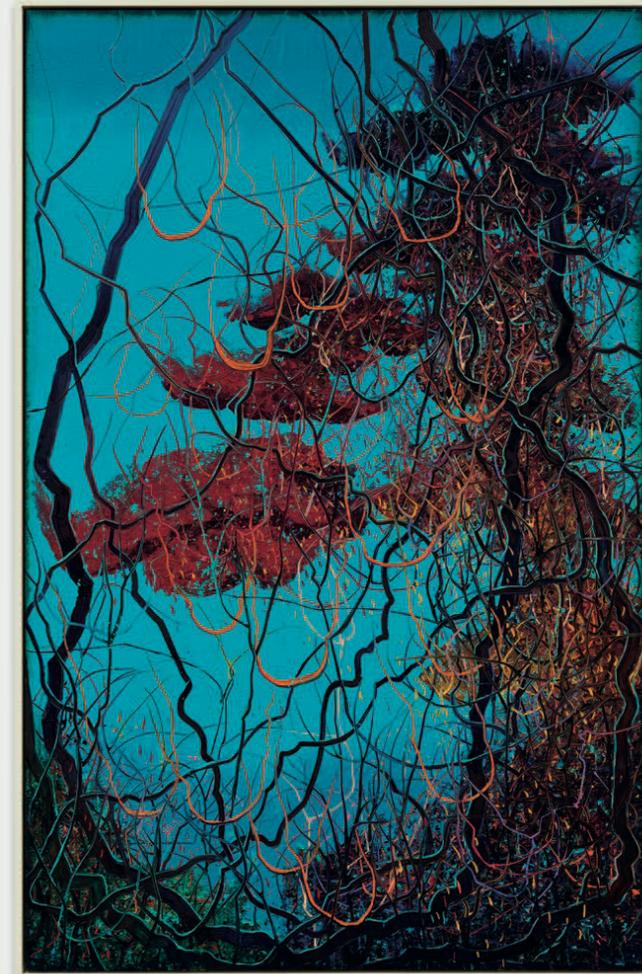
**E Series 2022 n. 13**, 2022

Oil on canvas

Private Collection; L2023:38.1

Born and raised in Wuhan during the Cultural Revolution, Fanzhi Zeng became a pioneer of contemporary Chinese painting in the 1990s. Inspired by a wide range of art history, Zeng often fuses traditional Chinese painting with German Expressionism, Romanticism, Pop Art, and other European modernisms. **E Series 2022 no. 13** features abstract twisted branches and biomorphic forms against a bright cyan and turquoise background. Like the scholar-officials of the Yuan and Song dynasties, Zeng sees these abstract landscapes as a conduit to reflect upon his own emotional experiences. As he once said: “They are not real landscapes. They are about an experience of *miao wu* (marvelous revelation)... Instead of making something obvious, *miao wu* brought about an unmarked world which underlies the deep strata of life.... *Miao wu* constitutes a restless journey of discovery.”

*On view October 18, 2023 – January 21, 2024*





ZENG Fanzhi 曾梵志 (Chinese, b. 1964)

**Untitled**, 2000

Oil on canvas

Private Collection; L2023:44.1

Born and raised in Wuhan, China, Fanzhi Zeng moved to Beijing in 1993 and was overwhelmed by the rapid socioeconomic changes impacting the country. The artist began painting his *Masks* during this time, a series inspired by the tension between the outward embrace of modernization and the internal emotional turmoil associated with such a cultural shift. **Untitled** is a characteristic example of this series. The figure is dressed as a Western businessman, but his rigid mask covers a bloodied face and raw skin. Zeng's approach helped to process the overwhelming effects of China's economic growth and transformation in the 1990s. As the artist describes: "I have experienced the drastically changing environment in China and I cherish the experience because it has provoked emotions that are so intense."

*On view June 7 – September 10, 2023*