

## 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.

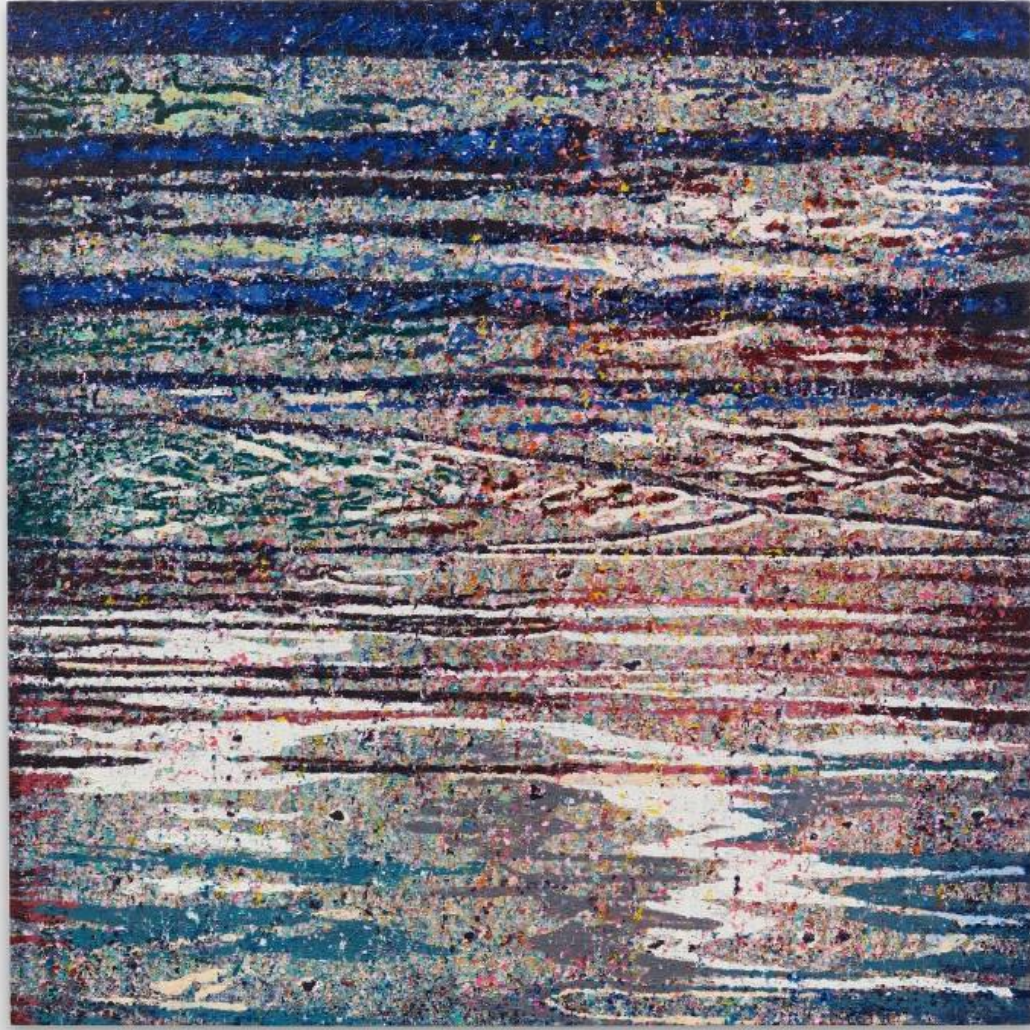
Watch a [video](#) produced by Frieze in anticipation of the artist’s solo exhibitions at Hauser & Wirth [Zürich](#), [London](#), and [Hong Kong](#). Also read an article in [The Art Newspaper](#): “Three cheers for Zeng Fanzhi.”

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)

**Water X**, 2019-2023

Oil on canvas

On loan from the Collection of Dominic Ng; L2024:57.1

Fanzhi Zeng was born and raised in Wuhan, China during the Cultural Revolution and moved to Beijing in 1993. He quickly became a pioneer of contemporary Chinese painting, fusing together traditional East Asian techniques and subjects with German Expressionism, Romanticism, Pop Art, and other European modernisms. **Water X** is part of a new series inspired by the legacies of Impressionism and Pointillism. The artist became interested in works that are recognizable from afar, but become abstract when viewed up close, and are made visible by their color combinations. The painting was recently featured in a solo exhibition at the Venice Biennale designed by Japanese architect Tadao Ando (b. 1941) and sponsored by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

*On view December 4, 2024 – March 9, 2025*

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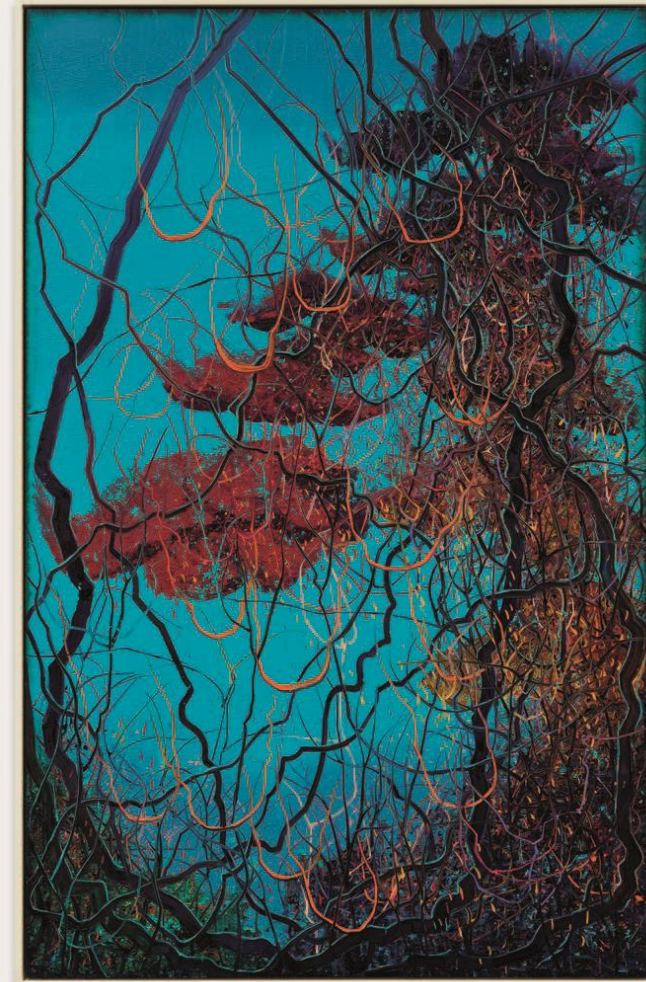
**E Series 2022 n. 13**, 2022

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*