

PRESS RELEASE

Yan Pei-Ming

Autoportraits

7 June – 4 August 2000

Reception for the artist 6 June 6-8 pm

Faggionato Fine Arts is pleased to announce their forthcoming exhibition of Autoportraits by Yan Pei-Ming opening on the 7 June, 2000.

The show consists of 4 large scale triptychs and 3 single canvases, done in quick succession – one a month since December 1999. Shown for the first time, these “autoportraits” are large-format monochrome pictures of gestural abstraction, broad rough brushstrokes evocative of Soulages or Franz Kline. This is a style that has become Ming’s hallmark. In each he examines the objective qualities of reflection, utilising himself as the raw material for the continuation of his project based work.

Ming’s preoccupation with the construction of identity through portraiture has led him to subjects as varied as prostitutes, anonymous children, pensioners from an old age home, prisoners and on to portraits of Buddha, Mao and Bruce Lee. Regardless of his subject’s history, Ming focuses on the unknown quantity that is personality and creates a strong identity forged with equal amounts of respect and curiosity. Having concentrated over the last 10 years on what he terms “anti-portraits”, it is perhaps inevitable that he should now explore the concept of self portraiture.

Born in China in 1960 and living in France since the early 1980s, Ming has always been interested in the concepts of individuality and anonymity. The inclusion of his work in the Shanghai Biennial brings full circle the themes that he explores and gives him the opportunity to return to his country of birth.

Gallery hours:

Mon – Friday 10.00am – 5.30pm

Saturday 11.00am – 1.00pm.

For further information and photographs, please contact Anna Pryer on Tel 020 7409 7979.