

## *SPARK! Hong Hao & Yan Lei*



In the fall of 2009 Chambers Fine Art Beijing opened a remarkable exhibition project with two of Beijing's most prominent and provocative artists - Hong Hao and Yan Lei. Published in an edition of 28, this collection of works by the two artists is a result of this project and includes: three signed prints by Hong Hao and Yan Lei; three signed photographic prints by Hong Hao; and three signed prints by Yan Lei as well as other printed documentation relating to the project (described in more detail below).

Hong Hao is widely known for his work based on printing processes, the creation of artist's books as well as the manipulation of the dynamics of information and misinformation. His close associate, the *enfant terrible* Yan Lei, is immersed in the world of rock music and performance and often draws on images from popular culture in his work. *SPARK* is Hong and Yan's third

collaboration to date - the most notorious being the 1997 fake invitations addressed to Chinese artists purportedly inviting them to participate in a 'special section' of Kassel's prestigious Documenta X exhibition: a deeply mischievous project which continues to have reverberations around the Beijing art scene to this day.

The first stage of the *SPARK* exhibition project was the creation of the Beijing-based cult magazine *SPARK!* which, in its inaugural issue under the editorship of Hong Hao and Yan Lei, launched an open dialogue with readers by inviting them to propose for inclusion in the magazine their own definitions – in images or in text – of what constitutes art. This rare magazine is included in the current collectors' limited edition boxed set.

The Chambers exhibition *SPARK*, subtitled *Power to the People*, developed the artists' radical manifesto even further in seeking to democratize the gallery world with an open invitation to 'artist citizens' to bring their own art works for free inclusion in the Chambers show. Hundreds of paintings, drawings, photographic prints, videos, installations, sculptural works as well as garment prototypes and even live performances were contributed during a busy afternoon opening. New works were subsequently added almost daily throughout the duration of the show in November and early December 2009. Some of these works were from celebrated artists; others were by local amateurs, international visitors and village children. Chambers gallery staff catalogued the art works with accession numbers, correct work descriptions and identification labels. Meanwhile, Hong Hao and Yan Lei curated the placement of the works in an act of semi-performance which filled the gallery with an extraordinary and unpredictable juxtaposition of art works.

Issue II of the magazine *SPARK!* is a photo-documentation of this unusual and provocative exhibition project and is also included in the current boxed collection.



**Hong Hao & Yan Lei 洪浩和颜磊 (b.1965 & b.1965)**

**Spark 气泡, 2009**

Edition of 28 plus 2 AP

4 digital prints, 3 C-prints on xuan paper, 2 collages,  
1 *Spark* magazine and 1 *Spark* exhibition catalogue in an aluminum box

铝盒、4 张数码照片、3 张纸本彩色照片、2 幅拼贴作品、

1 本《气泡》杂志及 1 本《气泡》展览图录

Box size 盒子尺寸: 53 x 64 x 5.5 cm

Hong Hao & Yan Lei 洪浩和颜磊 (b.1965 & b.1965)

*Spark* 气泡, 2009

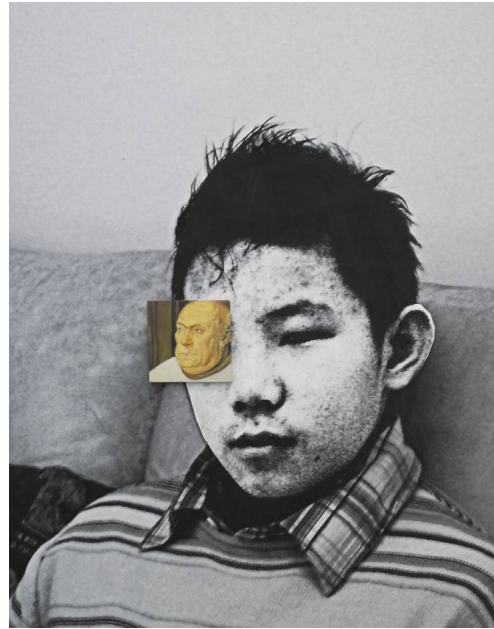


Edition of 28 plus 2 AP

Collage 拼贴作品

15 5/8 x 9 3/8 in (39.5 x 24 cm)

Stamped by Hong Hao and Yan Lei on verso



Edition of 28 plus 2 AP

Collage 拼贴作品

23 3/8 x 17 7/8 in (59.5 x 45 cm)

Stamped by Hong Hao and Yan Lei on verso



Edition of 28 plus 2 AP

Digital print 数码照片

23 3/8 x 17 7/8 in (59.5 x 45 cm)

Stamped by Hong Hao and Yan Lei on verso

Hong Hao 洪浩(b.1965)



***Another Market I, II, III***

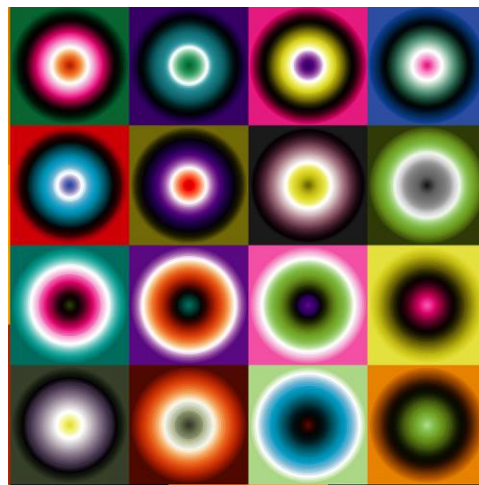
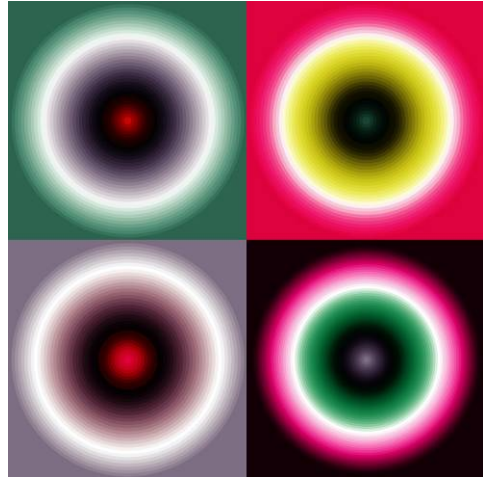
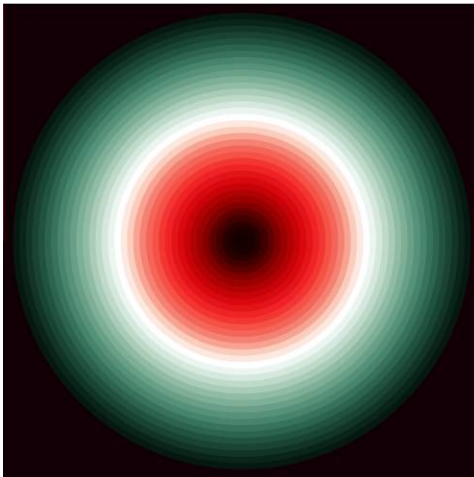
Edition of 28 plus 2 AP

Digital print 数码照片

Each 18 1/8 x 23 3/8 in (46 x 59.5 cm)

Stamped by Hong Hao on verso

Yan Lei 颜磊 (b.1965)



***“Color Wheel” Wallpaper, 2009***

Edition of 28 plus 2 AP

C-prints on xuan paper 纸本彩色照片

Each 17 7/8 x 23 3/8 in (45 x 59.5 cm)

Stamped by Yan Lei on verso