

Contemporary Chinese Art

Wu Hung

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The first and only comprehensive survey of contemporary Chinese art, one of the most vital and expanding sectors of the global art world today

From its underground genesis during the Cultural Revolution (1966–76), contemporary Chinese art has become a dynamic and hugely influential force in a globalized art world. In this first major introduction to the topic, Wu Hung provides an accessible, focused, and much-needed narrative of the development of Chinese art across all media from the 1970s to the 2000s, a time span characterized by radical social, political, and economic change in China. The book is a richly illustrated and easy-to-navigate chronological survey that considers contemporary Chinese art both in the context of China's history and in a global arena. Wu Hung explores the emergence of contemporary art?as opposed to officially sanctioned art?in the public sphere after the Cultural Revolution; the mobilization by young artists and critics of a nationwide avantgarde movement in the mid-1980s; the re-emphasis on individual creativity in the late 1980s and the heightened spirit of experimentation of the 1990s; and the more recent identification of Chinese artists, such as Ai Weiwei, as global citizens who create works for an international audience.

425 illustrations, 353 in color



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