

Sherbet Green

At Dawn

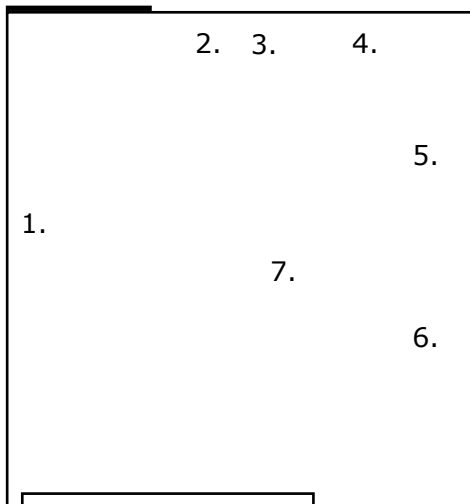
Yage Guo & Bo Sun

27 April - 27 May 2023

Biomorphic forms and petals catching first light. The work of Bo Sun and Yage Guo meets at the point of the natural sublime; a symbolic reckoning at the moment of confrontation between humans and all other nature. While Guo wields linen-cradled flora set in the soft exposure of the atmosphere's imposing light, Sun constructs techno-futurist skeletons, clad with bluebells and pastel-coloured plastics evoking gelatinous flesh. The works metamorphose from prehistoric, to post-anthropogenic, to supernatural, articulating a reflection on and reverence for structural design in nature and across industry.

Guo observes flowers and plants as subjects, reforming them through a sentimental process of transformation, often using this repeated process as a way to bridge the gap between urban existence and nonhuman nature. Sun's process is colder, more mechanical in process. He appropriates shapes such as the moth, cutting them into perspex and aluminium to exact a kind of invasion; a type of mark making that inserts biological patterns into structural engineering and robotics. The sharp edges of Sun's forms, often evoking mirrored or concrete architectural cityscapes, contrast the breathtaking, fleeting instances that inspire Guo, exacting a play of hard and soft that moves in the philosophical space between the earthly and the cosmological, between day and night.

Works List



Prices available upon request

Clockwise:

1.

Bo Sun

Peduncle in disarray, 2023

Aluminum, resin, perspex, and metal fixtures
186 x 200 x 60 cm

2.

Bo Sun

Outcast, 2023

12 x 17.5 x 24 cm

Aluminum, resin, PLA, and metal fixtures

3.

Yage Guo

White Orchid, 2023

Oil on linen

50.6 x 45.7 cm

4.

Yage Guo

The Illusion of Datura, 2023

Oil on canvas

130 x 100 cm

5.

Yage Guo

Morning Devotion, 2023

Oil on panel

27.9 x 35.5 cm

6.

Yage Guo

The Invitation of the Night, 2023

Oil on panel

27.9 x 35.5 cm

7.

Bo Sun

Withering in vain, 2023

Aluminum, silicone, and metal fixtures
30 x 26 x 11 cm (excluding plinth)

About the works:

Yage Guo

Drawing inspiration from literature, nature and mythology, Guo's paintings seek to capture fleeting moments populated with figures, flowers, and landscapes, imbuing them with her own emotions and personal memories. Her subjects extend beyond the object into metaphorical expressions that provoke the viewer to contemplate the passage of time. Stating texts such as Rainer Maria Rilke's *Concerning Landscape Painting* and Hermann Hesse's *Siddhartha* as significant influences, Guo explores notions of loneliness and the interconnectedness of nature through her paintings, using them as a vessel for spirituality and the exploration of selfhood.

As she paints, Guo draws out mysterious, androgynous figures within her botanical worlds. They traverse through forests and darkness towards dawn, much like a traveller in an unknown land. Across the paintings in *At Dawn*, the artist has created soft and anthropomorphic depictions of flora, such as orchids, the Cat-eye Begonia – representing the power of growth – and morning glory blossoms. The anonymous hermit that she has formed in the work is in the process of smelling the toxic *Datura*, which induces entrance into a surreal landscape; an unconscious fantasy or a utopian resolution. To Guo, this journey also symbolises her own understanding of the painting process, from inspiration to realisation, and from repetition to processes of unknowing. For the artist, it is a journey of new landscapes with no destination.

Bo Sun

Bo Sun's work reflects the convergence of anatomy and mechanics in the post-humanist era. By reconstructing biomorphic forms from industrial materials like aluminium, perspex, resin, and metal fixtures, the artist explores the fusion of incompatible materials and the merging outcome of presenting natural organic forms with industrial materials. He challenges the conventional articulation between bone structures and fabricated objects, with a focus on exoskeletons and patterns within industrial design.

About the artists:

Yage Guo (b. 1998) lives and works between London and Shanghai. She studied at the Slade School of Fine Art from 2017-2022, where she gained both her BA and MA Fine Art (Honours). Guo's practice spans a wide range of disciplines, including oil paintings on wood panels and canvas, pencil drawings, and bookmaking. Selected group exhibitions include: *A Gauzy Flame*, Herald Street, London (2023); *Under the Jaguar Sun*, Kravitz Contemporary, London (2022); *Eat Drink Man Woman*, 180 The Strand, London (2022); *What Now?*, PM/AM Gallery, London (2022); *ASSEMBLE*, V.O. Curations, London (2022); *Pathways on Paper*, South Parade, London (2022); and *Knocking it out of the Park*, Gallery 46, London, (2021).

Bo Sun (b. 1998) lives and works in London. He gained his BA Fine Art (Honours) from Central Saint Martins in 2022. Group exhibitions include *Baggage Claim*, Staffordshire St, London (2023); *Your Heart to A Dog to Tear*, Take Courage Gallery, London (2022); *MacArthur Park*, Cromwell Place, London (2022); *Upcoming Promises*, Simulacra, Beijing (2022); *Kissaten/Tea Room*, UCL Japanese Gardens, London (2022); *Meltdown*, Ridley Road Project Space (2022); *Port of Call*, Changing Room Gallery, London (2021); *Flaming Moth* (duo exhibition with Tuesday Towey), Changing Room Gallery, London (2021); and *Do I Belong T(here)*, Harlesden High Street, London (2021).