

introduction to the gallery

ifa gallery was established in May 2006 in a 700sqm converted textile factory space in Moganshan Road - M50 Creative Centre – Shanghai's contemporary art district. With a quality exhibition programme of principally Chinese contemporary art, and a supporting line-up of performance, cinema and musical events, the gallery contributed to the dynamism of the area. Major exhibitions during that time include the solo shows of Park Sung-Tae (Korea) and sought-after young artist Liu Bolin (China).

In September 2008, ifa relocated to new premises, a charming residence built in 1923 for an official of the British Customs House. The gallery offers an innovative and artistic angle to the central part of the city and acts as an artistic meeting point for contemporary art in Shanghai.

ifa gallery exhibits contemporary art from Asia with a focus on Chinese art. The gallery is also oriented towards South East Asian art, and the work of artists, regardless of origin, that have a specific influence or association with Asia. We represent both established artists such as Dai Guangyu, a leading figure of China's avant-garde, and the Gao Brothers; as well as emerging artists, including recent graduates of the fine arts schools in Beijing and Hangzhou. ifa features work in a wide range of media formats, from painting to photography, video, installation and performance.

For 2009, the gallery will feature two seasons of Vietnamese art with an overview exhibition of the current state of the arts in spring and a second exhibition of works of established artists such as Dinh Y Nhi and Nguyen Minh Thanh in autumn.

Continuing this exploration of Asia, the work of young photographers of non-Asian background will articulate different approaches in the expression of China's multiple faces.

Additionally, an influential and little known period in Chinese contemporary art history will be unveiled with an exhibition and comprehensive publication on the community of artists in Dongbahe, near Beijing, from 1995-1997.

ifa's international team presents and supports artists that have an original language and means of expression, that shy away from clichés and conventions and that have strong concepts and artistic vision.