

For immediate release

“Questers and the Tables”
By Afa Annfa



Solitude, 2020, acrylic and pastel on canvas, 64 by 53.5 cm.
Courtesy to Afa Annfa and JPS Art Gallery

Opening Reception

Friday, 27 November 2020

5 - 8 pm

Open to Public

28 November – 30 December 2020

JPS Art Gallery is delighted to present **Questers and the Tables**, an exhibition of new paintings by artist Afa Annfa, on view at the gallery’s Hong Kong location in LANDMARK. The show marks her first solo exhibition with the Gallery. The presented works are a series created by Afa amidst the outbreak of COVID-19 in Hong Kong - encapsulating her response to the unique social landscape the global pandemic has brought forth.

As the exhibition title suggested, the show revolves around the story of the Questers and their tables. At the beginning of 2020, Hong Kong since again went into a state of public panic and

emergency due to the outbreak of the coronavirus. The sense of urgency and anxieties filled the densely populated city, and as a result, the normality of life is interrupted. With her deep mediation and observation, Afa interacts with the citizen's reaction towards the dire situation and captured lives in isolation with her metaphorical language. On view as a group, the works are sewed together by the having the table tops aligned with one another to form an engaging collective narrative, highlighting the artist's concept of through the pursuit of the knowledge and truth, people are therefore joint together in the same horizon.

The presented works are among the most elaborated and mediated paintings by the artists. Characterised by the Afa's signature fine and detailed brushstrokes, alongside with soft and mellow colour palette including pastel yellow and muted pink, the paintings are created with the artist's sensibility and sensitivity. She also explores the possibility of utilising symbolism and semiotics in her work, together with the references of popular culture under the context of social landscape, the exhibition tells a compelling story that is all the more relevant in the world we live in today. This series also includes the largest and most elaborate figurative painting of the artist titled *We Are Coming Through*. The painting exemplifies Afa's interest in the traditional art history canon by paying homage to the *Last Supper* by the great Renaissance master, Leonardo da Vinci. Acting as a finale to the narrative, the painting emphasised the theme of isolated yet connected and brought a sense of hope and joy in this troubled time.

The exhibition also features two AR interactive experiences in collaboration with the Hong Kong-based video production house Yamanyamo. By scanning a provided QR code, visitors can view a life-size sculpture by the artist through their smartphones. In addition, an interactive projector is set up in the gallery which allows an immersive interaction for the visitors, creating the illusion of 'walking into the painting' and as if you are part of the artwork. The exhibition allows visitors to interact with the artwork through the multidimensional and immersive technology, creating a unique visiting experience that exceeds the traditional limitation of a gallery wall.

Through her perspicacious presentation, Afa once again continued her investigation of painting as a medium to discuss the human connection in this age and age. The new paintings explore one's self-identity and social standing in our era of accelerated communication. With her keen eyesight she articulates a new narrative and point of view.

About Afa Annfa

Afa Annfa is the one of the emerging stars in the local art scene. Her works probe the complexities of human emotions and our connection with one another, capturing tensions between the human psyche and worldly materials.

Afa approaches painting with her visceral meditation and observation that evoke sentiments and feelings. Her practice recalls the style of Japanese Ukiyo-e and irregular comic, depicting figures that seem to be fictional in an atmospheric environment yet remain to be substantial and

grounded. Through images adapted from popular culture, Afa creates narratives and a unique language to manifest her inner visions.

Afa was born in 1983 in Hong Kong. She earned a BA from Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Before becoming a full-time artist, she worked in one of the biggest advertising agencies in Hong Kong. She enjoyed a successful career as a commercial illustrator collaborating with international as well as local brands and musicians. In 2018, Afa was awarded the CreateSmart Young Design Talent Award from the DFA Hong Kong Design Talent Award. She is also a founding member of Eaton Workshop. In 2020, Afa started to gain more momentum and recognition by participating in various charity auctions including the *Extra Ordinary Exhibition* with Karen Leung Foundation at Phillips, and the HKAGA fundraiser event at Christie's.

About JPS Art Gallery

Established in 2014 in Hong Kong, JPS Art Gallery is an independent contemporary art gallery presenting works of emerging and established artists from around the world.

The gallery is founded with a passionate spirit that dedicates to the new digital age and the exploration of the world of fine art and pop culture. We aim to create an innovative environment for a new generation of artists and collectors, fostering a creative space for all. We focus on fun and playful works of the era that spans across different mediums and disciplines, showcasing a discerning selection of works that embody the aesthetics of today.

We are committed to supporting the culture and art scene both in Japan and Hong Kong, creating a vibrant local art community. The gallery regularly presents works of emerging artists in our gallery spaces in Tokyo and Hong Kong as well as international art fairs, giving them a platform to gain global exposure, supporting young artists to launch their careers. JPS has also been an active contributor to society and the local art scene by sponsoring various charity events and auctions.

Location

Shops 218- 219, 2/F, Landmark Atrium, 15 Queen's Road Central, Central, Hong Kong

Media Inquiry

For media inquiries and press preview, please contact
Angela Tam | +852 5597 0235 | angela@jpsgallery.com

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即時發布

「桌子遊人」 李思汝



<獨酌>, 2020, 壓克力與粉彩於畫布, 64 x 53.5 cm
圖片由藝術家和JPS畫廊提供

開幕酒會

2020年 11月27日 (星期五)

下午五至八時

公眾開放

2020年 11月28日至12月30日

JPS畫廊很高興於置地廣場向大家呈獻藝術家李思汝 (Afa Annfa) 的最新個人畫展「桌子遊人」。這次畫展為藝術家首次在JPS畫廊的個人畫展，在2019冠狀病毒病 (COVID-19) 之下，Afa 透過作品，反思及回應全球流行病所帶來的獨特社會景觀。

「桌子遊人」的故事，由種種人與桌子之間錯綜複雜的關係中展開。2020年初，冠狀病毒再度爆發，使香港再次陷入公眾恐慌和緊急狀態。身處人口稠密的城市裏，Afa 感受瀰漫的緊迫感和焦慮感，觀察被打斷的都市日常。Afa通過她對身邊事物的細膩觀察，探討市民在面對嚴峻形勢時的反應，用她細緻隱晦的語言訴說一個個被孤立的個體的生活故事。

這一系列作品皆可以通過前景的桌子而相互聯繫，組成一個連貫的故事。孤立的角色，透過前景連成一線，突顯出藝術家的願景——通過對知識和真理的共同追求，心靈將可再次連接、互生共鳴。

「桌子遊人」展出Afa 精心繪畫的作品，透過她精細的勾線、邃密的筆觸，配合柔和色調，突顯藝術家的感性和敏感。除此以外，Afa 亦在新作中加入符號和符號學的元素，引用流行文化，講述一個個引人入勝的故事。是次畫展更展出Afa至今最大型的畫布具像畫作——《我們的蛻變》。這幅畫作向文藝復興大師達文西 (Leonardo da Vinci) 的名畫《最後的晚餐》致敬，以當代手法，回應傳統藝術語言。作為故事的結局，這幅畫作緊密呼應孤立而又相互聯繫的主題，為這個動蕩的時代帶來了一線的希望和歡樂。

展覽亦與香港映像製作公司Yamanyamo合作，呈現兩項AR互動體驗。通過掃描提供的QR碼，訪客可以通過智能手機欣賞藝術家的一座真人大小的雕塑作品。此外，在畫廊中亦設置了一個互動式投影器，使參觀者可以於畫中人物互動，猶如藝術品的一部分般「走進畫中」。展覽以多維的技術，使訪客享受身臨其境的感官體驗，與藝術品互動，超越傳統畫作的限制。

Afa在「桌子遊人」展覽中，延續繪畫媒介，以她靈敏的觸覺探討人與人之間種種有形無形的連繫。這些新作，探索在瞬息萬變的時代中，都市人的自我認同和社會地位等議題。Afa以敏銳的觀察力，向我們展示出新的敘事和觀點。

關於李思汝

李思汝(Afa Annfa)是香港藝術界的新興之星。她的作品探討了人類的錯綜複雜的情感與人與人彼此間的聯繫，捕捉了人類心理與世俗物質之間的張力。

Afa以她內心的沉思和觀察為作畫的起點，煽動人們的情感。她的創作風格混入了日本浮世繪和古怪漫畫，描繪出一個個看似虛無但其實實在而接地的人物。透過流行文化的圖像，Afa以她獨特的語言以強烈的視覺敘出故事。

Afa 1983年生於香港。她畢業於香港理工大學並獲得文學學士學位。在成為職業藝術家前，她曾在香港最大的廣告公司工作，並以商業插畫師的身份與多名國際及本地品牌和音樂家合作，取得了成功的職業生涯。2018年，Afa被授予DFA香港青年設計才俊獎的創意智優青年設計才俊獎。她亦是Eaton Workshop的創始成員。2020年，Afa開始獲得更大的市場動力和認可，亦參與了各種慈善拍賣，包括與梁愷田婦癌基金會於富藝斯的「普通不過...」展覽以及香港畫廊協會於佳士得舉辦的籌款活動。

關於JPS畫廊

JPS畫廊於2014年在香港成立的獨立當代藝術畫廊，代理來自世界各地的新晉和知名藝術家。

畫廊創辦源於對藝術的熱愛和激情，致力於現今數字時代中探索美術和流行文化的二元。我們希望為新一代的藝術家和收藏家創造一個創新多元的環境，為所有人提供一個新銳的藝術空間。畫廊匯集了跨越不同媒介和類別的作品，為觀眾呈現藝術有趣和好玩的一面，展示當代的美學。

我們致力推動日本和香港的文化和藝術界發展，創建一個充滿活力的本地藝術社區。畫廊定期於位於東京和香港的空間以及國際藝術展覽中展示本地新晉藝術家的作品，為他們提供了一個在國際平台上嶄露頭角的機會。畫廊亦積極參與和贊助各種慈善和義賣活動，貢獻本地藝術界同時回饋社會。

地點

香港中環皇后大道中15號置地廣場2樓218 – 219號舖

媒體查詢

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Angela Tam | +852 5597 0235 | angela@jpsgallery.com

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