

Start Museum is pleased to present duo summer exhibition - “13+1 — Genealogy Study of Artists Season 1” and “Genealogy Study of Artists No.14 Ding Hongdan: Afraid” on 18 June 2023.

Genealogy Study of Artists launched by START MUSEUM during the preparatory period in 2018 has been rooted in the soil like a tree. The direction of its growth is unknown, yet, it walks along like an enigma. Unknownness, imagination, openness and freedom might as well be the original intention of this project. It aiming to document artist's present state and their stage creation outcome, as well as objectively presenting artist self-challenges moment through time.

Due to the three-year epidemic, the 13 exhibitions of Genealogy Study of Artists carried forward mainly included young Chinese artists, presenting diverse individual expressions of different media and artists, reflecting the forward-looking and pioneering of research from the perspective of art museums. In the follow-up plan, Genealogy Study of Artists will focus on a broader international context, while maintaining an open and more free research attitude.

At the beginning of its opening, START MUSEUM has put the project **Genealogy Study of Artists** on the agenda as a priority, which reflects the future thinking of the Museum in establishing free, open, imaginative and multi-dimensional research. The new exhibition “13+1 — Genealogy Study of Artists Season 1” launched in June 18th, uses case study as its exhibition form to sort out and research on the clues of the 13+1 artists who have conducted their **Genealogy Study of Artists** projects, in order to achieve the continuous growth and fermentation of project over time. The exhibition not only reflects the artist's free expression, imagination and breakthrough in boundaries in their creative practices, but also enables the further formation and fermentation of the artist's individual expression in a group environment, presenting the rumination of the work after a time span.

“13+1 — Genealogy Study of Artists Season 1” brings together 14 artists to START MUSEUM. In this exhibition, START MUSEUM will also introduce art critic and academic discussions from different researchers. Selected artists include Lou Shenyi, Wu Di, Zhou Yilun, Song Kun, Liao Guohe, Tala Madani, Pu Yingwei, Tang Yongxiang, Wang Xiaoqu, Zhang Ruyi, Yan Bing, Lu Pingyuan and Sun Yifei.

“Genealogy Study of Artists No.14 Ding Hongdan: Afraid” will be presented at the same time as the latest case. Ding Hongdan, a young artist who just graduated from the Central Academy of Fine Arts, will present her new works from 2022 to 2023, expressing the artist's observation and reflection on individual social identities with both humour and anxiety in her paintings.

The Exhibition will open to public on 18th June 2023.

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Ding Hongdan's paintings can be seen as a unique sample of the how young artists of today absorb and use visual materials. Her paintings based on visual materials drawn from her personal life, internet images and comics to construct a female's multiple reflections on her daily routines and social relationships. From her works, we can get a glimpse of the aspirations and contradictions of individual identity, self-perception and bodily autonomy of Chinese women today. The exhibition presents the artist's latest works from 2022 to 2023, which includes a large scale diptychs that show the mirroring possibilities of life, as well as a series of female portraits that has inspired by visual style from movie The Matrix, which demonstrating Ding Hongdan's wild and imaginative creation particularities.