

## **Hung Liu: *All Over the Map***

Sanchez Art Center is extremely proud and honored to present *All Over the Map*, an exhibition by the renowned Chinese painter and printmaker Hung Liu, on view Feb 23–Mar 25, 2018. Concurrent exhibits are the Art Guild of Pacifica’s show titled *Soundtracks*, and Women’s Caucus for Art with a show titled *A Room of Her Own: Beyond a Pretty Picture*. The opening reception for all three exhibits will be held Friday, Feb 23, from 7 to 9 pm, with music by Rob Hughes and Alan Lee of Vivacé.

Hung Liu was born in Changchun, China, in 1948. Growing up, she experienced famine during the Great Leap Forward, and spent four years in the countryside during the Cultural Revolution. Her art education in China was focused on social realism, and she studied mural painting as a graduate student at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing. Liu emigrated to the US in 1984 to study at the University of California, San Diego, under Allan Kaprow, the American originator of Happenings.

The works in *All Over the Map* began as oil paintings, and then, through collaboration with David Salgado, master printer at Trillium Graphics, they became mixed media works shimmering with successive layerings of translucent film and paint. Hung Liu expresses in her art her fine-tuned perceptions of the Maoist regime from her early life, and her strong feeling for the people in the photographs her work is based on. These anonymous historical photographs capture images of all kinds of people—refugees, women, soldiers, and children. But re-creating photographic images in paint is just the beginning for Hung Liu. She is well known for the way she then drips linseed oil and paint across faces, creating depth and fluidity, and suggesting the inexorable passage of memory and time. It is impossible not to feel compassion for the people in Liu’s paintings, as they reach out from their past into our

present, and we feel compassion for our own fragility and mortality because of them.

In October 2017, Liu was named as one of the twentieth century's most influential artists in ArtNet's survey of a stellar panel of artists, critics, and art world leaders. Dorothy Moss, curator at Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, praised Liu's "commitment to complicating the dominant narratives of history and making absence visible through work that is both searing and transcendent." The artist has received numerous honors and awards, including two painting fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts; a Joan Mitchell Fellowship; and the prestigious SGC International Award for Lifetime Achievement in Printmaking in 2011.

Liu has exhibited internationally at premier museums and galleries, and her work resides in prestigious private and institutional collections around the world. Her current exhibition at the National Museum of Women in the Arts, *Hung Liu in Print*, opened January 19, and will be on view through July 9. In 2013, the Oakland Museum of California organized a retrospective of her work titled *Summoning Ghosts: The Art and Life of Hung Liu*. In a review of that exhibition, the *Wall Street Journal* called Liu "the greatest Chinese painter in the US." Her works have been collected by the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; the Whitney Museum of American Art, NY; the Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY; the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC; the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco; and the Los Angeles County Museum, among others. Though her work and life have indeed taken her all over the map, Liu now lives and works in the Bay Area, and is Professor Emerita at Mills College, where she has taught since 1990.

An Artist Talk with Hung Liu, curator Philip E. Linhares, and Trillium Graphics founder and master printer David Salgado, will be held in the Main Gallery on Sunday, Mar 25, at 3:30 pm. The

support of Don Horsley, premier presenting sponsor for Hung Liu's *All Over the Map* exhibition, is kindly appreciated.

Exhibiting concurrently in the East Gallery, the Women's Caucus for Art, California Peninsula Chapter, celebrates Women's History Month (March 1–31) with thoughtful works influenced by a female hero or source of inspiration, or that comment directly on the historic and present injustices women face in living as equal human beings. WCA is a national organization dedicated since its founding in 1972 to supporting women artists, art historians, students, educators, and museum professionals. The Peninsula Chapter, with 20-some members, holds several exhibits per year in the Bay Area. Recent shows include the Coastal Arts League Gallery in Half Moon Bay and the Milton Marks Conference Center Galleries in San Francisco. The public is invited to meet the artists of *A Room of Her Own: Beyond a Pretty Picture*, on Sunday, Mar 11, 2–4 pm, with an Artists' Talk at 2:30 pm.

In West Gallery, the Art Guild of Pacifica has set its members an intriguing theme: *Soundtracks*. The interaction of music and visual art is on the menu, and it sounds delicious.

Sanchez Art Center is located at 1220 Linda Mar Blvd in Pacifica, about a mile east of Highway 1. Following opening night, the galleries are open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 1–5 pm, and by appointment, through Mar 25. For more information call 650.355.1894 or visit [SanchezArtCenter.org](http://SanchezArtCenter.org).