

Hai Bo

The Southern Series

229 Hamilton Ave

Palo Alto, CA

May 31 – July 15, 2018

Opening Reception:

Wednesday, May 30, 4 - 7 PM



Palo Alto—Pace Gallery is pleased to present the first solo exhibition in California dedicated to Chinese artist Hai Bo. The exhibition will include a selection of works from the artist's recent series, *The Southern*, a collection of photographs taken across Southern China.

"If 'The Northern' series represents a heavy reality and pessimistic emotions, then 'The Southern' series is more about fantasy and virtual mental states. Life and art are just dreams," says Hai Bo.

The Southern Series No. 35 (2015) conveys both the ephemeral and the eternal—the effects of the passage of time and the endurance against it. And yet, the piece itself is timeless; it could be from a hundred years ago, or tomorrow. Its power is intensified by its scale (nearly five by ten feet), which allows you to enter into it, becoming a part of the work instead of just a spectator.

Speaking about the narrative power of Hai Bo's work, Elizabeth Sullivan, President of Pace Palo Alto, says, "I think what is a wonderful touchstone of Hai Bo's work is that it is very poetic. Each photo is almost a poem or a short story—you want to fall into that photo and you see so much more than what is really there, and we can all interpret it in our own way. It is really beautiful to have these experiences brought to the gallery."

An opening reception for the artist will be held on Wednesday, May 30 from 4 – 7 pm. The exhibition will be on view from May 31 through July 15, 2018.

Hai Bo (b. 1962, Changchun, China) creates photographs that reflect on the passage of time and elements that endure from the past. Graduating from the Printmaking department of the Fine Art Institute of Jilin in 1984, he turned to photography, focusing his camera on the region around his hometown in Northeast China for over three decades. Among his series are images featuring figures in the rural landscape as well as photographs inspired by historic portraits that he recreates with their original subjects. Solo exhibitions of Hai Bo's work have been organized by the Smithsonian's Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Washington, D.C. (2010); Pace/MacGill Gallery, New York (2011); and Pace Gallery in Beijing (2012) and Hong Kong (2016).

Group exhibitions that have featured his work include the 49th Venice Biennale (2001); *Between Past and Future: New Photography and Video from China* at the International Center of Photography and Asia Society, New York (2004); *Journeys: Mapping the Earth and Mind in Chinese Art*, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (2007); *The China Project*, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane (2009); *Photography from the New China*, J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles (2010); and *Grain and Pixel: A Story of Photography in China*, Shanghai Center of Photography (2015). Hai Bo received the Chinese Contemporary Art Award in 2000 and was awarded the Martell Artist of the Year Award in 2011.

Pace is a leading contemporary art gallery representing many of the most significant international artists and estates of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

Under the leadership of President and CEO Marc Glimcher, Pace is a vital force within the art world and plays a critical role in shaping the history, creation, and engagement with modern and contemporary art. Since its founding by Arne Glimcher in 1960, Pace has developed a distinguished legacy for vibrant and dedicated relationships with renowned artists. As the gallery approaches the start of its seventh decade, Pace's mission continues to be inspired by our drive to support the world's most influential and innovative artists and to share their visionary work with people around the world.

Pace advances this mission through its dynamic global program, comprising ambitious exhibitions, artist projects, public installations, institutional collaborations, and curatorial research and writing. Today, Pace has ten locations worldwide: three galleries in New York; one in London; one in Geneva; one in Palo Alto, California; one in Beijing; two in Hong Kong; and one in Seoul. Pace will open a new flagship gallery in New York, anticipated for completion in fall 2019. In 2016, Pace joined with Futurecity to launch Future\ Pace—an international cultural partnership innovating multidisciplinary projects for art in the public realm.

Image: Hai Bo, *The Southern Series, No. 35*, 2015. Black and white photograph, 150 cm x 300 cm (59-1/16" x 9' 10-1/8") Edition 1 of 8. ©Hai Bo, courtesy Pace Gallery.

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