

Galerie Bernet Bertram

Press release

ZHAO MENGJUN

QUAD

Painting on paper

13 December 2025 – 7 March 2026

Opening: 12 December 2025, 7 – 9 p.m.

The artist is present.

Goethestraße 2–3
10623 Berlin, Charlottenburg
Entrance B via the courtyard



Zhao Mengjun – Silhouette of Heart MHM076, 2025
Courtesy: The artist and Galerie Bernet Bertram

We are pleased to draw your attention to the exhibition featuring new works by **Zhao Mengjun**.

Zhao Mengjun, last presented by us in 2023, is showing large square works this time, painted in acrylic and ink on rice paper. For Zhao, the spirit of inquiry is the very heart of the arts. His painting is “nothing other than the unique connection between soul and body. It is not only a depiction of his life, but life itself,” writes the philosopher Taotao Xing of Beijing University. He continues: “Mengjun is heavy. Mengjun is light. His lightness springs from his weight. He sings a love song about life in the ancient wasteland, the rigid order of disordered chaos, and the eternal end of the endless universe.”

The exhibited expressive-abstract compositions integrate calligraphic elements—characters and pictograms applied with the Chinese brush—as if they were painted not on paper but directly onto the wall. Energetic signs emerge in high-contrast colour combinations: golden yellow with red and blue; deep blue with black; yellow with black and red; green and yellow with fine black accents; or luminous red paired with intense black tones, with the delicate rice paper enhancing the brilliance of the colours.

As part of the exhibition, the new large catalogue *“Zhao Mengjun – Eight Years in Germany”* will also be presented.

Zhao Mengjun, born in 1961 in Xixia in China’s Shandong Province, studied at the Shandong College of Arts until 1985, then at the Academy of Arts & Design of Tsinghua University in Beijing until 1993. For over 28 years he worked as an art publisher and art director at the Shandong Media Group in Jinan and is today regarded as one of the respected painters of the People’s Republic of China. Works by Zhao Mengjun have been and continue to be shown in solo and group exhibitions of contemporary art, including at the National Art Museum of China in Beijing, in Seoul (South Korea), Jinan, and Shanghai. Zhao Mengjun has also lived and worked in Germany for the past eight years.

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Opening hours: Wednesday - Friday 2 pm - 6 pm, Saturday 12 pm - 4 pm and by appointment.
Winter Break December 22, 2025, to January 6, 2026.

www.bernet-bertram.com