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林明弘：今日故事

Michael Lin: A Tale of Today

通过以往的作品，可以知道林明弘是一个对美有着天生追求的艺术家的。从对“阿嬷的花布”的反复运用到《样板屋》，他的作品从未在空间感和形式感上稍有松懈。在Leo Xu Projects举办的最新个展《今日故事》也是一样。借用展厅一楼的整面落地窗，并排放置的九辆崭新永久牌自行车仿佛古着商店中的商品，或是为打造城市形象而即将投入使用的公共自行车样板。二层展厅里，自行车的数量减少到两辆，它们是由艺术家亲手组装的“限量版的高定”，意味着产业链上游更高的价值。

尽管所有以自行车品牌商标为基本元素的布面和墙面绘画都用到了象征资本的金色（金粉），但在布局上仍十分克制，并未放弃简约和留白的美学。展览处处充斥着此类呈现方式、美学倾向和作品阐释之间的矛盾：比如“永久牌”从来不是资本的对立面，它曾经是、至今仍然是小康和小资生活的符号；在旧“法租界”中心地段的昂贵洋房里，以一种如今最体面的精品店的陈列方式展出；将一个泥沙俱下美丑纠缠的“镀金时代”弱化为画面中典雅的镶金色彩。唯一与展览名称“今日故事”的出处——马克·吐温剖析美国资本爆发式增长背后世态人情的小说《镀金时代——今日故事》——稍有相关的是，三层展厅的两幅互为对照的墙面绘画。其一写满浦东机场每日的航班起飞时间与目的地，其二则画满自行车品牌商标，但这种相关性也仅止于个人经验和情感层面，更像艺术家对现代生活精准快速取代了以往自由闲散的惆怅。

《镀金时代》是一个残酷的生存故事，将它与这些作品的意图等同起来令人难以信服。一个艺术家如此执着于美感，不为美背后的现实稍微作一丝妥协，这只能是一个今日“法租界”故事。上海Leo Xu Projects 2016.03.05 - 2016.04.05

Michael Lin has always aspired to beauty. From his repeated use of the floral print cloth to the installation *Model Home*, his work never fails to capture a sense of space and form. This is again the case with his latest solo exhibition “A Tale of Today.” For this show, he has arranged nine brand-

new Forever bicycles in a row by the first floor window as if in a window display for a vintage shop or a newly launched bike-sharing program to promote the city's image. In the second floor space there are only two bicycles, but they are high-end, limited-edition bikes assembled by the artist, implying a climb up the value chain.

Paintings on canvases and walls depict elements of bicycle brands with the color gold, that symbol of capital, but the layout shows a high level of constraint. Lin does not discard his aesthetic of simplicity and negative space. At every turn, this exhibition speaks of the contradictions between this aesthetic tone and the interpretation of the work. The brand Forever, for instance, has never been opposed to capital: it was and is a symbol of prosperity and the bourgeoisie. Its bicycles are given a trendy presentation in an expensive building in the former French Concession, softening conflict into an elegant gold coating. The only part of the exhibition that seems to relate to the source of its title, *The Gilded Age: A Tale of Today*, Mark Twain's exposé of America's booming economy, is a pair of wall paintings on the third floor. The first is filled with the times and destinations of flights leaving Pudong International Air-

port; the other is filled with bicycle logos. This connection, however, is limited to the emotions and experiences of the individual, an artist's lament at the replacement of freedom and relaxation with precision and speed. Here we find an artist refusing to bend to reality in his dogged pursuit of beauty. It is a tale of the French Concession today. (Translated by Jeff Crosby)
Leo Xu Projects, Shanghai 2016.03.05 - 2016.04.05

左：《上海永久》
2016年

金箔与丙烯于墙
每个字母约：43 x 64 厘米

Left: *Shanghai Forever*
2016
Gold leaf and paint on wall
Each character 43 x 64 cm

右：《无题》
2016年

布面丙烯与金箔
102 x 150 厘米

Right: *Untitled*
2016

Acrylic and gold leaf on canvas
102 x 150 cm

中：《华山路》

2016年
艺术家手工组装永久牌自行车
94 x 175 x 46 厘米

Center: *Huashan Road*
2016
Artist-reassembled Forever bicycle
94 x 175 x 46 cm

Courtesy Leo Xu Projects
PHOTO: JJY Photo

