

*The Bodhi is not proven till there is universal salvation No. 4, 2008
giclée print, 100 x 100 cm, courtesy White Rabbit Gallery, Sydney*



Media Release

OzAsia Festival celebrating the Year of the Rabbit at the Samstag Museum of Art!

The Samstag Museum's *White Rabbit – Contemporary Chinese Art Collection* exhibition, presented in association with Adelaide Festival Centre's 2011 OzAsia Festival, opens 15 July.

The White Rabbit Collection in Sydney, founded by Kerr and Judith Neilson, is one of the largest and most significant collections of contemporary Chinese art in the world.

White Rabbit @ Samstag is the first time selected works from the Collection have been exhibited outside Sydney and is a unique opportunity to experience some of the best contemporary Chinese art of the 21st century.

The entire two floors of the Samstag Museum will display a diverse selection of works of art created in the dynamic period in China post-2000 by artists Yan Baishen, Sun Furong, Bu Hua, Shi Jindian, Wu Junyong, Chen Zhuo + Huang Keyi, Shen Liang, Zhou Xiaohu, Cang Xin, Bai Yilou, Dong Yuan and Wang Zhiyuan.

For the majority of this new generation of artists, their formative years were defined by the demise of the Cultural Revolution and the super-charged emergence of China as a great economic power. The huge social and creative changes over the last decade have produced works of art that are boldly original, with up-to-the minute themes ranging from the new political order, the lust for luxury goods and China's economic boom, but they are also shaped by the oldest parts of Chinese culture: Taoism, Buddhism, Confucianism, martial arts and ancient legend.

Among the highlights are **Wang Zhiyuan's** three-metre high, brightly coloured, flashy undergarments; Mongolian artist **Cang Xin's** exquisitely carved fantastical forest of hybrid shapes and the woven wire 'shadow' of a motorbike, painstakingly (de)constructed by **Shi Jindian**.

This exhibition provides an exciting window into the diversity and power of contemporary art practice in China says Ms Erica Green, Director, Samstag Museum of Art. "It is a rare opportunity for Adelaide audiences to experience China's rapidly changing society, from Mao's oppressive Cultural Revolution to the excesses and exuberance of the new China."

White Rabbit – Contemporary Chinese Art Collection opens Friday 15 July and continues until 30 September 2011. Opening hours are Tuesday to Friday 11–5pm, Saturday and Sunday 2–5pm.

For further information contact Erica Green, Director, Samstag Museum of Art T 08 8302 0872, M 0438 821 239 or visit unisa.edu.au/samstagmuseum

White Rabbit Education Program

- A substantial education resource developed for Samstag by leading education consultant, John Neylon, is available at unisa.edu.au/samstagnmuseum.
- An essay accompanying the exhibition by leading visual arts writer and Sydney Morning Herald art critic, John McDonald is available at unisa.edu.au/samstagnmuseum.

White Rabbit Events

- Exhibition launch **5.30pm Tuesday 30 August** with a special performance by Zhaohong Liang from the School of Chinese Music and Arts.
- Free guided exhibition tours during the OzAsia Festival on **Saturday 3, 10 and 17 and Sunday 4 and 11 September at 3pm**.
- Chinese cultural event **2pm Saturday 17 September** featuring a guided exhibition tour in English and Mandarin by David Zhu, followed by a Chinese tea ceremony, live music provided by Chinese Welfare Services, mahjong demonstrations and refreshments.

All welcome. Bookings essential: telephone 08 8302 0870 or samstagnmuseum@unisa.edu.au



White Rabbit – Contemporary Chinese Art Collection is a Samstag Museum of Art and White Rabbit Gallery exhibition presented for Adelaide Festival Centre's 2011 OzAsia Festival.