

LU PENG

A CHRONOLOGY OF CONTEMPORARY CHINESE ART HISTORY 1976-2000

In order to help readers understand the path of contemporary Chinese art this chronicle, beginning in 1976, gives a select chronology in relation to the political, economic and cultural conditions in China over 25 years.

ART EVENTS

- 1976**
- March:* Art magazine is re-launched, featuring the oil painting *To Carry the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution Through to the End* by Hou Yimin, Deng Shu, Jin Shangyi, Zhan Jianjun, Luo Gongliu, Yuan Hao, and Yang Lingui.
- May:* In its 2nd issue, Art magazine publishes three articles taken from other publications: "Chinese Communist Central Body's Decision to Ban Deng Xiaoping's Services in and out of the Party"; "The Anti-Revolutionary Events in Tiananmen Square"; and "Comrade Wu Tak's Broadcast Speech at Tiananmen Square", written by a worker/farmer/soldier correspondent and taken from People's Daily.
- 1977**
- February 18:* "The National Art Exhibition of Warmly Celebrating Hua Guofeng as the Chairman of the Party Central Committee, and as the Chairman of the Central Military Commission, and Warmly Celebrating the Great Victory of Crushing the Gang of Four's Attempt to Usurp the Party Leadership" is held at China Art Gallery, Beijing. The show lasts for two months.
- September 9 – October 9:* "The Art Exhibition of Chairman Mao living in Our Heart Forever", is presented by the Culture Ministry and National Cultural Relics Bureau at the Chinese History Museum, Beijing.
- 1978**
- March 10 – April 10:* The "French 19th Century Rustic Landscape Painting Exhibition" is presented by The Association of Chinese People Friendly To Foreigners at the National Gallery, Beijing, and features 80 paintings by 60 artists of the 19th century.
- 1979**
- June:* The magazine *Art of the World* is launched, publishing Shao Dazhen's article "Introduction to Western Art Trends". Art magazine publishes Wu Guanzhong's article "The Beauty of Form in Painting".
- August:* Lianhuan Pictorial carries the painting series *Maple* about the tragic results of the Red Guards' battle during the Cultural Revolution. Art magazine also discusses the cartoon series *Maple*.
- September:* Murals are unveiled at the Beijing International Airport. Yuan Yunsheng's Water-Splashing Festival: Ode to Life triggers serious controversy over nudity in public art.
- September 27 – December 2:* The first "Stars Exhibition" is held outside the small garden on eastern side of the China Art Gallery, Beijing. On 29 September the show is banned, and on 1 October the members of Stars demonstrate in the streets against the ban. From 23 November to 2 December the exhibition is shown at Beihai Park.

SOCIAL CONTEXT

- March:* Red Flag magazine features Chu Lan's article "To Persist in the Revolution in Literature and Arts While Opposing the Wind of Rightist Case Revisionism", criticising Deng Xiaoping. Art magazine also publishes this article.
- April 5:* The 5 April Movement begins in Tiananmen Square.
- September 9:* Mao Zedong dies at the age of 83.
- October:* The Chinese Communist Party (CPC) Central Committee, led by Hua Guofeng, crushes the political group *The Gang of Four* (Wang Hongwen, Zhang Chunqiao, Jiang Qing and Yao Wenyuan).
- May 18:* People's Daily publishes an article "Criticising the Creative Writing Principle of Three Saliencies (in ascending order of importance: positive personalities, heroic persons, and the central figure)" by the Critics Group, Policy Research Center, the Ministry of Culture.
- July:* The CPC Central Committee approves the document "Concerning the Decision to Lift the Ban of the Services of Deng Xiaoping"
- May 11:* Guang Ming Daily publishes an article "Practice is the Only Criterion to Test the Truth". The next day People's Daily publishes this article again, igniting discussion all over China.
- August 11:* Shanghai Wen Wei Po publishes Lu Xin Hua's novel *Scar*, leading to the emergence of "Scar Literature".
- December:* The 3rd Plenary Session of the 11th CPC Central Committee is held.
- January:* China establishes diplomatic relations with the US, and Deng Xiaoping visits the US.
- March:* The Poetry publishes Beidao's work *Answer* in its 3rd issue.
- March 30:* Deng Xiaoping gives a talk at a party meeting on "Theory Work Discussions", saying "We have to fulfill the four modernizations, and must persist with the four fundamental principals in political thought: Socialism; the proletarian regime; the communist's leadership; and Marxism/Leninism and Maoist thought".
- May 7:* People's Daily publishes Zhou Yang's article "Three Great Liberation Movements of Thought: A Report" presented at the Academic Talk in Memory of the 60th Anniversary of May Fourth Movement, held at the China Academy of Social Science, which states that the Chinese people have experienced three liberating movements of thought: the May Fourth Movement; the Yan'an Rectification of Work Style; and the current Thought Liberation Movement.
- June:* The Four Cardinal Principles are listed in the People's Republic of China (PRC) Constitution through the National Assembly of Peoples Representatives.
- December:* Dissident Wei Jingsheng is brought to trial.

呂澎

中國當代藝術史：1979—2000

說明：

1，將事件從1976年開始記錄，在於讓讀者對這段歷史有一個基礎性的瞭解，以便清楚歷史過渡中的問題；

2，“綜合背景”的刊入旨在讓試圖瞭解這段藝術史的讀者有一個可以參照的視覺，中國當代藝術的變化與政治、經濟、文化、時尚有密切的關係，離開關聯性的研究，就難以理解藝術在這個時期的真相。

事件年表

- 1976年 3月 《美術》雜誌復刊。發表侯一民、鄧澍、靳尚誼、詹建俊、羅工柳、袁浩、楊林桂的油畫《要把無產階級文化大革命進行到底》。
- 5月 《美術》第2期轉載《中共中央關於撤銷鄧小平黨內外一切職務的決議》；轉載《人民日報》工農兵通訊員、《人民日報》記者文章《天安門廣場的反革命政治事件》和《吳德同志在天安門廣場廣播講話》。
- 1977年 2月18日《熱烈慶祝華國鋒同志任中共中央主席、中央軍委主席、熱烈慶祝粉碎“四人幫”篡黨奪權陰謀的偉大勝利全國美術作品展覽》在中國美術館舉行，歷時2個月。
- 9月9日-10月9日 由文化部和國家文物局聯辦的《毛主席永遠活在我們心中美展》在中國歷史博物館展出。
- 1978年 3月10日-4月10日 中國人民對外友好協會主辦的《法國19世紀農村風景畫展覽》在中國美術館開幕，展出法國19世紀60多位畫家的80多幅油畫。
- 1979年 6月 《世界美術》創刊。發表邵大箴文章《西方現代美術流派簡介》。《美術》發表吳冠中的文章《繪畫的形式美》。
- 8月 《連環畫報》第8期發表連環畫《楓》。《美術》第8期展開對《楓》的討論。
- 9月 首都國際機場壁畫落成。其中袁運生等藝術家繪製的《潑水節——生命的讚歌》不久引起爭論。
- 9月27日-12月2日 第一屆《星星美展》在北京中國美術館東側小花園鐵柵欄外展出。（9月29日展覽被禁。10月1日“星星”成員上街遊行。11月23日至12月2日，第一屆“星星”遷移至北海公園畫舫齋。）
- 1980年 3月12日 “慶祝中華人民共和國成立30周年全國美展作品評獎工作結束。程叢林的油畫《1968年X月X日雪》，高小華的油畫《為什麼》，王亥的油畫《春》獲二等獎。
- 10月 《四川青年美展》在成都舉行。

綜合背景

- 3月 《紅旗》雜誌第3期發表經姚文元審定初瀾的文章《堅持文藝革命，反擊右傾翻案風》，批判鄧小平。該月復刊《美術》轉載了這篇文章。
- 4月5日 天安爆發“四五”運動。
- 9月9日 毛澤東逝世，終年83歲。
- 10月 以華國鋒為首的中共中央，粉碎王洪文、張春橋、江青、姚文元“四人幫”政治集團。
- 5月18日 《人民日報》發表文化部政策研究室批判組《評“三突出”》一文。
- 7月 中國共產黨第10屆中央委員會舉行第3次全體會議。會議通過《關於恢復鄧小平同志職務的決議》。
- 5月11日 《光明日報》發表特約評文章《實踐是檢驗真理的唯一標準》。次日，《人民日報》轉載了這篇文章，從此全國展開真理標準問題的討論。
- 8月11日 上海《文匯報》發表盧新華短篇小說《傷痕》，引發“傷痕文學”的誕生。
- 12月 中國共產黨11屆3中全會召開。
- 1月 中美建立正式外交關係。鄧小平訪問美國。
- 3月 《詩刊》第3期發表北島詩作《回答》。
- 3月30日 鄧小平在中共黨的理論工作務虛會上講話，提出“我們要在中國實現四個現代化，必須在思想政治上堅持四項基本原則，這是實現四個現代化的根本前提。這四項是：第一必須堅持社會主義道路；第二，必須堅持無產階級專政；第三，必須堅持共產黨的領導；第四，必須堅持馬列主義、毛澤東思想。”
- 5月7日 《人民日報》發表周揚《三次偉大的思想解放運動——在中國社會科學院召開的紀念“五四”運動60周年學術講座會上的報告》。文章指出，本世紀以來，中國人民經歷了3次偉大的思想解放運動：“五四”運動是第一次，延安整風是第二次，目前正在進行的思想解放運動是第三次。
- 6月 “四項基本原則”經全國人民代表大會寫進中華人民共和國憲法。
- 12月 審判魏京生。
- 10月26日 《文藝報》編輯部舉行座談會，研究改革文藝體制，改進文藝工作問題。

ART EVENTS

- 1980** March 12: "Reviews Come to End" exhibition celebrates the PRC's 30th Anniversary. Cheng Conglin's oil painting Snow on Xth Month Xth Day 1968, Gao Xiaohua's oil painting Why, and Wang Hai's oil painting Spring are awarded the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize respectively.
October: The "Sichuan Youth Art Exhibition" is held in Chengdu.
- 1981** January: Art magazine features Chen Danqing's Tibet Suite and Luo Zhongli's Father.
December 18 – 25: The Secretarial Department of the National Art Association holds a meeting in Hangzhou, exchanging views on Central (81) Document #30, and reviewing the results.
- 1982** February: "The Oil Painting Exhibition of Sichuan Art Academy" opens at the China Art Gallery, Beijing, featuring 80 works.
March: "The Exhibition of Hammett's Collection of Masterpieces of 500 years" opens in Beijing.
April: "The Exhibition of Expressionist Paintings of Federal Republic of Germany" opens at the Cultural Palace, Beijing.
July: "The 1st Exhibition of Hunan Art Club" takes place at the Youth Palace, Hunan.
- 1983** May: "Picasso Painting Exhibition" opens at China Art Gallery, Beijing
"The Modern Art Exhibition of Five Artists", Xiamen, Fujian, takes place, featuring 83 works by five artists: Liu Jianhua, Xu Zhandou, Jiao Yaoming, Yu Xiaogang, and Huang Yongping.
September: "The Experimental Show of Paints", presented by Fudan University, is closed down four days after opening.
October: "Munch" is held at China Art Gallery, Beijing.
December 13 – 18: The National Art Association holds a meeting in Suzhou, with discussion focusing on clearing spiritual pollution in the art world and on preparation for "The 6th National Art Exhibition".
- 1984** July: The Northern Art Group is formed in Harbin, with 15 core members including Wang Guangyi, Shu Qun, and Liu Yan.
Weed Art Group is formed in Xiangtan, Hunan. The first exhibition is held in February of the following year.
December: The "Exploration, Discover, and Expression" exhibition is held in Lanzhou. The participating artists are Wang Jian, Liu Zheng, Cao Yong, Xiang Ping and Cheng Li.
- 1985** January: Art Thoughts, a bi-monthly magazine, is launched in Hubei.
March: Students and teachers form The Academic Study Society of Guangzhou Art Academy. Li Zhenglian and Wang Du are the Chairmen.
May: The "Youth Artists Association Show" takes place at China Art Gallery, Beijing.
June 3: China Fine Art Paper publishing company is formed at Cultural Palace of the Nations.
June – July: "The 1st Exhibition of New Figurative Art" is held in Shanghai, and later in Nanjing. 120 works by artists including Mao Xuhui, Pan Dehai, Zhang Xiaogang, Hou Wenyi, Zhang Long, and Xu Tan are shown.
July: Jiangsu Pictorial publishes Li Xiaoshan's article "My Opinion on Chinese Paintings" in its first issue.
October 15 – 22: "Jiangsu Youth Art Week: Modern Art Exhibition" is held at Jiangsu Art Gallery, Nanjing. It features more than 340 pieces of work by 138 artists, including Ding Fang, Shen Qin, Chai Xiaogang, and Yang Zhilin.

SOCIAL CONTEXT

- October 26: The editorial department of Wen Yi Bao holds a meeting, discussing the reform of literary policy.
- July 17: Deng Xiaoping talks to the comrades of the Propaganda Department of the Party Central Committee, saying "Earlier, in the days of da ming da fang (free expression of opinion, unlimited criticism), many exaggerated words were spoken ... and some people wanted to move away from the path of Socialism ..."
- August: Bai Hua's novel Bitter Love is criticised.
- February: Contemporary Arts Thoughts publishes Xu Jingya's thesis "The Emerging Poems" in its first issue.
March 2: The Cultural Team of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Culture Ministry and China Federation of Literary and Art Circles jointly call a seminar to reform the literary and art systems.
October: Deng Xiaoping gives a talk at the 2nd Plenary Session of the 12th CPC Central Committee, saying "The results of the battlefield fronts of theory and liberal arts have to be well recognized. However, there are some problems and confusion in the academy circle and liberal art circle, particularly regarding spiritual pollution ... The essence of spiritual pollution is the spreading of capitalistic decadency and of unfaithful thoughts about the leadership of the Communist Party."
- January 2: The 4th General Meeting of China Writers Association is held in Beijing the subject of the meeting is "Freedom of Creation".
February: People's Literature publishes Ah Cheng's short novel King of Children.
March: People's Literature publishes Liu Suola's Short novel You Don't Have Another Choice.
September: Harvest publishes Zhang Xianliang's novel Half of a Man is Woman. In the September issue People's Literature publishes Han Xiaogang's novel Father.
November: The performance drama WM is banned.

事件年表

- 1980年 1月 《美術》第1期發表陳丹青的《西藏組畫》和羅中立的《父親》。
- 1981年 12月18日—25日 全國美協書記處在杭州召開1981年全國美協工作會議。會上交談了貫徹中央(81)30號文件的情況，在對3中全會以來的美術領域取得的成績作了充分肯定的同時指出：有些地方出現有資產階級自由化傾向的作品和言論。
- 1982年 2月 《四川美術學院油畫作品展》在中國美術館開幕，展出作品80件。
- 3月 《美國韓默禱畫500年名作原件展覽》在北京舉行。
- 4月 《德意志聯邦共和國表現主義繪畫展覽》在北京民族文化宮展出。
- 7月 《湖南磊石畫會首屆展覽》在長沙市青少年宮舉行。
- 1983年 5月 《畢加索繪畫原作展》在北京中國美術館舉行。
- 《5人現代藝術作品展》在廈門市舉行。參展藝術家有林嘉驊、許戰鬥、焦耀明、俞曉剛、黃永砵，作品83件。
- 9月 復旦大學舉辦《繪畫試驗展覽》，展出4天後被封掉。
- 10月 《挪威蒙克繪畫展覽》在中國美術館展出，展出油畫及版畫作品116件。
- 12月13日—18日 全國美協會議在蘇州召開。會議著重討論了美術界清除精神污染的問題和搞好第6屆全國美展的問題。
- 1984年 7月 “北方藝術群體”在哈爾濱成立。主要成員有王廣義、舒群、任戩、劉彥等15人。
- 7月 “野草畫會”在湖南湘潭成立。次年2月舉行了首屆作品展。
- 12月 《探索、發現、表現展》在蘭州舉行，參展藝術家有王見、劉正、曹湧、項惡、成立。
- 1985年 1月 美術理論雙月刊《美術思潮》在湖北創刊。
- 3月 由學生和部分中青年教師組成的“廣州美術學院學術研究會”成立。李正天、王度任會長。
- 5月 國際青年年中國組織委員會主辦的《前進中的中國青年美術作品展覽》在北京中國美術館展出，展出作品150件。
- 6月和7月 《新具象首屆畫展》分別在上海靜安區文化館、南京市衛生教育館巡迴展出。參展藝術家毛旭輝、潘德海、張曉剛、候文怡、張隆、徐侃。共展出作品120件。
- 6月3日 《中國美術報》社成立大會在民族文化宮舉行。
- 7月 《江蘇畫刊》第7期發表李小山的文章《中國畫之我見》引起廣泛爭鳴。
- 10月15日至22日 《江蘇青年藝術周·大型現代藝術展》在南京江蘇美術館展出，參展藝術家有丁方、沈勤、柴小剛、楊志麟等。展出了138位作者的300多件繪畫及雕塑。
- 11月 《畫家》創刊。由湖南美術出版社編輯出版。
- 11月 《11月畫展》在北京舉行，參展藝術家有夏小萬、馬路、丁品、施本銘、曹力、劉全、譚平、李寶英等。
- 11月18日—12月8日和12月2日—23日 美國現代藝術家《勞申伯作品

綜合背景

- 7月17日 鄧小平同中央宣傳部門領導同志談話時說：“前些日子大鳴大放了一通，有許多話大大超過了1957年一般右派言論的錯誤程度。象這一類的事還有不少。一句話，就是要脫離社會主義的軌道，脫離黨的領導，搞資產階級自由化。……資產階級自由化的核心是反對黨的領導……”
- 8月 批判白樺《苦戀》。

- 2月 《當代文藝思潮》第1期發表徐敬亞論文《崛起的詩群》。
- 3月2日 政協全國委員會文化組和文化部、中國文聯聯合召開文藝體制改革座談會。
- 10月12日 鄧小平在中共12屆2中全會上講話。他說：“理論和文藝戰線成績是主要的，要充分肯定的，這是毫無疑問的。但是，理論界文藝界還有不少問題，還存在相當嚴重的混亂，特別是存在精神污染的現象。”“精神污染的實質是散佈形形色色的資產階級和其他剝削階級腐朽沒落的思想，散佈對於社會主義、共產主義事業和對於共產黨領導的不信任情緒。”

- 1月2日 中國作家協會第4次會員代表大會在北閉幕。“創作自由”是大會中心議題。
- 2月 《人民文學》第2期發表阿城小說《孩子王》。
- 3月 《人民文學》第3期發表劉索拉小說《你別無選擇》。
- 9月 《收穫》第5期發表張賢亮小說《男人的一半是女人》。
- 《人民文學》第9期發表韓少功小說《爸爸爸》。
- 11月 話劇《WM》禁演。

ART EVENTS

- 1985**
- November: The magazine *Artists* is launched, published by Hunan Art Publishing House.
 "November Art Show" is held in Beijing, and participating artists include Xia Xiaowan, La Lu, Ding Pin, Shi Benming, Cao Li, Liu Quan, Tan Ping, and Li Baoying.
- November 18 – December 23: The "Robert Rauschenberg Retrospective" is held in Beijing and Lhasa, making a big impact on the Chinese contemporary art scene.
- December 2 – 18: The Zhejiang Branch of China Artists Association and the Youth Creative Society jointly present "New Space Art Show '85" at the exhibition hall of the Zhejiang Academy of Fine Art, Hangzhou.
- December 25: The Hunan Zero Art Group presents its show at Martyr Park, Changsha, featuring 88 pieces of Pop and Installation art by 15 artists. The show continues until 5 January 1986.
- December 31: The "Modern Art Show" is held in Taiyuan. More than 60 works by artists Liu Chun, Qu Yan, Zeng Ling, Ma Jianzhong, Wang Yazhong, Song Yongping and Wang Jiping are included.

- 1986**
- January: The Hebei Branch of China Artists Association, the Culture Bureau of Hengshui, and Xishui Federation of Literary and Art Circle jointly present "The Exhibition of Rice and Sheep Studio".
- January 19 – 26: "Zero Show" is held in a busy street in downtown Zhenshen, featuring 67 works by 25 artists.
- April: "The 1st Exhibition of Shanghai Youth's Artworks" is held at Shanghai Art Gallery, featuring 200 works.
 The "Xuzhou Modern Art Exhibition" is held at the Exhibition Hall, Xuzhou. Most participating artists come from Jiangsu Sunday Art Club, or are graduates of art schools, such as Wu Pingyan, Yang Yingsheng, and Yuan Nammin.
- May 27: The art society Chi She (Pond) is formed in Hangzhou, with members including Wang Hsiang, Song Ling, Zhang Peili, and Gang Jianyi.
- June: The "New Fauvism Painting Exhibition" is held at Drum Tower Park, Nanjing, showing work by artists including Fan Po, Zhu Xiangang, Fu Zenan, and Ma Xiaosing.
- June 21 – July 6: "Sichuan Youth Red/Yellow/Blue Paintings Exhibition" is held at Sichuan Exhibition Hall, featuring more than 100 works.
- June: The Surrealism Group is formed in Nanjing, with members such as Ding Fang, Yang Zhilin, Chai Xiaogang, Shen Qin, Guan Ce, Xu Lei, and Xu Yihui.
 "Non Figurative Painting Exhibition" is held at Shanghai. It is the first abstract painting exhibition to be held in Shanghai, and features the work of Man Junjin and Zhu Zhangyin.
 The "Horizon: Joint Show '86" takes place in Shanghai, featuring the work of 26 artists.
- August 15 – 19: China Fine Art Paper and Zhu Hai Art Academy jointly present "Youth Art Thoughts Slide Show '85" and "First Exhibition of Zhu Hai Art Academy" at Zhu Hai. About 40 art magazine editors, art critics, artists and journalists are invited to the exhibition and the associated activities.
- September: "The 1st Experimental Show of Southern Artists Salon" is held on the lawn outside the exhibition hall of Zhong Shan University, Guangzhou.
- September 7 – October 5: "Xiamen Dada Exhibition" is held in Xiamen.
- October 1 – 10: "The 3rd Exhibition of Young Women Artists" is held in Hunan Exhibition Hall, Hunan, featuring 300 works.
- October 12: The "Zhejiang Youth Art Society", formed by 20 young painters, presents "Cold Dew Art Exhibition" at the Zhejiang Art Gallery, features 60 works.
- November 1 – 10: The Hubei Branch of China Artists Association, Hubei Youth Artists Association, and Hubei Youth jointly hold the "Hubei Youth Fine Art Festival", with more than 2,000 works displayed in 29 venues in Hubei Province.

SOCIAL CONTEXT

- March: People's Literature publishes Mo Yin's novel *Red Sorghum*.
- June 10: After hearing the report of leading comrades of the central authorities on the present economic situation, Deng Xiaoping says: "We can't follow up the trends if we don't change the political system. Reform should include the reformation of the political system. Furthermore, the reformation of political system should be a mark of reformation."
- October 21: Poetry and Shenzhen Youth Newspaper jointly publish *The Showcase of China Modern Poetry*.
- December: University students demonstrate in Beijing, Shanghai and Hefei. People's Daily publishes the editorial "Treasure and Develop the Stable and United Political Situation" and the critique "Political System Reform Can Only be in Process Under the Direction of the Party".

事件年表

綜合背景

國際巡迴展》分別在北京和拉薩展出。該展覽對中國現代藝術及美術理論界有巨大影響。

12月2日—18日 中國美術家協會浙江分會、青年創作社舉辦《85新空間畫展》在浙江美院陳列館展出。

12月25日—1986年1月5日 “湖南〇藝術集團”在長沙烈士公園浮香藝苑舉行首屆作品展。展出15名成員88件作品。展覽中出現波普、實物及裝置作品。

12月31日《現代藝術展》在太原展出。參展藝術家有劉淳、渠岩、曾玲、馬建中、王亞中、宋永平、王紀平等。展出作品60多件。

1986年

1月 中國美術家協會河北分會、衡水地區文化局、衡水地區文聯聯合舉辦《米羊畫室作品展》，參展作者段秀蒼、王煥青和喬曉光。

1月19日—26日 《零展》在深圳市戲院鬧市區街頭舉行。展出25位元藝術家的67件作品。

4月 《上海美術館舉辦的首屆上海青年美術作品大展》在上海展出。參展作品200件。

4月 《徐州現代藝術展》在徐州展覽館開幕。參展藝術家以江蘇星期天畫會以及近年來各藝術院校畢業的青年藝術家為主。主要藝術家有武平人、楊迎生、袁南民等共10人。

5月27日 “池”社在杭州成立，成員有王強、包劍斐、宋陵、張培力、耿建翌。

6月 《新野性主義畫展》在南京鼓樓公園展出。主要藝術家有樊波、朱小剛、傅澤南、馬曉星等。

6月21日—7月6日 《四川青年紅黃藍現代畫展》在四川省展覽館展出，展出作品100多件。

6月 “超現實主義團體”在南京成立。主要成員有丁方、楊志麟、柴小剛、沈勤、管策、徐累、徐一暉。

6月 《非具象畫展》在上海舉行。參展藝術家萬俊彥、祝昌言，是上海首次以抽象畫為專題的展覽。

6月 《海平線’86年繪畫聯展》在上海展出。有26位藝術家參展。

8月15日—19日 由《中國美術報》和珠海畫院聯合主辦的85’青年美術思潮大型幻燈展和珠海畫院建院首展在廣東珠海市舉行。全國各地編輯、批評家、藝術家和其他新聞界人士近40人應邀參加了展覽及其學術活動。

9月 《南方藝術家沙龍第一回實驗展》在廣州中山大學展場外草坪舉行。

9月7日和10月5日 《“曬太陽”走向87》在南京玄武湖公園舉行。有上千名作者參加。作品近700多件。

9月28日—10月5日 《廈門86新達達現代藝術展》在廈門舉行。

10月1日—10月10日 《湖南省第3屆青年美術作品展》在湖南省展覽館展出，展出作品300餘件。

10月12日 由20名青年畫家自發組織的“青海青年美術社”舉辦的《寒露畫展》在青海美術館二樓展出。展出作品近60件。

11月1—10日 中國美協湖北分會、武漢青年美術家協會、《湖北青年》聯合舉辦湖北省青年美術節，2000餘件各類美術作品在湖北省內28個場所展出。

11月20日—30日 由《中國美術報》、中國美術家協會湖南分會、湖南青年美術協會聯名主辦的《湖南青年美術家集群展覽》在中

3月 《人民文學》第3期發表莫言小說《紅高粱》。

6月10日 鄧小平在聽取中央領導同志彙報當前經濟情況時說：“現在看來，不搞政治體制改革不能適應形勢。改革，應包括政治體制的改革，而且政治體制改革應作為改革的一個標誌。”

10月21日 《詩歌報》與《深圳青年報》聯合刊出《中國詩壇（1986）現代詩群體大展》。

12月 北京、上海、合肥等地的部分大學生上街遊行。《人民日報》先後發表社論《珍惜和發展安定團結的政治局面》和評論員文章《政治體制改革只能在黨的領導下進行》等文章。

ART EVENTS

- 1986** November 20 – 30: China Fine Art Paper, Hunan Branch of China Artist Association, and Hunan Youth Fine Art Association jointly present "Hunan Youth Artist Exhibition" at China Art Gallery, Beijing.
December 23: "Concept 21: Performance Art" is held at Beijing University.
- 1987** February: Northern Artists Group presents the first "Biennial Exhibition" at Jilin Art Academy, Chang Chun, featuring more than 30 works.
December: Currents announces that it will close down in 1988.
- 1988** May 10 – 11: Zhao Jianhai, Sheng Qi, Zheng Yuke, and Kang Mu present the performance Concept 21:1 Action Show at the Great Wall of China.
October: "Xu Bing and Lu Shengzhong", takes place at China Art Gallery, Beijing.
"Southern West Art Exhibition 1998" takes place in Chengdu, featuring 90 works by young artists from Yunnan, Kwaizhou, Sichuan, and Wunan.
November 22 – 24: "China Modern Art Creation Seminar" is held at Durxi, Huangshan. More than 100 young artists and theorists from all over the country are involved.
- 1989** January – March: "Stars Ten Years" is presented by Hanart TZ Gallery in Hong Kong and Taipei. This exhibition of works by 12 members of the Stars group is among the first contemporary Chinese art shows to be held in Hong Kong and Taipei.
February: "China Modern Art Exhibition" is held at China Art Gallery, Beijing. Female artist Xiao Lu and her boyfriend Tang Song shoot at her work *Dialogue with a pistol*. The incident draws the attention of the foreign press. On 14 February Beijing Daily, Beijing Public Security Bureau, and China Art Gallery each receive anonymous letters, warning them to close down the exhibition immediately or risk a bomb being planted inside the gallery. As a result, China Art Gallery is closed for two days. On 17 February the exhibition re-opens. Because of performances by Li Shan (Washing), Zhang Nan (Hatching), and Wu Shanzhuan (Selling Prawns), along with the shooting incident and the anonymous letters, the exhibition causes great controversy.
April 19 – 30: "Antoni Tàpies Exhibition", China Art Gallery, Beijing.
May 18 – August 18: "Magiciens de la Terre", Pompidou Centre, Paris. This international exhibition includes Huang Yongping, Yang Jiechang and Gu Dexin.
December: China Fine Art Paper closes down.
- 1990** May 12 – 20: "Liu Xiaodong: Oil Painting", Gallery of the Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing.
May 18 – June 10: Xu Bing creates his work *Ghosts Pounding the Wall* at the Great Wall of the Jinshangling section, Heibei Province. He makes rubbings from the walls of the signal tower and a section of the Great Wall.
May 20 – 30: "The World of Women Painters", is held at the Gallery of the Central Academy of Fine Arts, featuring 8 women painters. Contemporary art by women is beginning to emerge.
July 7 – 31: The exhibition "Chine Demain pour Hier" is held in Provence, France. Gu Wenda, Cai Guoqiang, Yang Jiechang, Yan Peiming, Huang Yongping, and Chen Zhen meet art critics from all over the world, discussing ideas on the subject "Misunderstanding in the Exchange of Chinese and Western Cultures".
September 10 – 16: "Yu Hong: Oil Paintings", is held at the Gallery of the Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing.
September 19 – 20: "The Joint Exhibition of Paintings by New Chinese Literati", is held at the China Painting School, Beijing.

SOCIAL CONTEXT

- January 28: The Chinese Communist Party Central Authority announces "Information of the Problems of the Current Anti-Freedom of the Capitalistic Class".
December: Harvest publishes Wang Shuo's novel *The Miser Boss*.
- June: Four Season Literature publishes Wang Shuo's novel *Play with Heartbeat*.
- March: Cui Jian's first rock concert "Rock on the Way of the New March" is held at the Beijing Exhibition Hall Theatre. His first record of the same name is launched, and with the emergence of many rock bands, Chinese rock music becomes very influential. Demonstrators begin to gather in Tiananmen Square.
June 4: After repeated broadcasts of the "Urgent Notice", the Beijing City Government and troops from the Commandant Office of the Martial Law move into Tiananmen Square and clear the square.
- February: Qiushi publishes the speech "On Opposing the Freedom of Capitalist Class", written by Wang Renzhi of the Propaganda Department of the Party's Central Committee.
19 December: The first Chinese stock exchange opens in Shanghai.

事件年表

- 國美術館展出。
- 12月23日《觀念21：行為藝術》在北京大學進行。
- 1987年 2月 “北方藝術群體”在長春吉林藝術學院舉辦第一屆“雙年展”。展出作品30餘件。
- 12月 《走向未來畫展》在中國美術館舉行。
- 12月 《美術思潮》第6期敬告讀者“《美術思潮》1988年停刊。”
- 1988年 5月10日-11日 趙建海、盛奇、鄭玉珂、康木在長城進行《觀念21—1行動展觀》。
- 10月 《徐冰·呂勝中藝術展覽》在中國美術館展出。
- 10月 《1998'西南藝術展》在成都展出，展覽包括雲南、貴州、四川、湖南青年藝術家近90件作品。
- 11月22日-24日 '88中國現代藝術創作研討會在黃山屯溪舉行。參加會議的有來自全國各地的百餘名中青年藝術家和理論家。
- 1989年 1月與3月 由漢雅軒主辦的《星星十年》分別在香港和臺北展出，星星主要成員12人近作與回顧，是港臺80年代最早的中國新藝術展覽。
- 2月 《中國現代藝術展》在北京中國美術館舉行。女藝術家肖魯與其男友唐末，朝自己的作品《對話》開槍。“槍擊事件”引起國外新聞界的廣泛注意。2月14日，《北京日報》、北京市公安局、中國美術館同時收到用報紙上的印刷字拼剪而成的《匿名信》。內容是：馬上關閉中國現代藝術展，否則在展場放置炸彈裝置。中國美術館關閉二天。2月17日，展覽再次恢復。伴隨著槍擊、匿名信、二次停展、拋灑避孕套、李山的《洗腳》、張念的《孵雞蛋》、吳山專的《賣蝦》等一系列行為藝術事件，《中國現代藝術展》成為學術界美觀、激烈爭論的焦點。
- 4月19日-30日 《西班牙畫家塔皮埃斯繪畫展》在中國美術館展出。
- 5月18日-8月18日 《大地魔術師》巴黎龐比度中心國際聯展，包括黃永砵、楊詰蒼和龐德鑫三名中國藝術家。
- 12月 《中國美術報》停刊。
- 1990年 5月12日-20日 《劉小東油畫展》在中央美院畫廊舉辦。
- 5月18日到6月10日 徐冰在河北省金山嶺長城實施作品《鬼打牆》，他拓印了長城的一個完整的烽火臺和一段城牆。
- 5月20日-30日 《女畫家的世界》畫展在中央美院畫廊舉辦，有8位女畫家參加，90年代女性藝術初見端倪。
- 7月7日-31日 “中國明天”藝術活動在法國普羅旺斯地區舉行，有旅外中國藝術家谷文達、蔡國強、楊詰蒼、嚴培明、黃永砵、陳箴等，世界各地的批評家以“中西文化交流中的誤解”為主題作研討。
- 9月10日-16日 《喻紅油畫展》在中央美院畫廊舉辦。
- 9月19日-20日 《中國新文人畫聯展》在北京中國畫研究院舉行，是89年政治風波後的一種妥協的政治意識占上風的結果，在此之前的“新文人”畫完全沒有學術地位。
- 1991年 1月 《我不要跟賽尚玩牌》在美國亞洲太平洋美術館展出八十年代中國新藝術家。

綜合背景

- 1月28日 中共中央發出《關於當前反對資產階級自由化若干問題的通知》。
- 12月 《收穫》第6期發表王朔小說《頑主》。
- 6月 《文學四季》夏季號發表王朔小說《玩的就是心跳》。
- 3月 崔健在北京展覽劇場舉辦了他的首場搖滾音樂會“新長征路上的搖滾”，他的第一張同名個人專輯隨即出版發行。隨著眾多搖滾樂隊出現，中國的搖滾音樂產生廣泛影響。
- 6月4日 北京市人民政府和戒嚴部隊指揮部在天安門廣場反復播出解放軍戒嚴部隊指揮部6月3日發佈的《緊急通告》，並進行清場，戒嚴部隊同時進駐天安門廣場。
- 2月 《求是》第4期發表中宣部王忍之講話《關於反對資產階級自由化》。
- 12月19日 上海證券交易所上海黃埔路15號成立，成為大陸第一家證券所。
- 7月 廣州出現第一家夜總會“金嗓子”，日本人發明的卡拉OK在中國開始流行，之後若干年裏在高檔歌舞廳和酒樓高歌成為大款的標誌。

ART EVENTS

- 1990** *It is the result of political compromise, as political hard-liners retreat after the events of 4 June 1989. Prior to this, paintings by the New Chinese Literati are not respected.*
- 1991**
- January: "I Don't Want to Play Cards with Cézanne" and other Works (Selection from the Chinese 'New Wave' and 'Avant-Garde' Art of the Eighties" is held at the Pacific Asia Museum, Pasadena, California.
- January 29 – February 4: "Exhibition of the Big-Tailed Elephant Work Team", is held at No.1, Guangzhou Workers' Cultural Palace, Guangzhou.
- April: The Fine Art Department of China Art Graduate School holds a seminar, "Art Creation of New Era" in Beijing. Li Xianting gives a talk on "The Artists of the Third Generation After the Cultural Revolution".
- July 9: "New Generation" opens at China Museum of History, Beijing.
- August: "Exceptional Passage", an outdoor exhibition in Fukuoka, Japan, opens showing Huang Yongping, Gu Wenda, Yang Jiechang, Cai Guoqiang and Wang Luyan.
- September: "Painting by Zhao Bandi and Li Tienyuan" opens at Tiandi Building, Beijing
- 1992**
- June: The Chinese avant-garde goes international as works by Ni Haifeng, Sun Liang, Qiu Deshu, Wang Youshen, Li Shan, Cai Guoqiang, Lu Shengzhong, and Wang Luyan are shown in "Encountering the Others", a fringe activity of "Documenta" in Kassel.
- October 20: "The First 1990s Biennial Art Fair" opens at the Central Hotel, Guangzhou, featuring 400 works. In spite of the organiser's commercial intention, the exhibition makes an important contribution in the Chinese art market.
- December 3: Chinese Pop art is first exhibited. "An Exhibition of Works by Yuan Ming Yuan Artists" opens at Beijing University, Beijing
- 1993**
- January 30: "China's New Art, Post 1989", opens at the Hong Kong Arts Centre and City Hall, Hong Kong. The show is then renamed "Mao Goes Pop" and is shown at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Sydney. "China's New Art Post 1989", tours Canada and the US from 1994 to 1997, and is regarded as a landmark for Chinese avant-garde art. It represents a substantial boost to the avant-garde, as they are still unable to officially exhibit in China. "China Avant-garde" shows at Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin; Kunsthal, Rotterdam; Museum of Modern Art, Oxford; Brandts Klaedefabrik, Odense.
- March: Gu Dexin, Geng Jiayiyi, Nie Haifeng and Zheng Peili exhibit in the "China Avant-garde" exhibition in Berlin.
- June 13 – October 10: Chinese artists participate in the Venice Biennale for the first time. Geng Jiayiyi, Zheng Peili, Fang Lijun, and Yu Hong participate in the show "Road to the East", and Wang Youshen in "The Open Show".
- September: The first "Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art" opens in Brisbane. It includes 8 Chinese artists and 2 Hong Kong artists.
- December: "China Fine Art: China Experience" opens at the Sichuan Provincial Art Gallery, Chengdu.

SOCIAL CONTEXT

- July: The Golden Voice nightclub opens in Guangzhou, and Karaoke becomes popular.
- February: Deng Xiaoping visits Shenzhen, strongly promoting development, reform and openness.
- August: The Shenzhen Stock Exchange causes chaos.
- October: The 14th General Meeting of the CPC opens, and announces that the goal of economic reform is to establish a market economy system of Socialism.
- January: The literary review Reading publishes Wang Meng's critique of Wang Shuo's essay "Keeping Away from Sublimeness", creating discussion of Wang Shuo's works.
- June: Academics begin a two-year-long discussion on "humanity".
- November: The Meeting of the CPC Central Committee passes the document "The Decision of the CPC Central Authority on Some Problems of Establishing the Socialist Market Economy".

事件年表

- 1月29日 “大尾象工作組”聯合藝術展在廣州市第一文化宮展出，陳劭雄、梁鉅輝、林一林參加。
- 4月 中國藝術研究院美術研究所主辦的“新時期美術創作研討會”（簡稱西山會議）在北京舉行，栗憲庭作《文革後的第三代畫家》的講座。
- 7月9日 由《北京青年報》主辦的《新生代藝術展》在中國歷史博物館開幕，這是89年政治風波之後的第一次重要的前衛藝術展。
- 9月 《趙半狄、李天元畫展》在北京天地大廈舉行。
- 1992年
- 6月 《卡塞爾文獻展》的週邊展《時代性歐洲週邊藝術展》（簡稱K-18展）（ENCOUNTERING THE OTHERS）在德國卡塞爾展出，倪海峰、孫良、仇德樹、王友身、李山、蔡國強、呂勝中、王魯炎等藝術家參加，中國前衛藝術作品開始進入國際大展。
- 10月20日 《廣州·首屆90年代藝術雙年展》在廣州中央大酒店展覽中心開幕，展出作品近400件。儘管主持人的真實意圖是借用市場推出前衛藝術，但是這次展事在推動中國藝術市場上具有深遠的影響。90年代上半葉流行的波普藝術在展覽中開始出現。
- 12月3日 圓明園畫家在北大三角地舉辦現代藝術展，引起在京新聞界極大興趣。
- 1993年
- 1月30日 《後八九中國新藝術》在香港藝術中心與大會堂開幕，在德國的展覽2月1日開幕。此展於六月巡迴悉尼當代藝術館（展覽名稱改為“毛走向波普”），繼而從1994至1997年底在加拿大和美國共八處展出。該展覽被視為中國大陸前衛藝術家進入國際社會的標誌，在90年代初大陸前衛藝術沒有合法展覽機會的時期，這個展覽給予藝術家以重要鼓舞和影響。
- 1月30日起《中國前衛藝術展》先後在德國柏林世界文化宮、荷蘭鹿特丹美術館、英國牛津現代藝術博物館、丹麥奧丹斯博朗茲、克雷德法布裏克美術館、德國海德舍爾姆美術館巡迴展出。
- 3月 《中國前衛藝術家展》在柏林世界文化宮展出，顧德新、耿建翌、倪海峰、張培力參加。
- 6月13日-10月10日 《45屆國際威尼斯雙年展》在義大利威尼斯舉行，13名中國藝術家首次參加。耿建翌、張培力、方力鈞、喻紅參加《東方之路》展，王友身參加《開放展》。
- 9月 首屆《亞太三年展》在澳洲開幕，展覽包括八名中國和二名香港藝術家。
- 12月 《90年代的中國美術·中國經驗展》在四川省美術館展出。
- 1994年
- 8月 首屆《亞細亞散步》在東京資生堂文化館展出。
- 10月 《94美術批評家提名展（油畫）》在中國美術館舉行，展覽的學術主題“走向現代文化的中國油畫”，25名畫家參展。
- 10月12日-12月11日 《22屆巴西聖·保羅國際雙年展》在聖保羅舉行，李山，余友涵，王廣義，張曉剛，劉煒，方力鈞參加由張頌仁策劃的特展。該展覽因參展中國藝術家對毛澤東的描繪引發政治爭議。
- 1995年
- 5月4日 《中國當代藝術中的女性方式展》在北京藝術博物館開幕，12人參加。
- 6月 《威尼斯雙年展》一百周年，主題展回顧一百年來人類形象

綜合背景

- 2月 鄧小平深圳南巡，提出發展才是硬道理的看法，大力推動改革開放。
- 8月 深圳爆發股市風波。
- 10月 中共中央十四大召開，正式宣佈中國經濟改革的目標是建立社會主義市場經濟體制。

- 1月 王蒙在《讀書》發表評價王朔的文章《躲避崇高》，引發關於王朔作品的爭論。
- 6月後 學術界開始持續兩年的關於“人文精神”的討論，文學、哲學以及其他社會科學領域的學者參與者眾。
- 11月 中共中央十四屆三中全會於通過《中共中央關於建立社會主義市場經濟若干問題的決定》。

- 12月14日 三峽工程開工。
關於女權主義的話題在文藝界與學術出現。

從民間到政府對農業普遍表示出了極大關注。農村、貧困、失業、貧富差距、失學成為社會關注熱點。婚紗影樓流行。最早的婚紗影樓出現在1985年前後，十年後風行中國的大小市縣。

ART EVENTS

- 1994**
- August: *The First "Promenade in Asia" opens at the Shiseido Group Cultural Dpt, Tokyo.*
- October: *"The Exhibition of Oil Paintings Nominated by Art Critics", China Art Gallery, Beijing, includes 25 artists and the theme is "Chinese oil paintings to modern culture".*
- October 12 – December 11: *Li Shan, Yu Youhan, Wang Guangyi, Zhang Xiaogang, Fang Lijun and Liu Wei participate in "The 22nd Biennial International São Paulo", São Paulo. This section of the show is curated by Chang Tsong-zung. Several works depicting images of Mao Zedong cause controversy in China.*
- 1995**
- May 4: *"Women's Approach to Contemporary Chinese Art" opens at the Beijing Art Museum, Beijing, featuring 12 artists.*
- June: *"The Venice Biennale" celebrates its 100th anniversary. Chinese artists Liu Wei, Zhang Xiaogang and Yan Peiming are included in the Centenary Exhibition. The exhibition "Asiana" also includes 4 Chinese artists. First Official Taiwan exhibition in Venice.*
- "Out of the Middle Kingdom: Chinese Avant-garde Art", opens at the Santa Monica Art Centre in Barcelona.*
- August: *"The World of Female Artists", opens at the Beijing International Art Palace, Beijing.*
- September: *"Der Abschied von der Ideologie: Neue Kunst aus China; Kampagal - K3" takes place in Hamburg. The first "Kwangju Biennale" opens.*
- 1996**
- February – June: *"China! Zeitgenössische Malerei", opens at the Kunst Museum, Bonn.*
- March 2 – 6: *"In the Name of Art" opens at the Liu Haisu Art Gallery, Shanghai. The exhibition shows a number of installation works.*
- March: *"Shanghai Biennale" opens. It is the first official art biennale held in China to include avant-garde artists' work.*
- September: *"Reckoning with the Past", takes place at the Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh. This is the first experimental art show in Europe bringing together artists from China, Taiwan and Hong Kong.*
- October: *"The 23rd International Biennial of São Paulo" opens in São Paulo. Curated by Chang Tsong-zung, Hong Kong officially takes part in the show.*
- December: *"The 1st Academic Exhibition of Chinese Contemporary Art", held at the Gallery of Capital Normal University, Beijing, is closed down shortly after opening. The show is held in Hong Kong one year later.*
- 1997**
- February: *Art magazine publishes Li Qi's article "Clear Your Eyes", pointing out that the excess of "Politics Pop" is a serious problem in the art world.*
- July: *"In Between Limits" opens at Sonje Museum, Kyongju. The exhibition features 10 Chinese artists.*
- August 28 – September 2: *"Demonstration of Video Art '97 China", curated by Wu Meichun, opens at the Contemporary Art Gallery of the Central Academy of Fine Arts High School, Beijing.*
- September: *"Faces and Bodies of the Middle Kingdom", opens at the Galerie Rudolfinum, Prague. The exhibition features 19 artists.*
- "China Contemporary Photography", takes place at NBK Art Foundation, Berlin, and features 16 artists, including An Hong, Liu Zheng, Lu Yuanmin, Qiu Zhijie, Rong Rong, Yang Zhenzhong, Zhang Hai'er, Zheng Guogu and Zhuang Hui.*
- November 26: *"Cities on the Move" opens at the Secession, Vienna. This international show tours until end of 1999.*
- December: *"Bloodline: Big Family: Zhang Xiaogang's Oil Paintings" opens at the Gallery of the Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing.*

SOCIAL CONTEXT

December 14: *The Three Gorges Dam project begins. The topic of feminism appears in academic circles.*

Both people and government focus on social issues such as the decline of agricultural China, poverty, joblessness, education, and the big discrepancy between rich and poor.

Jia Pingao's novel Ruined Capital is a best seller. The book China Can Say No causes a huge response.

February: *Deng Xiaoping dies.*

July 1: *China resumes sovereignty over Hong Kong. Oil Photos published by Shandong Pictorial Publication House mixes nostalgia, sentimentality and fashion.*

事件年表

綜合背景

	<p>在美術作品中的變遷。主題展中國藝術家有劉焯、張曉剛、嚴培明三人。臺灣首次在威尼斯參展。</p>	
6月	《來自中心國家——中國的前衛藝術》展，在西班牙巴塞隆納舉辦，此展囊括了中國新時期以來較為重要的現代藝術，也作為第46屆威尼斯雙年展的週邊《開放屋》的組成部分。	
8月29日	《中國女藝術家作品展》在中國美術館展出。	
9月	《走出國家意識形態——中國現代藝術展》在德國漢堡舉辦。	
9月	首屆《光州雙年展》在韓國光州展出。	
1996年	2月至6月《中國！》展在德國波恩現代藝術博物館舉辦。	賈平凹新著《廢都》在該年度創下最高銷量。
3月	《以藝術的名義》展在劉海粟美術館展出，該展覽以裝置作品為主。	《中國可以說不》一書引起強烈反應。
3月	《96上海美術雙年展》揭幕，是國內美術雙年展的首次政府行為，該展覽接納了在80年代屬於激進藝術家的作品。	
9月	《追昔》在愛丁堡萊索市場展覽館展出。首次中港臺三地的新藝術畫家海外聯展。此展是1996年度愛丁堡藝術節活動節目之一。	
10月	《23屆聖保羅雙年展》在巴西聖保羅舉行，張頌仁作為特展策劃人邀邱世華參展。另香港首次正式參加，藝術家何兆基，由張頌仁策展。	
12月	《96年首屆當代藝術學術邀請展(96·97)》北京展段因故停展，第二展段於次年在香港舉行。	
1997年	2月	2月 鄧小平去世。
2月	《美術》97-2發表李琦《擦亮眼睛》一文，指出美術界存在的嚴重問題是“政治波普”的頻頻出現。	6月30日與7月1日零時之交的香港回歸中國。中國恢復對香港行使主權。
7月	《在限度之間》在韓國慶州善載美術館展出，包括十名中國藝術家。	山東畫報出版社出版《老照片》，懷舊、感傷情緒與流行時尚混雜，直至舊照片完全成為商業符號。
8月28日—9月2日	由吳美純策劃的《'97錄影藝術觀摩展》在中央美術學院畫廊開展。展播國內三十餘位中青年藝術家的作品。這標誌了大陸影像藝術的開始。	
9月	《中國的臉與身軀》在布拉格魯道芬展覽館展出。展出藝術家19人。	
9月	《中國當代新攝影展》在柏林“NBK”藝術基金會開展。參加這次展出的有：安宏、劉錚、陸元敏、邱志傑、榮榮、楊振忠、張海兒、趙少若、鄭國谷、莊輝等十六位藝術家。	
11月	《移動的城市》在維也納開幕。這國際巡迴展直到1999年底才結束。	
12月13日	《血緣：大家庭——張曉剛油畫展》在中央美術學院畫廊舉辦。	
1998年	11月	
11月21日	《兩性平壺藝術展》在天津泰達當代藝術博物館展出。	
11月21日	冷林策劃的《是我》展在北京勞動人民文化宮大殿開展之前被查封。	
1999年	1月	6月起 百年不遇的特大洪水。
1月	《“影像志異”——中國新概念攝影藝術展》在上海、北京、南京、長春、深圳、香港巡迴展出。	該年統計，中國人的日常消費支出中，旅遊已占到了總收入的五分之一強。
1月	《後感性·異形與妄想展》在北四環芍藥居小區202樓地下室舉行。	
2月18日	《處變：二十世紀末的中國實驗藝術》在芝加哥大學Smart美術館展出。	5月8日 以美國為首的北約以導彈襲擊中國駐南斯拉夫大使館。
		7月19日 中共中央關於共產黨員不准修煉“法輪大法”的通知。
		12月20日 中國恢復對澳門行使主權。
		IT業成為商業時尚。上網開始普及，網站層出不窮，次年網站

ART EVENTS

- 1998**
- September 15: "Inside Out: New Chinese Art" opens in New York at the Asia Society Gallery and PS1. This show tours internationally until end of 2000.
- November: "The Art Exhibition of Two Sexes Platform" opens at Tada Contemporary Art Museum, Tianjin.
- November 21: "It's Me: An Aspect of Chinese Contemporary Art in the '90s", curated by Leng Lin, is banned before it opens at the Working Peoples Cultural Palace, Beijing.
- 1999**
- January: "The Exhibition of China New Concept Photographic Art" tours to Shanghai, Beijing, Nanjing, Changchun, Shenzhen, and Hong Kong. "Post-Sense Sensibility" opens in Beijing.
- February 18: "Transience" opens at the Smart Museum, University of Chicago.
- March: The first "Fukuoka Asian Art Triennale" (The 5th Asian Art Show) opens at the Fukuoka Asian Art Museum. It includes 4 Chinese artists and 4 Taiwan artists.
- April: "Supermarket" takes place on the 3rd Floor of the Shanghai Square Building, Beijing.
- May: "Power of the Word", curated by Chang Tsong-zung and organised by Independent Curators International, New York, is inaugurated at Taiwan Art Museum before touring the US until 2002.
- June: The "Venice Biennale" features 19 Chinese artists in the main exhibition and Aperto exhibition. Cai Guoqiang wins Gold Lion Award.
- June – July: "Oh la la Kitsch" takes place at Tada Contemporary Art Museum, Tianjin.
- November: "Fast Forward" opens at the Macau Contemporary Arts Centre, exhibiting the work of 12 video artists from China, Hong Kong and Taiwan.
- 2000**
- April: "Obsessed with Harming" is exhibited in Beijing on 25 May. Cai Guoqiang is accused by the Sichuan Art Academy of violating copyright with his work The Rent Collector's Courtyard made for 48th Venice Biennale. The event initiates a debate on the problems of copyright and also on the reasons why Chinese avant-garde art is becoming influential in the West.
- May 28: Wu Gaozhong performs Bom on May 28 in the "Man and Animal" exhibition and other exhibitions. It arouses a one-year discussion on performance art and conceptual art.
- November 3: The 3rd "Shanghai Biennale" opens. This represents the first time in an official biennial at a government museum that contemporary art forms (including installation, video, conceptual photography and experimental film) are given more prominence than traditional painting and sculpture. This biennale is regarded as an indication of official acceptance of experimental contemporary art in China.
- November: Many "unofficial" exhibitions of performance art, conceptual art and installation are opened during the 3rd "Shanghai Biennale" and arouse the general concern of the government and the art scene.
- January - December: During 2000 art websites including Century Online China Art Networks, China Guardian Online, and Art Union (Tom.com) begin to replace traditional media as sources of information, and several art critics and curators begin to write and debate on these websites.

SOCIAL CONTEXT

- June: The biggest flood in one hundred years hits China. Statistics show that travel expenses account for more than 20% of daily spending in China.
- May 8: NATO, led by the US, fires a missile, striking the Chinese Embassy Office Building in Yugoslavia. This causes public protests.
- July 19: The CCP Central Committee announces that Party members are not allowed to practice "Fa Lun Gong".
- December 20: The Chinese government resumes sovereignty over Macau. Information technology is big business and the internet is popular, despite many websites closing down a year later.
- January: Beijing University student Yu Jie writes an article entitled "Yu Qiuyu, Why Don't You Repent?", and claims the famous writer Yu Qiuyu as a "Cultural Revolutionary Leftover Evil" and "Intellectual with Character of a Gangster". It arouses general debate on issues of morality and conscience. Economist Wu Jinglian is claimed by academic circles to be the "Morality and Conscience" of the intellectual circle.
- October: On the winners' list of the "Chang Jiang Reading Award", issued on 28 October, and organised by Reading magazine and the Hong Kong-based Lee Kashing Fund, several judges' names including deputy president Fei Xiaotong, chief editor of Reading, Wang Hui, and judging committee Qian Liqun were found. This arouses debate on academic morality and the regulations of the competition.
- December 27: Sina.com is officially given permission to post news. It is the first time the Chinese government gives such a right to a non-government website.

事件年表

- 3月 首屆《福岡亞洲藝術展》（第五屆亞洲展）在日本福岡舉行，包括四名中國和四名臺灣藝術家。
- 4月 《超市》展在上海廣場4樓舉行。
- 5月 由紐約獨立策劃人協會統籌，張頌仁策展的《文字的力量》展在臺灣美術館首展，之後直至2002年在美國巡迴。
- 6月 《威尼斯雙年展》主題展與《開放展》共展出中國藝術家19人。
- 6月至7月 《跨世紀彩虹——豔俗藝術展》在天津泰達當代藝術博物館展出。
- 9月15日 《蛻變與突破：華人新藝術》在紐約亞洲協會和P51同時開幕。此國際巡迴展到2000年底在香港藝術館結束。
- 11月 《快鏡》中港臺錄影藝術聯展在澳門當代藝術展覽中心舉行。展出12位藝術家。

2000年

- 4月 《對傷害的迷戀》展在北京展出。
- 5月25日 四川美術學院指控蔡國強侵犯大型雕塑《收租院》的版權，在涉及版權問題的同時引發關於中國前衛藝術在西方獲得影響的原因的爭論。
- 5月 吳高鐘在南京表演行為藝術《5月28日誕辰》，與《對傷害的迷戀》以及其他展覽共同引發對行為藝術和觀念藝術持續一年多的爭論。
- 11月6日 第三屆上海藝術雙年展開幕。本屆雙年展是90年代政府美術館舉辦的大型展覽中涉及當代藝術的各種新媒體形式（包括裝置、錄像、觀念攝影、實驗電影）首次在數量上超過了傳統的繪畫、雕塑所佔的比重。這次展覽被視為當代藝術實驗合法化的一個標誌。
- 11月 第三屆上海雙年展期間出現大量的行為藝術、觀念藝術和裝置藝術作為事實上的外圍展，引起官方和藝術界的普遍關注。
世紀在網中國藝術網(www.CL2000.com 世藝網)、“嘉德在網”、“美術同盟”(TOM.COM)等藝術網站出現，在信息傳播方面開始替代傳統媒體。同時，數位批評家、策展人紛紛加盟網站。

綜合背景

開始紛紛倒閉。

- 1月 北大學生余杰發表了“余秋雨，你為什麼不懺悔”的文章，稱余為“文革餘孽”、“才子加流氓”，引發了與余秋雨的實質上是關於道德良心的爭端。這年經濟學家吳敬璉被學界喻為“道德良心”。
- 10月 由《讀書》雜誌社與香港李嘉誠基金會共同發起的“長江讀書獎”在10月28日頒發的獲獎名單中有參與評獎者，即指導委員會特邀名譽主席費孝通，《讀書》雜誌社執行主編汪暉以及評委錢里群。引發學術良心與遊戲規則問題的爭論。
- 12月27日 新浪網正式獲得國務院新聞辦公室批准的登載新聞業務資格，成為中國民營商業網站中首批獲得上述許可的網站。同時，這也是中國政府首次將新聞登載權授予民營商業網站。