

Artist Statement – Sun Yu-li

My art does not originate from simulating existing norms. They are conceived as abstract expressions of forms. Nonetheless, this abstraction is far from arbitrary. Rather, it is a series of thoughts, derived after careful retrospection and made concrete.

The most primitive forms and the most basic movements presented by all things in this world are patterns. From shooting stars in the galaxy to the trace of wind left behind on the sand, the development of material and life are all manifested in the form of patterns.

My latest artworks from my exhibition 'Quest: Where Heaven and Man Meet' at the tcc Gallery is a representation of my vein of thoughts that constantly probe the mysteries of the universe and man. Applying the fundamental elements of the Universal Language - the dot, line and plane - I seek to explore and test the limits of man's existence.

In order to provide a departing point from where a person can begin to understand and critique my work, it would be necessary to explain the underlying elements that influence it. I am talking about the Universal Language of the Metaphysical, an area of inquiry that has directed the path of my thoughts over the past twenty years.

As Lao Zi (teacher of Confucius) once said, "The way that can be spoken of is not the constant way; the name that can be named is not the constant name..."

Language itself is actually a very restrictive tool. Only symbolic pattern is the purest, most precise and direct form of the original language, and also the language that can be communicated throughout the Universe.

My expression through art is an attempt to concretize this Universal Language of the Metaphysical. I use simple forms to underscore the primitive association between form and meaning. With my art, I hope to touch that first instance when concept and form meet, in order to take people back to the origin when man became conscious of his own existence