

Hung Liu: (re)Pressed Memory

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Hung Liu: (re)Pressed Memory

Hung Liu was born in Changchun, China in 1948. After Mao's Cultural Revolution, Liu emigrated to the United States; she says that she arrived "with a 4,000 year old culture on my back and a late 20th century world in my face." The layering of past and present and of multiple identities is at the heart of Liu's internationally celebrated work.

Pressed Memory is a collection of prints created in collaboration with master printers at Tamarind Institute, Shark's Ink, and Paulson Bott Press. Images of meditating monks, happy children, working women, maps, flowers, and fish, speak to the essence of memory as she compounds, translates and moulds bits of her own past into objects of the present.

Working from her grandfather's photographs of Chinese monks, Liu recently created a dynamic series of prints at Tamarind entitled *Butterfly Dreams*. These images, with her characteristic layering of brush strokes, drips, patterns, and color, blend historic document with memory, and fantasy with reality.

Liu is known for her paintings, murals, and installations, but her extensive work in printmaking relates, metaphorically, to her interest in personal histories. Through the physical process of making prints, by adding layers and peeling them away, Liu's memories, marks, and dreams become literally "pressed" into a composite image that addresses the transcendent nature of time.



"I realized that in America you had to make art into an act of transformation; you had to be altering the qualities of a thing."
- Hung Liu

* Many thanks to Paulson Bott Press, Shark's Ink, and Tamarind's master printer, Bill Lagattuta, for the loan of numerous prints in *Pressed Memory*.



Hung Liu

Butterfly Dreams: Working, 2011

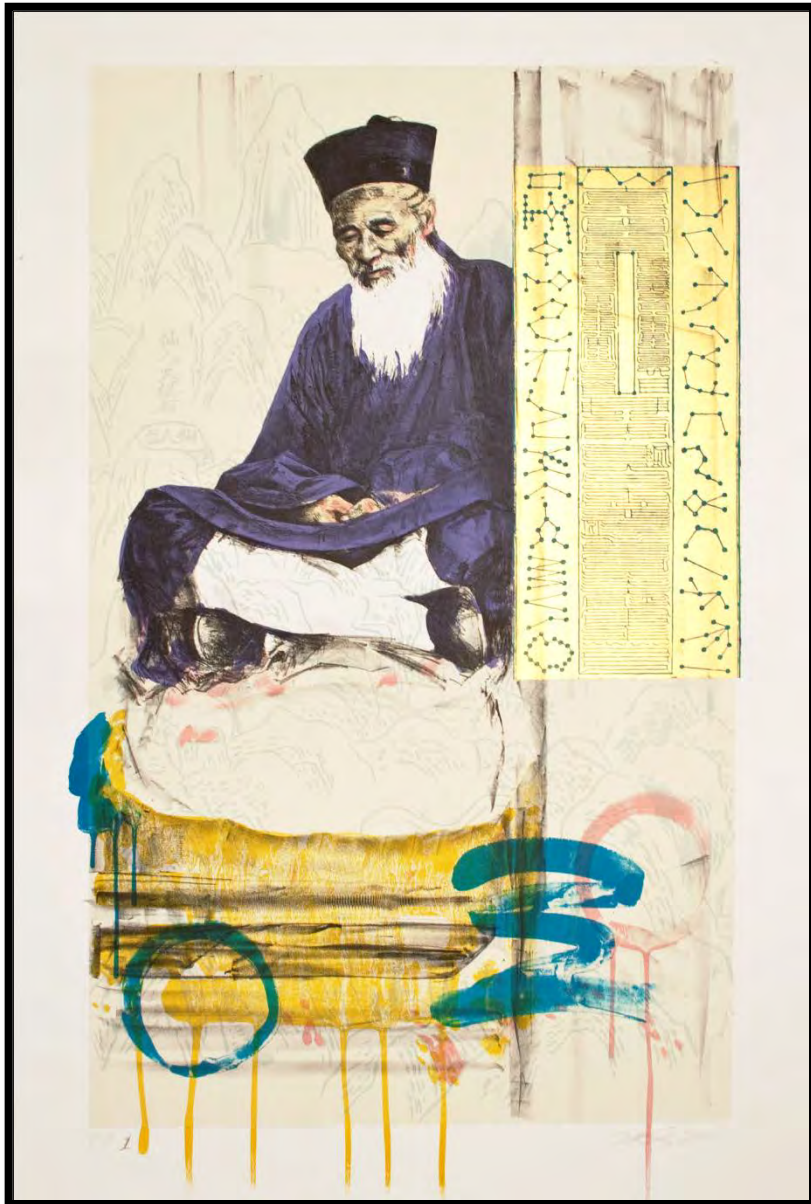
Six-color lithograph with gold leaf and chine colle

30 x 44 inches

Edition of 20

Collaborating printer: Alex Kirillov

\$4000



Hung Liu

Butterfly Dreams: Thinking, 2011

Ten-color lithograph with gold leaf and
chine colle

44 x 30 inches

Edition of 20

Collaborating printer: Asa Wentzel-Fisher

\$4000



Hung Liu

Butterfly Dreams: Waiting, 2011

Six-color lithograph with gold leaf and
chine collé

44 x 30 inches

Edition of 20

Collaborating printer: Bill Lagattuta

\$4000



Hung Liu

Butterfly Dreams: Blue Nun, 2011

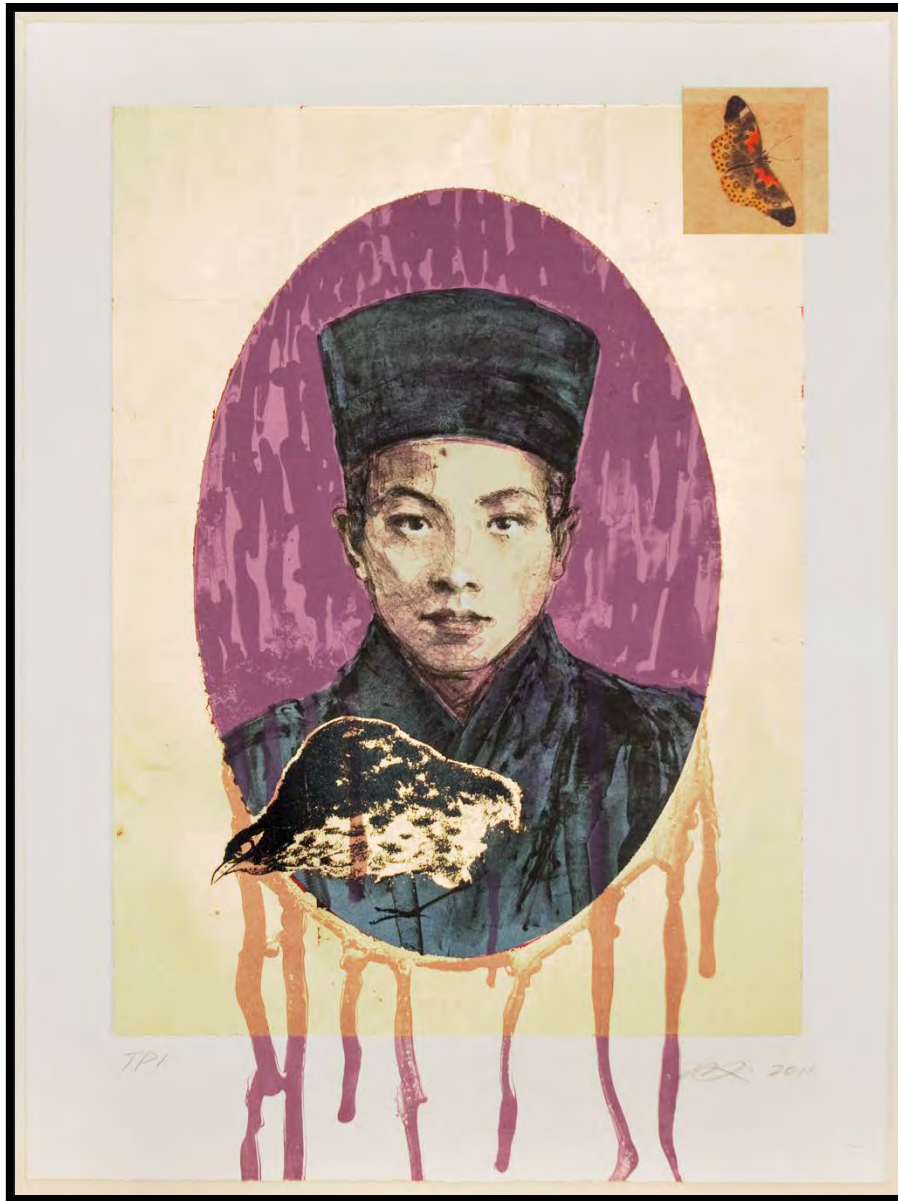
Five-color lithograph with gold leaf
and chine colle

30 x 22 inches

Edition of 10

Collaborating printer: Asa Wentzel-
Fisher

\$1800



Hung Liu

Butterfly Dreams: Purple Nun, 2011

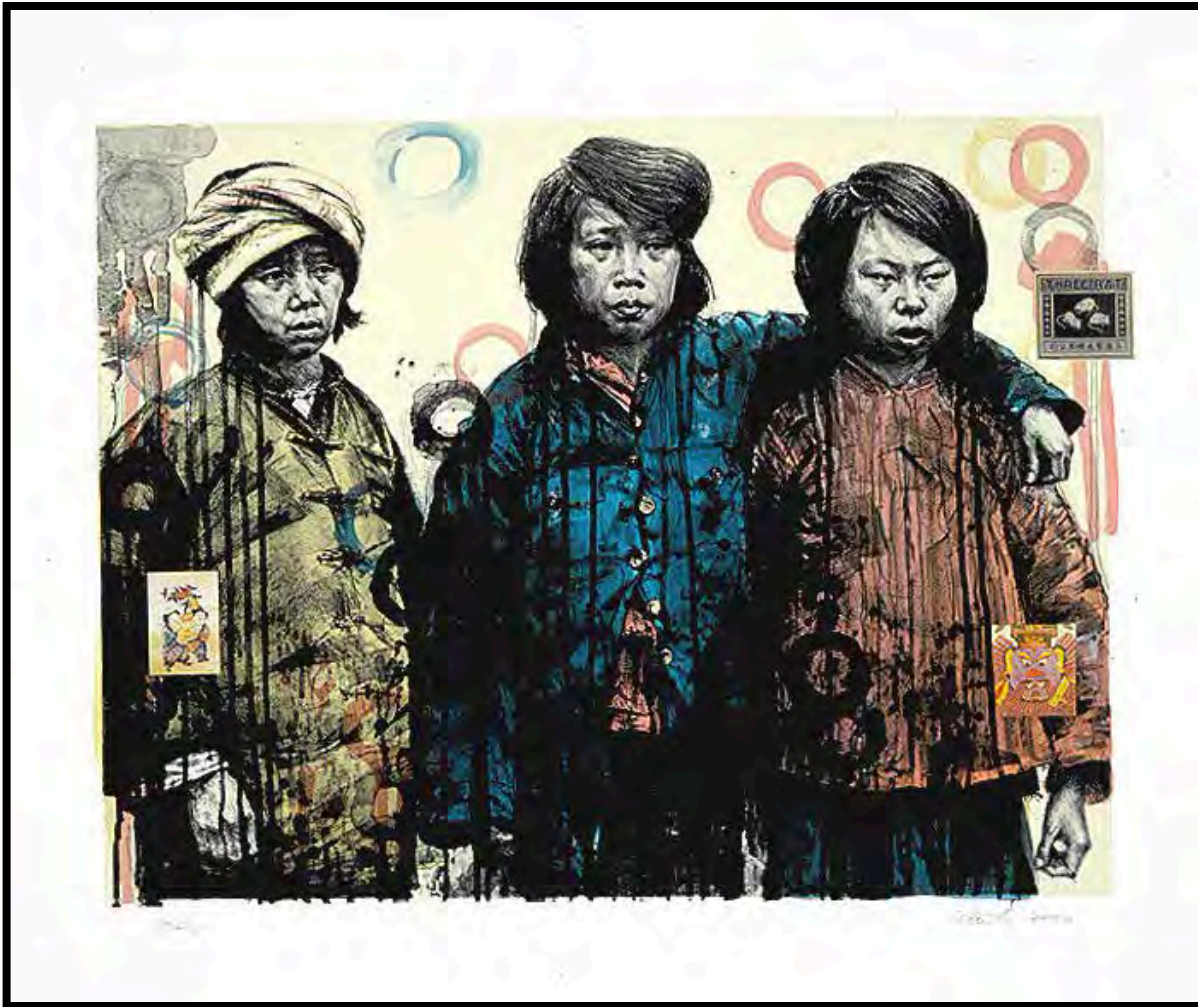
Five-color lithograph with gold leaf
and chine colle

30 x 22 inches

Edition of 10

Collaborating printer: Alex Kirillov

\$1800



Hung Liu
Sisters in Arms I, 2003
Six-color lithograph with collage
30 x 36 inches
Edition of 25
Collaborating printer: Bill
Lagattuta
\$2000



Hung Liu
Harvest, 1999
Six-color lithograph
30 x 30 inches
Edition of 20
Collaborating printer: Jong Won Lee
NFS



Hung Liu
The Martyr, 2001
Color lithograph with collage
30 x 30 inches
Edition of 30
Courtesy of Shark's Ink
NFS



Hung Liu

Xiao Lu, 2010

Color lithographs

15 x 57 ½ inches

Edition of 25

Courtesy of Shark's Ink

\$2700



Hung Liu

Crossing the River: Leaping, 2003

Color lithograph

30 x 44 ½ inches

Edition of 30

Courtesy of Shark's Ink

\$2280



Hung Liu
New Old World Symphony: Blue Foot, 2008
Color aquatint and soft ground etching
19 ¾ x 16 inches
Edition of 50
Courtesy of Paulson Bott Press
\$1200



Hung Liu

New Old World Symphony: Pink Foot, 2008

Color aquatint and soft ground etching

19 ¾ x 16 inches

Edition of 50

Courtesy of Paulson Bott Press

\$1200



Hung Liu

New Old World Symphony: Tender Foot, 2008

Color aquatint and soft ground etching

19 ¾ x 16 inches

Edition of 50

Courtesy of Paulson Bott Press

\$1200



Hung Liu

Luzao (Stove), 2008

Color aquatint and soft ground etching

36 ½ x 50 inches

Edition of 40

Courtesy of Paulson Bott Press

\$3000



Hung Liu
Zhuangjia (Crop), 2008
Color aquatint and soft ground etching
36 ½ x 35 inches
Edition of 40
Courtesy of Paulson Bott Press
\$2200



Hung Liu
Wildflower (Lotus), 1999
Five-color lithograph with collage
25 x 19 inches
Edition of 20
Collaborating printer: Bill Lagattuta
NFS



Hung Liu
Wildflower (Lily), 1999
Six-color lithograph with collage
25 x 19 inches
Edition of 20
Collaborating printer: Bill Lagattuta
Courtesy of Bill Lagattuta
NFS

Hung Liu

Born in Changchun, China, 1948

Lives and works in Oakland, California

BFA, Beijing Teachers College (1975)

MFA, Central Academy of Fine Art, Beijing (1981)

MFA, University of California, San Diego (1986)

selected recent exhibitions

- 2011 Tamarind Gallery, Albuquerque, NM
- 2010 Rena Bransten Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2009 10 Chancery Lane Gallery, Hong Kong, China
Turner Carroll Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
Galeria Omar Alonso, Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico
Bernice Steinbaum Gallery, Miami, FL
- 2008 Walter Maciel Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
F2 Gallery, Beijing, China
Xin Beijing Gallery, Beijing, China
Fred Jones Jr. Gallery, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK
- 2007 Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York, NY
Art Scene China Warehouse, Shanghai, China
- 2006 Paul Robeson Gallery, Rutgers University, Newark, NJ
- 2003 Monterey Museum of Art, Monterey, CA
Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, California (traveled)
University Gallery, Gainesville, Florida
Phoebe Conley Art Gallery, California State University, Fresno
- 2002 de Saisset Museum, Santa Clara University, California
Polk Museum of Art, Lakeland, California
Oakland Art Gallery, California
San Jose Museum of Art, California
- 2001 Knoxville Museum of Art, Tennessee
Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities, Skeppsholmen, Stockholm, Sweden (traveled)
Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York
State Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow

Selected Public Collections

- Dallas Museum of Art, Texas
- Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Indiana
- The Herbert F. Johnson Museum, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
- Kempner Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, Missouri
- Los Angeles County Museum, California
- Mills College, Oakland, California
- Muscarella Museum of Art, College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia
- National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC
- Oakland Museum of California
- Rutgers Archives for Printmaking Studios at the Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum, New Brunswick, New Jersey
- San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, California
- The Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco - H.M. de Young Memorial Museum
- San Jose Museum of Art, California
- Santa Barbara Museum of Art, California
- Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas, Lawrence
- University of Arizona, Tucson
- The Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York