

Jacob Zhicheng Zhang 张至晟

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9636-1411>

jacobzhicheng.zhang@mail.utoronto.ca

Education

- 2022 – Present *PhD Candidate*, Art History, **University of Toronto**.
Dissertation: “Art Education, Sinophone Asia, and the Transnational Formation of Contemporary Art since 1980”
Committee: Yi Gu (Chair); Erin Y. Huang, Elizabeth Harney
- 2024 – 25 *Visiting PhD Candidate*, East Asian Art History, **Free University of Berlin** (Freie Universität Berlin).
- 2017 – 19 *MA*, Modern and Contemporary Art History, **School of the Art Institute of Chicago**.
Thesis: “Performing Identities in the United States: Tseng Kwong Chi, Nikki S. Lee, and Ming Wong’s Migratory Politics”
Committee: Jennifer Dorothy Lee (Chair); Nora Annesley Taylor, David Getsy
- 2012 – 16 *BA*, Art History/Art and Chemistry (double major), **Colby College**, Waterville, ME.
Distinction in Both Majors

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- “Modes of Difference: Visibility and Autonomy in Asian American Arts Organizing, 1989 – 1998.” *Asian Diasporic Visual Cultures and the Americas* (revise & resubmit for vol. 12, no. 3).
- “‘Distance of Ambivalence’ in Persona Performance: How Tseng Kwong Chi Appropriates the Mao Suit.” *Rutgers Art Review*, vol. 40, 2024, pp. 105 – 124.

Book Chapter

- “Sound, Exhibition, and Transnational Cosmopolitanism: Wu Mali at *Half of the Sky*, 1998.” *Sinophone Europe*, edited by Rebecca Ehrenwirth and Valentina Pedone, University of Michigan Press (under review).

Catalog Essay

- “Robert Adams.” *Material Meanings: Selections from the Constance R. Caplan Collection*, edited by Matthew S. Witkovsky, Art Institute of Chicago and Yale University Press, 2020, pp. 30 – 33.

Book Reviews

- “Chongshen ‘shaoshu’: ping hengtaier yapu de *shaoshu zhongguo* | ARTFORUM shuping” [Reexamining ‘minority’: review of *Minor China: Method, Materialisms, and the Aesthetic* by Hentyle Yapp | ARTFORUM book reviews]. *Artforum China*, 04 September 2024.
- “Book Review: Maud Lavin, Yang Ling, and Zhao Jing Jamie, eds. 2017. *Boy’s Love, Cosplay, and Androgynous Idols: Queer Fan Cultures in Mainland China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan*. Hong Kong University Press.” *Synoptique: An Online Journal of Film and Moving Image Studies*, vol. 9, no. 1, 2020, pp. 132 – 136.

Grants, Awards, and Scholarships

- 2026 Dr. David Chu Scholarship in Asia Pacific Studies, Asian Institute, University of Toronto.
- 2025 Jean Sutherland Boggs Fellowship, Department of Art History, University of Toronto.
- 2024 CAA Terra Foundation Travel Grant, Terra Foundation for American Art and College Art Association.
- 2024, 2026 W. Bernard Herman Graduate Scholarship in Art History, Department of Art History, University of Toronto.
- 2024, 2026 School of Graduate Studies Research Travel Grant, University of Toronto.
- 2023 School of Graduate Studies Conference Grant, University of Toronto.
- 2023 Doctoral Research and Conference Travel Grant, Department of Art History, University of Toronto.
- 2023 – 24 Mark Gayn Graduate Scholarship, University of Toronto.
- 2022 – 27 Connaught International Scholarship, University of Toronto.
- 2022, 2025 Leonore V. Kinghorn Scholarship, University of Toronto.
- 2018 Student Travel Award, School of the Art Institute of Chicago.
- 2018 Student Travel Award, School of the Art Institute of Chicago.
- 2017 – 19 New Artist Society Scholar (full-tuition scholarship), School of the Art Institute of Chicago.
- 2015 Linda Cotter Fund Internship Award, Colby College, Waterville, ME.
- 2014 Joseph W. Barringer Museum Curatorial Fellowship, Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, ME.

Conference Presentations

- Presenter: “Abstracting Muralism: Hung Liu Between Public Mural Practice and Allan Kaprow’s Pedagogy, 1984 – 1986.” *2026 Association of Historians of American Art Symposium*, Association of Historians of American Art, Bowdoin College, 26 September 2026.
- Presenter: “Modes of Difference: Visibility and Autonomy in Asian American Arts Organizing, 1989 – 1998.” *College Art Association 114th Annual Conference*, College Art Association, Chicago, 19 February 2026.
- Presenter: “Exhibiting ‘Chinese Female Artists,’ Permeating Sounds, and Cosmopolitanism.” *Sinophone Europe*, University of Florence, 13 December 2024.
- Presenter: “Zheng Shengtian and the Zhejiang Academy of Fine Arts in 1985.” *UAAC/AAUC Annual Conference*, Banff Centre for Arts & Creativity, 21 October 2023.
- Presenter: “A Diasporic Artist’s Performance of Passing: Dissecting Tseng Kwong Chi’s Appropriation of the Mao Suit.” *Translating Home: Views from the Diaspora, the 12th Annual Rutgers Art History Graduate Student Symposium*, Rutgers University, 22 April 2022.
- Presenter: “Not *Tongzhi*: The Dialectic between Chinese Photographer Ren Hang and the ‘Chinese Homosexual’.” *The Ohio University Graduate Student Art History Symposium*, Ohio University, 5 April 2018; and *Narratives of (Il)legibility in East Asia, the 5th Annual Society of East Asian Studies (SEAS) Graduate Student Symposium*, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, 5 May 2018.

Conferences and Panels Organized and Chaired

- Convenor and panel chair: “Reconsidering Posthumanist Critique: Subjecthoods in Artistic and Cultural Practices,” *Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present 17*, University of Wisconsin-Madison (with Madalen Claire Benson), 15 October 2026.
- Organizer: *Contretemps, the 10th Annual Wollesen Memorial Graduate Symposium*, University of Toronto (with Zhihui Zhang), 13 – 14 October 2023.
- Organizer and panelist: *Reminiscing/Reinventing*, School of the Art Institute of Chicago (with Stephanie Dvareckas, Sophie Jenkins, and Nicky Yi Ni), 26 October 2018.

Invited Talks and Panels

- Discussant: *Archipelago of Beginnings: Winter Vacation by Li Hongqi*, Cinema Studies Institute, University of Toronto, 20 November 2025.
- Speaker: *Field Notes* seminar series, History of Art Students’ Association, Department of Art History, University of Toronto, 17 November 2025.
- Speaker: *EcoTechnics Improvised: Activating Politics in Global Media Art*, Asian Institute, Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy, University of Toronto (with Timothy Murray, Wang Yung-Lin, and Elizabeth Wijaya), 22 March 2024.
- Speaker: *On Anti-Colonial Gestures and Their Trajectories: Panel Discussion of Exhibition Atlas of Affinities: Vol. 1, the Far-Near*, HUA International, Berlin (with Lucas Odahara, Justin Polera, and Laurie Rojas), 1 July 2022.

Teaching Experience

- 01/2026 – 04/2026 Teaching Assistant, Department of Art History, University of Toronto.
FAH262 S: Art and Visual Experience in Modern and Contemporary East Asia (Instructor: Gary Wang)
Guest lecture: “‘Modern’ + ‘Contemporary’: The Exhibition and Discourse of Contemporary Chinese Art Since 2018”
- 09/2025 – 12/2025 Teaching Assistant, Department of Art History, University of Toronto.
FAH382 F: Art Writing (Instructor: Maya Harakawa)
Guest lecture: “Audience: bell hooks’s ‘The Oppositional Gaze’ & Michael Warner’s ‘Publics and Counterpublics’”
- 09/2023 – 12/2023 Teaching Assistant, Department of Art History, University of Toronto.
FAH101H1 F: Monuments of Art History (Instructor: Samantha Chang)
- 08/2017 – 05/2019 Art History Teaching Assistant, Department of Art History, Theory, and Criticism, School of the Art Institute of Chicago.
ARTHI 1001: World Culture/Civilization: Prehistory—19th century (Instructor: Shannon Martino)
ARTHI 1002: Survey of Modern to Contemporary Art/Architecture (Instructor: Delinda Collier)
- 08/2012 – 05/2016 Chinese Tutor, East Asian Studies Department, Colby College, Waterville, ME.

Research Experience

- 11/2022 – Present Project Coordinator to Associate Professor of Modern and Contemporary Art and Visual Culture (Yi Gu), Department of Art History and Department of Arts, Culture and Media, University of Toronto.

- 04/2021 – 05/2022 Research Assistant to Associate Professor of Art History (Jennifer Dorothy Lee), Department of Art History, Theory, and Criticism, School of the Art Institute of Chicago.
- 06/2018 – 05/2019 Research Assistant to Dean of Faculty and Professor of Art History (Lisa Wainwright), Department of Art History, Theory, and Criticism, School of the Art Institute of Chicago.
- 08/2017 – 05/2018 Curatorial Intern, Department of Modern and Contemporary Art, Art Institute of Chicago.
- 06/2016 – 08/2016 Paper Conservation Intern, Department of Paper Conservation, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.
- 01/2016 Objects Conservation Intern, Decorative Arts and Sculpture Lab, Philadelphia Museum of Art.
- 06/2015 – 08/2015 Scientific Analysis Conservation Intern, Analytical Lab, Philadelphia Museum of Art.
- 05/2014 – 08/2014 Joseph W. Barringer Museum Curatorial Fellow, Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, ME.
- 09/2013 – 05/2016 Research Assistant to Ellerton and Edith Jette Professor of Art (Ankeney Weitz), Art Department, Colby College, Waterville, ME.

Professional Service

- 10/2024 – 08/2025 Graduate Admissions Peer Support Mentor, Department of Art History, University of Toronto.
- 12/2023 – 09/2024 Co-Editor-in-Chief, *The Wollesen: University of Toronto Art Journal*, Department of Art History, University of Toronto.
- 09/2023 – 08/2025 Faculty-Student Liaison, Graduate Union of Students of Art, Department of Art History, University of Toronto.
- 04/2023 – 09/2023 Organization of “*The Fantastical and the Real*”: 2023 East Asian Film Talks, East Asian Studies Graduate Student Union, Department of East Asian Studies, University of Toronto (with Qi Hong and Rose Liu).
- 01/2023 – 05/2023 Organization of and interpretation for *Speaker Series: Domestic art galleries in Cuba, Russia, and China after 1989: a(n) (imagined) trans-socialist network*, Université de Montréal, Université du Québec à Montréal, and University of Toronto (with Yi Gu, Analays Alvarez Hernandez, Maria Silina, and Maryna Khrennikova).
- 01/2019 – 03/2019 Organization of and service as panelist for Complex Formation: *Screening + Artist Guanyu Xu in Conversation with Jacob Zhicheng Zhang and Jennifer Dorothy Lee*, SITE Galleries, School of the Art Institute of Chicago (with Guanyu Xu and Jennifer Dorothy Lee).

Editorial and Professional Artworld Experience (selection)

- 08/2021 Critic-in-Residence, Momus Emerging Critics Residency, online.
- 10/2020 Exhibition Consultant of *From Body to Body to Bodies*, Canada Far-east Art Center, Montreal.
- 03/2020 – 03/2022 Registrar and Editor, Studio Leiko Ikemura, Berlin.
- 11/2019 – Present Co-Founder and Co-Editor, *TightBelt*, a Chinese-language online journal for young art professionals, online.
- 11/2019 Curator-in-Residence, Shanghai Curators Lab 2.

- 10/2018 – 06/2019 Exhibition Manager, LITHIUM Gallery, Chicago.
- 08/2018 – 05/2019 Graduate Curatorial Fellow of *SAIC MFA Show 2019*, Department of Exhibitions, School of the Art Institute of Chicago.
- 08/2018 – 12/2018 Curator of *Re*, LITHIUM Gallery and School of the Art Institute of Chicago.
- 08/2016 – 05/2017 Paintings Conservation Technician, Page Conservation, Washington, D.C.
- 08/2015 Volunteer, Audience Services Department, Nanjing Museum.
- 02/2014 – 05/2016 Board Member, Museum Student Advisory Board, Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, ME.

Other Publications (selection)

Reviews, Interviews, and Other Short Texts

- “Ning shi zhi jing” [*Time in Focus*]. *Artforum China*, 11 August 2026.
- “Dizzying Effect.” *HUA International*, 13 September 2024.
- “‘Ziwo: xin jishi sheying’: difang yinyu” [*Personal: A New Form of Documentary Photography: Murmurs of the Site*]. *ArtReview China*, 29 August 2023.
- “Dang kasaier wenxianzhan buru gongchang—hubona changqu jiti yishu de ‘yingbian’ yu ‘dikang’” [When Documenta Moves into a Factory—The “Adaptation” and “Resistance” of Artists’ Collectives at Hübner areal]. *Art-Ba-Ba*, 14 July 2022.
- “Atlas of Affinities: Vol. 1, The Far-Near’ at HUA International, Berlin.” *Mousse*, 13 July 2022.
- “Metonyms of Power: Pope.L at Schinkel Pavillon.” *Berlin Art Link*, 24 June 2022.
- “Ningshi chuanshang, zaiyi xiufu: di 12 jie bolin shuangnianzhan jiekai lishi yu shengtai de zhimin zhi tong” [Gazing at Trauma, Rediscovering Repair: The 12th Berlin Biennale Reveals Colonial Woes of History and Environment]. *The Art Newspaper China*, 17 June 2022.
- “Zaizao hou caishi shidai de jinyun shidang: jiang laizi zhongguo difang de jianzhu shiyan dai dao bolin” [To Reinvent the Jinyun Quarries in the Post-Quarrying Age: Bringing Architectural Experiments from Chinese Countryside to Berlin]. *The Art Newspaper China*, 01 April 2022.
- “Tiemu xia de huihua, yishu zhong de lengzhan” [Painting behind the Iron Curtain, and the Cold War in art]. *The Art Newspaper China*, November 2021.
- “Fanchuan biaoyan he fensi hudong: jia baoyu de yuanzhu gaibian zhi lu” [Cross-gender performance and fandom: the adaptation of *Awakening* from *Dream of the Red Chamber*]. *LEAP*, 22 August 2021.
- “Ta zai bolin geluopi wusi bowuguan zao le yi ge ‘wanwu she,’ kan zhiwu zenyang guo zhengzhi shenghuo?” [Zheng Bo: He started a “Wanwu Council” at the Gropius Bau in Berlin to observe how plants live a political life]. *The Art Newspaper China*, 30 June 2021.
- “Political Art for an Uneasy Time: ‘John Heartfield — Photography plus Dynamite’ at Akademie der Künste.” *Berlin Art Link*, 3 August 2020.
- “Aidehua huopu, laizi lishi de gongqing” [Edward Hopper, empathy from history]. *The Art Newspaper China*, June 2020.
- “Hygiene and Social Life in ‘Body. Gaze. Power. A Cultural History of the Bath’ at Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden.” *Berlin Art Link*, 10 April 2020.
- “Over-Determining the Artist: ‘Love, Ren Hang’ at C/O Berlin.” *Berlin Art Link*, 18 February 2020.
- “Malleable Records: Eleanor Antin // Art Institute of Chicago.” *THE SEEN*, 1 November 2019.

Translations

Chinese to English

- Yang, Guoqiang. “On Individualism in the New Culture Movement.” Translated by J. Z. Zhang, in *The China Moment. Contextualizing Individualism in Contemporary Chinese Art* (Hatje Cantz, 2026).
- Ren, Yue. “Smooth Appearances: Contemporary Painting and Other Art as ‘Double Agent’.” Translated by J. Z. Zhang, *LEAP*, Spring/Summer 2023.
- Lin, Lu. “The 4th Today’s Documents: Does Art ‘Stitch up’ Wounds or ‘Expose’ Truths?” Translated by J. Z. Zhang, *CAFA ART INFO*, January 2020.

English to Chinese

- Rakhimzhanova, Anel, Inga Lāce, and Joan Kee. “Butong de haizi jiang hui dansheng: zhongya yu dangdai yishu jichusheshi” [Different Children Will Be Born: On Central Asia and the infrastructures of contemporary art]. Translated by J. Z. Zhang, *Artforum China*, March 2026.
- De Lacaze Mohrmann, Michaëla. “Shuangchengji: mikaila de lakaze moerman lun zhanlan ‘jianshe/zhanju’ yiji shengbaoluo yu luoshanji de zhufang weiji” [A Tale of Two Cities: On “Construction, Occupation” and housing crises in São Paulo and Los Angeles]. Translated by J. Z. Zhang, *Artforum China*, January 2026.
- Griffin, Tim. “Hou renlei” [‘Post Human’]. Translated by J. Z. Zhang, *Artforum China*, December 2025.
- Warsza, Joanna. “Kaifangmai: qiaoanna waersha tan Open Group de yishu” [Open Mic: On the Art of Open Group]. Translated by J. Z. Zhang, *Artforum China*, October 2025.
- Futura. *Futula zhuyi* [Futura-ism] (UCCA Center for Contemporary Art, 2023). Translated by J. Z. Zhang.
- Dubrovsky, Nika. “ArtReview duihua | nuomu qiaomusiji tan dawei geleibo de ‘haidao qimeng’” [Noam Chomsky on David Graeber’s *Pirate Enlightenment*]. Translated by J. Z. Zhang, *ArtReview Asia*, 17 October 2022.
- Beale, Ruth. “ArtReview guandian | yishujie weihe xuyao nvxing zhuyi jingji xue” [Why the Artworld Needs Feminist Economics]. Translated by J. Z. Zhang, *ArtReview Asia*, 06 June 2022.
- Whyman, Tom. “ArtReview guandian | yiqing ruhe xiaomo le women dui yishujia de jingyi?” [How the Pandemic Killed Our Respect for Artists]. Translated by J. Z. Zhang, *ArtReview Asia*, 17 February 2022.
- McDermott, Emily. “ArtReview zhanping | he wei ‘bozi shijian’?” [What Is “Crip Time”?]. Translated by J. Z. Zhang, *ArtReview Asia*, 27 December 2021.
- Zhou, Feifei. “Xun gen zhe” [Root Seeker]. Translated by J. Z. Zhang, *Heichi Magazine*, 18 November 2021.
- Kopel, Dana. “Shi shihou gai feichu bowuguan le me?” [Is It Time to Abolish Museums?]. Translated by J. Z. Zhang, *Heichi Magazine*, 28 October 2021.
- Lee, Weng Choy. “Yi chang N nian hou de duihua, huiwang yameiniya jie 45 hao” [Looking back on Armenian Street]. Translated by J. Z. Zhang, *The Art Newspaper China*, 27 August 2021.
- Vukadin, Ana. “ArtReview zhanping | yishujia tan hewei yingxiong” [Artists on What It Means to Be a Hero]. Translated by J. Z. Zhang, *ArtReview Asia*, 19 August 2021.
- Zhang, Gary Zhexi. “ArtReview zhuangao | weilai yishujia de san ge fenshen: shehui yundongjia, shangjie chuandaozhe he shejiao daren” [The Artist of the Future]. Translated by J. Z. Zhang, *The Art Newspaper China*, 29 April 2020.

Professional Affiliations

- Association for Chinese Art History
- Association of Historians of American Art
- College Art Association
- Universities Art Association of Canada
- Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present

Language Skills

- Mandarin (native)
- English (nativelike)
- German (advanced)
- Cantonese (advanced)
- Japanese (elementary)
- Italian (elementary)
- Classical Chinese (reading knowledge)