

LIU Wa (b. 1994) is a multimedia artist who explores the power dynamics and porous boundaries between human, machine and nature through a multispecies lens. She received her B.A. in Anthropology and Art with distinction from Yale University and is pursuing her M.S. in Art, Culture, and Technology program at MIT. Through video, installation, painting, virtual reality and neurotechnology, she creates multi-sensory experiences to heighten the audience's sensuous receptivity to the more-than-human world. Her diverse body of work focuses on ordinary plants and objects that carry sophisticated sociocultural and geopolitical connotations, while decentralizing human's dominant role in knowledge production and world-making. Driven by her fascination with neuroscience, LIU Wa constructs brainwave interactive installations to reimagine human agency at a time when desires and perceptions are quantified, predicted and affected by machines. Her research-based projects seek to examine the existential and environmental impact of technology on a broader web of life.

LIU Wa received many honors, including International Emmy Awards Young Creatives Award, Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia List, Porsche Young Chinese Artist of the Year, and MIT Ida M. Green Fellowship. She participated in Busan Biennale (2020) and Guangzhou Triennial (2018) among other international exhibits. Her works have been globally shown at prestigious institutions, such as UCCA Center for Contemporary Art, TANK Shanghai, Museum of Contemporary Art Busan, Javits Convention Center of New York, Beijing Minsheng Art Museum, M Woods Museum, Today Art Museum, Museum of Contemporary Art Shanghai, Guangdong Museum of Art. Her recent solo shows include: Savage Confessions (Goethe-Institut Boston, 2022), Late Night Savage (Cc Foundation & Art Centre, Shanghai, 2021), SOUNDMASS (TANK Shanghai, 2021), Hear A Century Ahead (Former British Consulate, Shanghai, 2021), Moon Milk (MadeIn Gallery, Shanghai, 2020), Glimpse (Asia Now, Paris, 2019), Glimpse: a passing look (Sabsay Gallery, Copenhagen, 2018).

EDUCATION

2020-2022

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), M.S. in Art, Culture, and Technology,
Cambridge, USA

2013-2017

Yale University, B.A. in Anthropology & B.A. in Art with distinction, New Haven, USA

SOLO EXHIBITS

2022

“Savage Confessions,” Goethe-Institut, Boston, USA

2021

“Hear A Century Ahead,” former British Consulate (No. 1 Waitanyuan), Shanghai, China

“Late Night Savage,” Cc Foundation & Art Centre, Shanghai, China

“Soundmass,” TANK Shanghai, Shanghai, China

2020

“Moon Milk (joint exhibition),” MadeIn Gallery, Shanghai, China

2019

“Glimpse,” Asia Now, Paris, France

“Moon Milk,” ART021, Shanghai, China

2018

“Glimpse: a passing look,” Sabsay Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark

2017

“Still,” Arts First Festival, Harvard University, Cambridge, USA

2015

“Tree of Life,” Yale University, New Haven, USA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITS

2022

“ReBirth: Encounter with Nature,” Choi Centre Cloud House, Beijing, China

2021

“Duration: Chinese Art in Transformation,” Beijing Minsheng Art Museum, Beijing, China

“Incredible Female Artist Award 2021,” Beijing Exhibition Center, Beijing, China

“New Driving Force—The Collision of Art and Science,” chi K11 art space, Shenyang, China

2020

“Busan Biennale,” Museum of Contemporary Art Busan, Busan, South Korea

“Immaterial/Re-material: A Brief History of Computing Art,” UCCA Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China

“Digital Dreams,” Emerson College, Boston, USA

“The New Reality—2018-2019 Porsche Young Chinese Artist of the Year Honoree’s Show,” iag, Shanghai, China

“Asia Digital Art Exhibition,” Beijing Times Art Museum, Beijing, China

“Fortune Teller,” Wanying Art Museum, Shijiazhuang, China

2019

“Porsche Young Chinese Artist of the Year 2018-2019,” Beijing Exhibition Centre, Beijing, China

“Enter,” Refshaleoen, Copenhagen, Denmark

“The Variable and The Generating,” MadIn Gallery, Shanghai, China

“40 Years of Humanizing Technology—Ars Electronica in Shenzhen,” Sea World Culture and Arts Center, Shenzhen, China

“Nana Power,” Today Art Museum, Beijing, China

“The 13th National Exhibition of Fine Arts,” The Silk Road International Cultural Center, Lang Fang, China

“The Generation Y of Contemporary Chinese Art,” National Agriculture Exhibition Center, Beijing, China

“The Secret of the Brain,” China International Neuroscience Institute, Beijing, China

“Quasi-Nature,” Hyundai Motorstudio, Beijing, China

2018

“The 6th Guangzhou Triennial—As We May Think: Feedforward,” Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangzhou, China

“After Sunset,” Galerie Liusa Wang, Paris, France

“Life of the True,” Martin Goya Business, Hangzhou, China

2017

“Heart of the Tin Man,” M Woods Museum, Beijing, China

“I Do (Not) Want To Be Part Of Your Celebration,” TANK Shanghai & Qiao Space, Shanghai, China

“Undergraduate Thesis Exhibition,” Yale School of Art, New Haven, USA

“Art Above the Sofa: Next Generation,” New York, USA

“All happens after sunset,” Museum of Contemporary Art Shanghai, Shanghai, China

“Art Nova 100,” Today Art Museum, Beijing, China

“Time Dividuals,” Screenroom, Beijing, China

2016

“Art Utopia,” Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China

“Nature Unbound,” Yale University, New Haven, USA

“Art Nova 100,” National Agriculture Exhibition Center, Beijing, China

“Fantastic Art China—International Creative Festival,” Javits Convention Center, New York, USA

2015

“Tree of Life,” Arts First Festival, Harvard University, Cambridge, USA

“Narrative Ballade,” Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

2014

“Art Exhibitions,” Yale University Green Hall Gallery, New Haven, USA

“Photo Exhibition,” Yale University, New Haven, USA

2013

“The Process—Thinking and Observation,” Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

“Post-Nuclear Exhibition,” Yale University, New Haven, USA

AWARDS

2020

International Emmy Awards, Young Creatives Award

The Lumen Prize for Art and Technology

Ida M. Green Fellowship, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

2019

Porsche Young Chinese Artist of the Year

Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia and China List

Robb Report Best of the Best Artist Honoree

2018

Generation T Leaders of Tomorrow List

2017

Distinction in Art, Yale University

2016

First Place, Art Above the Sofa: Next Generation, New York

Interdisciplinary Arts Awards, Yale University

2015

Creative and Performing Arts Award, Yale University

RESIDENCIES

2022

Goethe-Institut, Boston, USA