

# 局外人 The Stranger

新闻稿

Press Release

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展览时间：2025年1月11日至2025年3月01日

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“局外人”是红树林画廊即将于2025年1月11日开启的展览，它包括了从画廊诞生时起至今全部16位曾与之合作个人项目的艺术家之近作，以此纪念画廊成立五周年。这是一个展览，也是一场聚会，一次对于相遇和友情的纪念。时间不长，也不短：五年。

如此看来，“局外人”与其说是命题，不如说是一群人的自我画像，未必不带狷介和自嘲，但熟悉的人读出来更多则是珍重相依和自我期许：天涯海角，各自桃李不言；孤芳自赏，反而让彼此在因缘际会中走在一起。再说，既然是在同一条叫做艺术的路上，要做真行者，谁又不何尝不得先做局外人呢？个中滋味又何必尽言？

那干脆就省掉那些煌煌之辞，就让这些人，这些年，背过身去于无声息中浇灌的果实各自透出色彩，在敞开的门口——反正这扇门总是敞开的，无论多少人走去或走来——等着故事发生，反正总有人愿意走进来，最好他也是一个局外人，这样就能一眼认出自己的朋友。然而不论是谁，不论从哪儿来，在这扇门后面总是浮动色彩，气息和声音。人们从高高低低、大大小小的尺幅或屏幕旁边经过，像经过街边的一个个窗口，那些未知的形象在窗子背后挨个儿出现，清楚或模糊，看着你或不看你，要么背对着你，要么索性根本就不在。每一个窗口只透露出一方和它们等大的秘密，要是愿意，你可以轻轻地敲一下那扇门——

反正它总是敞开，一年又一年，过客从此成为故知。仿佛吹到这门口的风，也有那么一丝海上来的气息，在提示这里的天高地远。不在庙堂之侧，亦无冠盖之忧。从海上来的风湿润，适于滋养，植物在不声不响中苍翠和繁茂起来。昼或夜，春或秋，台风过来，或是烈日当头，没人注意过它们的身体里面日夜不息的暗流，催动可见的枝叶花朵。其实海上的潮汐和这无声的暗流之间有多大的分别呢？不管是渺远还是近切，是宏大还是低微，那要流动的总是在流动着。若你也是这样的一个局外人，你也会在安静的时刻去辨认那些流动。时间反而变得不那么重要，反正你知道天色变幻或者岁月轮转，它还会在那里，它总会在那里。

撰文 / 李佳

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MANGROVEGALLERY proudly commemorates its 5th anniversary with a momentous group exhibition, “The Stranger,” opening on January 11, 2025. The exhibition features recent works by 16 artists who have collaborated with the gallery on solo projects since its inception. This is not just an exhibition, but also a gathering, a celebration of encounters and friendships in five years—not too long, not too short.

In this sense, rather than a theme, The Stranger serves more as a collective self-portrait of a group of individuals. Though it may sound self-mocking, to those who know them, it speaks more of mutual respect and personal aspirations. In distant corners of the world, they each quietly nurture their own endeavors; solitary in their enjoyment, they are brought together by sheer serendipity. After all, on this shared path of art, who has not first been a stranger before becoming a true practitioner? And how can the essence of that experience ever be fully articulated by words?

So why not just set aside those grandiose words and let the fruits of their silent labor over the years speak for themselves? These works, developed quietly and away from the spotlight, now shine in their own hues at the gallery’s open doors—a door that is always open, welcoming those who come and go. And perhaps among the visitors, another stranger will step in, recognizing a shared spirit at a glance. Whoever it may be, no matter where they come from, behind this door lies a world of colors, scents, and sounds. People pass by various canvases and screens, like walking past windows on a street. Behind each window, unfamiliar images emerge—clear or blurry, facing you or turned away, or perhaps entirely absent. Each window reveals a secret as vast or as small as the frame itself. If you’re willing, you might gently knock on that door.

It is always open, year after year, where strangers become friends. The wind that blows through the doorway carries a scent of the sea, hinting at boundless horizons—far from the centers of power, free from worldly burdens. This sea breeze, humid and nurturing, fosters quiet growth. Plants thrive silently, with their leaves and blossoms flourishing. Whether it’s day or night, spring or autumn, under typhoon winds or scorching sun, no one notices the ceaseless flow within their stems, driving their growth. How different, really, is the ebb and flow of the sea from these unseen currents? Whether distant or near, grand or humble, that which must flow will always flow. And if you are a stranger too, you may find yourself, in a quiet moment, discerning these currents. Time, then, becomes less significant, as you know that through shifting skies and turning seasons, it will still be there. It will always be there.

Written by Li Jia

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