

# Liu Weijian

# 刘唯艰



Liu Weijian, *Space that Offers another Living Possibility - Laboratory* (2007), acrylic on canvas, 120 x 160 cm

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Liu Weijian, *Properties* (2007), acrylic on canvas, 60 x 80 cm, 20 pieces

Liu Weijian's paintings are impressive in scale as well as in consistency. Mostly held in dour and dark colors, however, there is something unsettling and uncanny in his painted environments. Cryptic titles such as 'Mentally Disabled People's Thoughts Impossible to Prove', 'Gambling Without Answer', and 'Superstition's Implication' also indicate that there is more at stake as what is visible to the eye. He elaborates on the notion of space, both interior and exterior, and how such spaces seem to construct their very own narrative. Often, these places are laden with anonymity and vastness, whether it be new industrial buildings or run-down generic habitats.

His most recent solo-exhibition 'The Call of the Crows' (2007) featured a whole new series of paintings of simple and ordinary objects such as a fax-machine, a sink, a television, a table, and a traffic light. Similar to his earlier works, these images are conducted with great skill and technique.

Liu Weijian was born in 1981 in Hunan Province, China. Today he lives and works in Shanghai. In 2005 he graduated from Shanghai Normal University College of Art.

Recent exhibitions include The Call of the Crows, BizArt Art Center, Shanghai (2007), Aired, ShangART Gallery, Shanghai (2007), Energy, Today Art Museum, Beijing (2007), China Power Station: Part II, Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art, Oslo, Norway (2007), Shouting Truth, Platform China Contemporary Art Institute, Beijing (2007), China's Cutting Edge: New Video Art from Shanghai and Beijing, Anthology Film Archives, New York City, USA (2006), Future Landscapes, Duolun Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai (2006).



Liu Weijian, *Properties* (2007), acrylic on canvas, 60 x 80 cm, 20 pieces