



Artist Profile ZHOU SONG

**BACK COVER  
 ARTIST**



# ZHOU SONG

Zhou Song (b. 1982, Jiangxi, China) graduated from Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts in China and received the first-place award in the annual fine arts thesis exhibition and third place in the nation-wide undergraduate and graduate art competition. He first gained recognition with his series of hyper-realistic oil paintings. In 2009, Zhou mounted a solo exhibition at Today Art Museum in Beijing.

His work has been exhibited nationally and internationally, most recently at YBI Creative House in Budapest, Kunstraum Villa Friede in Bonn, European Museum of Modern Art in Barcelona, University of Vienna in Austria, Toronto Centre for the Arts in Canada, Sotheby's in Los Angeles, Salmagundi

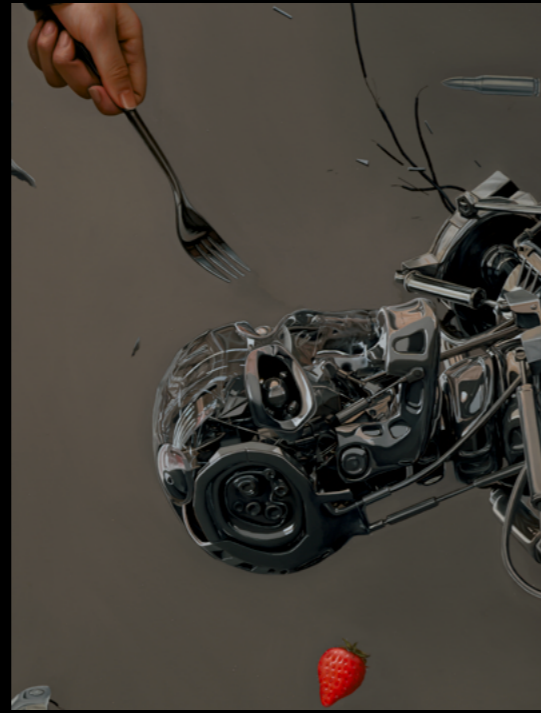
Club in New York, Providencia Cultural Foundation in Chile, among others. Zhou participated in the XI th Edition Florence Biennale in 2017 and 13 th Havana Biennale in 2019.

His recent work explores the shifting political and social landscapes of urbanized societies developed according to principles of technological advancement. Whether to imagine a dystopian, post-apocalyptic future governed by war machines, or the more pervasive, yet no less violent, limitations placed on the individual expression of professionalized urbanites, Zhou's latest series probes human realities shaped by technology as much as by nature.



*Counter Time Travels II* ZHOU SONG  
120 x 180 cm, Oil on Canvas, 2018

*Details, Counter Time Travels I* ZHOU SONG



*Details, Counter Time Travels I* ZHOU SONG



*Counter Time Travels I*, 130 x 200 cm, oil on Canvas, 2015 ZHOU SONG

Zhou Song strives to make reality strange. While the hyper-realistic illusionism of his paintings seems to replicate objects as they appear to the eye, his selection of subjects defamiliarizes a viewer's comprehension of their essential nature. Bodies that expand beyond their frames, fish guts that take the shape of butterflies and flowers, robots and androids: Song's imagery unveils contradictions in the principles, habits, and relations that shape contemporary society. His paintings, almost uncanny in their resolution and finish, enhance the impression of a world that at once seems both completely familiar and unreal. Song often aims to understand the laws governing the universe,

nature, and human development by juxtaposing natural and artificial forms. Whether to dramatize unfettered consumption, the influence of technology on contemporary society, or the intangible impact of the universe's constant expansion on human desire and destiny, Song's paintings thrive in a state of contradiction and openness. What might at first seem aesthetically beautiful often reveals itself as abject upon closer viewing, while what may appear dystopian at first glance might seem quotidian, even normal, at a later turn. Song seeks to provoke questions about the limits of our physical worlds rather than to provide definitive answers.



# ZHOU SONG STUDIO



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