

# POSTMASTERS

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## DAVID DIAO

Born 1943 in Chengdu, Sichuan, China  
Lives and works in New York

### EDUCATION

1965 The Cooper Union  
1964 Kenyon College, AB philosophy

### SELECTED INDIVIDUAL EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 In Situ, Paris, France (upcoming)  
2010 Office Baroque, Antwerp, Belgium  
2009 *I lived there until I was 6...*, Postmasters Gallery, New York  
*Best Laid Plans*, Tanya Leighton Gallery, Berlin  
2008 *Da hen Li House*, Courtyard Gallery, Beijing, China [catalog]  
2005 *Demolished/At Risk*, Postmasters Gallery, New York  
*David Diao: Co To Jest Konstruktywizm & After*, Galeria Arsenal, Bialystock and  
Galeria Klima Bochenska, Warsaw, Poland [catalog]  
2000 Postmasters Gallery, New York  
1999 Cherng Piin Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan  
1997 *Histoires Et Fictions, Peintures Recentes De David Diao,*  
*La Criée and La Galerie du Tnb*, Rennes, France  
1995 *The Bitter Tea of General Yen*, Postmasters Gallery, New York  
1994 Cherng Piin Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan  
1993 *Barnett Newman: 1 painting & 5 prints*, Postmasters Gallery, New York  
1992 *Vendus*, École National d'Art de Dijon, France  
1991 *Selections 1972-1991*, Cherng Piin Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan  
*1969-1991...a real allegory*, Postmasters Gallery, New York  
1990 Claire Burrus Gallery, Paris  
*Het Kruithuis*, Museum voor Hedendaagse Kunst, 's-Hertogenbosch, Holland  
Provinciaal Museum voor Moderne Kunst, Oostende, Belgium  
1989 Postmasters Gallery, New York  
Galerie Joseph Dutertre, Rennes, France  
Musée d'Art Moderne, Saint Etienne, France  
1988 Galerie Westersingel 8, Rotterdam, Holland  
Postmasters Gallery, New York [catalog]  
1986 Postmasters Gallery, New York  
1985 Postmasters Gallery, New York  
1980 Rosa Esman Gallery, New York  
1979 Arts Club of Chicago, Chicago  
Tyler Gallery, Temple University, Elkins Park, PA  
1978 115 Spring Street, New York (Artist's Studio)  
1975 Cuningham Ward Gallery, New York  
1974 Jared Sable Gallery, Toronto, Canada  
Cuningham Ward Gallery, New York  
1973 Dunkelmann Gallery, Toronto, Canada

- 1972 Reese Palley Gallery, New York
- 1971 Dunkelman Gallery, Toronto, Canada
- 1970 New Gallery, Cleveland, OH  
Paula Cooper Gallery, New York
- 1969 Françoise Lambert Galleria, Milan, Italy  
Paula Cooper Gallery, New York

## SELECTED 2 AND 3 PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2005 *David Diao/Gang Zhao*, TZ Hanart Gallery, Hongkong
- 2003 *David Diao /Gang Zhao: at Mid Career*, Asian American Arts Centre, New York
- 1988 *Michael Corris, David Diao*, Olivier Mosset, Shafrazi Gallery, New York
- 1972 *David Diao and Cy Twombly*, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA
- 1969 *Scenic Landmarks of New York presents a Scenic Landmark for Toronto*,  
*David Diao and Brice Marden*, Carmen Lamanna Gallery, Toronto, Canada  
*David Diao and Peter Young*, Leo Castelli Gallery, New York

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 *The Horizon Behind Us*, (curated by Michele D'Aurizio), The Kaleidoscope Project Space, 21
- 2010 *Lonely At The Top: Modern Dialect* (curated by Wim Van den Abbeele), MuHKA, Antwerp  
*Matthew Brannon, Mathew Cerletty, David Diao, Daniel Sinsel*, Office Baroque, Antwerp
- 2009 *Images & (Re)Presentations*, Magasin-CNAC, Grenoble, France
- 2008 *Unnamable name* (curated by Kim Asbury and Todd Ayoung), Københavns Hovedbibliothek,  
Copenhagen  
*High Times, Hard Times: New York Painting 1967-1975*, Zentrum für Kunst und  
Medientechnologie, Karlsruhe, Germany (catalogue) Neue Galerie, Graz, Austria Museo de  
Arte Rufino Tamayo, Mexico City National Academy Museum, New York American University  
Museum, Washington DC Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, North Carolina
- 2007 *High Times, Hard Times: New York Painting 1967-1975*, National Academy Museum,  
New York (traveling to numerous venues in the US and Europe)  
*Dialogues*, Le Quartier, Centre d'Art Contemporain de Quimper, France  
*Stripes*, Tang Museum, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York
- 2005 *Dreaming of A More Better Future*, Curated by Saul Ostrow, Cleveland  
Institute of Art, Rehberger Galleries, Cleveland, OH  
2nd Guangzhou Triennial, Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangzhou, China  
*Design for Living*, Islip Art Museum, East Islip, NY  
*Les apparences sont souvent trompeuses*, capc Musée D'Art Contemporain, Bordeaux,  
France
- 2004 *About Painting*, Tang Museum and Art Gallery, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY  
*Black Belt*, Santa Monica Museum of Art, Santa Monica, CA
- 2003 *Black Belt*, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York  
*Temporal Surfaces*, Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2001 *The Sensibility of the 80s*, Thomas Ammann Fine Art, Zurich, CH
- 2000 *Personal Space: the Domesticated Long Island Landscape*, The Parrish Museum, Southampton,  
New York
- 1997 *After the Fall, Painting in New York Since 1970*, Snug Harbor Center for the Arts,  
Staten Island, NY
- 1996 *Landscape Reclaimed*, Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, CT  
*Thinking Print*, Museum of Modern Art, New York  
*Fractured Fairy Tales: Art in the Age of Categorical Disintegration*,  
Duke University Museum of Art, Durham, NC  
*Time Wise*, The Swiss Institute, New York

- 1995 *Raw*, Postmasters Gallery, New York  
*True Lies*, Bernard Toale Gallery, Boston  
*On Target*, Horodner Romley Gallery, New York
- 1994 *East/West, Cross Cultural Influences in Painting*, E.S. Vandam, New York  
*About Time, Testwall*, TZ'Art & Co., New York  
*Crash*, Thread Waxing Space, New York  
*Die Orte der Kunst*, Sprengel Museum, Hannover, Germany
- 1992 *Gegen den Strich—Against the Grain*, Galerie Theuretzbacher, Vienna  
*C'Est Pas La Fin Du Monde—Une Vue Des Années 80*, La Cour d'Or, Musée de Metz, France  
*Génériques, le Visuel et l'Écrit*, Hôtel des Arts, Paris  
*Oeuvres Americaines, Autour de la Collection*, FRAC, Dijon  
*Slow Art: Painting In New York Now*, P.S.1 Museum, Queens, New York  
*then & NOW*, Philippe Staib Gallery, New York  
*Quotations*, Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, CT  
*En Noir Et Blanc*, Galerie du Tnb, Rennes, France
- 1991 *Conceptual Abstraction*, Sidney Janis Gallery, New York  
*Schwerelos*, Grossen Orangerie, Charlottenberg Castle, Berlin  
*Le Consortium Collectione*, Château d'Oiron, Oiron, France  
*Words & #s*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Wright State University, Dayton, OH  
Marta Cervera Gallery, New York  
*The Construction of Knowledge*, Diane Brown Gallery, New York  
*PASTFUTURETENSE*, Winnipeg Art Gallery and Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, Canada  
[catalog]
- 1990 *The Charade of Mastery*, Whitney Museum of American Art, Downtown at Federal Reserve Plaza, New York  
Lawrence Oliver Gallery, Philadelphia  
*All Quiet On The Western Front?*, Espace Dieu, Paris
- 1989 *Une Autre Affaire*, Le Consortium, Dijon, France.  
Postmasters Gallery, New York  
*Jet Lag*, Turon Travel, Inc., New York  
*Mind and Matter: New American Abstraction*, USIA traveling exhibition to Asian capitals  
*Diagrams and Surrogates*, Shea and Beker Gallery, New York  
*Diao, Dona, Goldstein, and Ladda*, Krygier/Landau Contemporary Art, Los Angeles
- 1988 *Hybrid Neutral: Mode of Abstraction and the Social*, traveling exhibition,  
Independent Curators, Inc., New York  
*Art at the End of the Social*, Rooseum, Malmö, Sweden  
Greg Kucera Gallery, Seattle, WA  
*Meaningful Geometry*, Postmasters Gallery, New York
- 1987 *Generations of Geometry*, Whitney Museum of American Art at Equitable Center, New York  
*Post-Abstract Abstraction*, Aldrich Museum, Ridgefield, CT  
*Corris, Diao, IFP, Parrino*, Le Consortium, Dijon, France  
*Avant-Garde in the 80's*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art
- 1986 *Tableaux Abstraites*, Villa Arson, Centre National d'Art, Nice  
*Ultrasurd*, S.L. Simpson Gallery, Toronto  
*The Use of Geometry in the 80's*, Wright State University, Dayton, OH  
*Paravision II*, Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles  
*Red*, Massimo Audiello Gallery, New York  
*Abstract Appropriations*, Grey Art Gallery, New York University, New York  
*Spiritual America*, CEPA, Buffalo, New York
- 1985 *Cult and Decorum*, Tibor de Nagy Gallery, New York  
*The Non-Objective World*, Kamikaze Club, New York
- 1983 *The Terminal Show*, Brooklyn, New York
- 1982 *The Chinese Response: Paintings by Leading Overseas Artists*, Hong Kong Museum of Art, Hong Kong
- 1981 *Geometric Abstraction: A New Generation*, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston

- 1979 *Mind Set: An Ongoing Involvement with the Rational Tradition*, John Weber Gallery, New York  
1977 *The New York School: The State of the Art*, New York State Museum, Albany, NY  
1973 *Maler, Painters, Peintres, Prospect '73*, Stadtische Kunsthalle, Dusseldorf, Germany  
*Biennial Exhibition*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York  
1972 *8 New York Painters*, Museum of Art, Berkeley, CA  
1971 *The White Monochrome in 20th Century Art*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago  
*8 from New York*, Gallery A, Sidney, Australia  
1970 *Two Generations of Color Painting*, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia  
*Using Walls*, Jewish Museum, New York  
1969 *Annual Exhibition*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York  
*The Albert Pilavin Collection: 20th Century American Art*, Rhode Island School of Design  
Museum, Providence, RI  
1967 Park Place Gallery, New York

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Els Fiers, "David Diao, Office Baroque," *Metropolis*, February/March 2011  
Vivian Zihel, 'David Diao', *Leap*, January, 2011  
Eleanor Heartney, *Invisible Networks*, *Art in America*, November 2010  
Elizabeth Baker, "David Diao, Postmasters," *Art in America*, June/ July 2009  
Hiram To, "Match Point," *Harper's Bazaar*, March 2009  
Galleries: Chelsea: David Diao, *New Yorker*, February 23, 2009  
Nicole Pasulka, "Loss of Home," *The Morning News*, March 2, 2009  
Stephen Maine, "David Diao: "I lived there until I was 6..." at Postmasters," *artcritical.com*, February 2009  
Paul Laster, *David Diao, "I lived there until I was 6..."*, *Time Out New York*, February 5, 2009  
Philip Tinari, *David Diao's 'Da Hen Li House'*, catalog essay, Courtyard Gallery, Beijing, March 2008  
'Alfred H. Barr jr. (1902-1981)', edited by Ulrich Pfisterer, *Klassiker der Kunstgeschichte*, vol. 2<sup>^</sup>, Munich 2008, pp. 124- 134  
Catherine Spaeth, "David Diao: A Picaresque Tale of Ruins," *catherinesartforums.blogspot.com*, May 2, 2008  
Andrew Maerke, "Where I work: *David Diao*," *Art Asia Pacific # 57*, March 2008  
Catherine Spaeth, *Inspired by Environs, From City Loft to Country Trailer*, *The New York Times*, April 8, 2007  
Michael Corris, *Medals of Honor and Flags of Convenience: The Paintings of David Diao, David Diao 1969 - 2005*, Timezone 8 Art Books, Beijing, 2005  
*Co to Jest Konstruktywizm & After*, Galeria Arsenal, Poland, 2005 [catalog]  
Astrit Schmidt-Burkhardt, *Stammaume der Kunst zur Genealogie der Avantgarde*, Akademie Verlag, 2005  
Edward Leffinwell, *David Diao at Postmasters*, *Art In America*, November 2005  
Helen A. Harrison, *Design for Living*, *The New York Times*, October 2, 2005  
Howard Singerman, *Noncompositional Effects, or the Process of Painting in 1970*, *Oxford Art Journal* 26.1 2003  
Lilly Wei, *David Diao*, review, *Art in America*, July, 2001  
Michael Brennan, *Painter's Journal*, *artnet.com/Magazine/reviews/11-20-00*  
Saul Ostrow, *David Diao: Two Acts in One*, *NY Arts*, December 2000  
*Serie'Bruche': David Diao*, *art das kunstmagazin*, Hamburg, Oct 1999.  
Henri-Pierre Jeudy, *Les Usages Sociaux de l'Art*, *Circe*, 1999, pp.147-160  
Interview with David Diao, *Fractured Fairy Tales*, Duke University Museum of Art, Durham, NC  
Paul A. Anderson, *Critical Painting and the Racial Sublime*, *Third Text #33*, London, Fall, 1995  
Mira Schor, 'The Bitter Tea of General Yen' – *Paintings by David Diao*, Provincetown Arts, Summer 1995.

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- David Rimanelli, *David Diao*, review, Artforum, Summer 1995.  
Brooks Adams, *David Diao*, review, Art in America, May 1995.  
Kathleen Finley Magnan, *The Bitter Tea of David Diao*, Asian Art News, Hong Kong, March/April 1995  
Elizabeth Hess, *The Diao Foundation*, The Village Voice, February 28, 1995.  
Gao Cianwei, *Formalism and Meaning*, Hsiung Shih Art Monthly, Taipei, Taiwan, December 1994  
Zheng Naiming, *Cleanly Cropped Modern Landscape*, Artist, Taipei, October 1994  
Conversation between Wu Mali and David Diao, *Geometry and Beyond Geometry*, Hsiung Shih Art Monthly, Taipei, October 1994  
Hou Hanru, *David Diao: Standing Up to Authority*, Hsiung Shih Art Monthly, Taipei, September 1994  
David Diao, *When the Wheel is Invented Anew*, Tema Celeste, April/May 1992  
Richard Kalina, *David Diao at Postmasters*, (review) Art in America, March 1992  
Marjorie Welish, *Abstraction, Advocacy of*, Tema Celeste, Jan-Mar 1992  
David Humphrey, *David Diao at Postmasters*, (review) Art Issues, #21, Jan/Feb 1992  
Robert Mahoney, *David Diao*, (review) Arts, Jan. 1992  
Rhonda Lieberman, *David Diao*, (review) Artforum, Jan. 1992  
*Conceptual Abstraction*, [catalog with artist's statement], Sidney Janis Gallery, New York, Nov/Dec 1991  
L. C. Huang, *The New Language of Abstract Painting*, Hsiung Shih Art Monthly, Taipei, November 1991  
Bruce Ferguson, *A New History: David Diao's Paintings, David Diao: Selections 1972-1991*, [catalog], Cherng Piin Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan, October 1991  
Roselyne Perrodin, *Paintings David Diao, Bernard Frize and Francois Perrodin Abstract Paintings in the Collection of FRAC*, Bretagne, 1991  
Charles Penwarden, *David Diao*, review, Artscribe, December 1990  
*David Diao: Peinture et Silence*, Elle, #2341, Paris, November 19, 1990  
Lucy R. Lippard, *Mixed Blessings*, New York and Toronto, 1990  
Victoria Lu, *Postmodernist Art*, Artists' Press, Taipei, 1990  
Heinz-Peter Schwerfel, *David Diao*, Beaux-Arts, #84, November 1990  
Bruce Ferguson, *Modernism's Many Lives: David Diao*, Artforum, May 1990  
Richard W. Quinn, *Critical Investments*, essay in *The Charade of Mastery*, [catalog], Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, 1990  
Bruce Ferguson, *PASTFUTURETENSE: or What is a Meta For?*, essay in *PASTFUTURETENSE*, [catalog], The Winnipeg Art Gallery and the Vancouver Art Gallery, Canada, 1990  
Kees Broos, *On Thin Ice*, essay in *David Diao* [catalog], Museum voor Hedendaagse Kunst Het Kruihuis, 's-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands, and Provinciaal Museum voor Moderne Kunst, Oostende, Belgium, 1990  
Joshua Decter, *A Genealogy of Signs: David Diao's Metahistoricist Redactions (Synchronic into Diachronic, Diachronic into Synchronic)*, *ibid.*, 1990  
Jack Bankowsky, *David Diao*, review, Artforum, March 1990  
Peggy Cyphers, *David Diao*, review, Arts, February 1990  
Terry R. Myers, *David Diao*, review, Lapiz, February 1990  
Joshua Decter, *The Greenberg Effect*, Arts, December 1989  
Roberta Smith, *Tops of the Town: Critics' Choices*, New York Times, Nov 24, 1989  
Bruce Ferguson, *From Vision to Text: a Re-Action*, essay in *David Diao* [catalog], Musée d'Art Moderne Saint-Etienne, France, 1989  
Catherine Grout, *David Diao, Formalisme et Histoire*, (interview), Art Press, No. 130, Paris, November 1988  
Ken Johnson, *David Diao at Postmasters*, Art in America, July 1988  
Michael Jenkins, *David Diao-Interview*, Artpapers, Atlanta, May/June 1988  
Robert C. Morgan, *Let a Hundred Flowers Bloom, David Diao and the Modernist Monogram*, Arts, May 1988  
Jack Bankowsky, *Iconoclasms: The Styles of David Diao*, essay in exhibition catalog, Postmasters Gallery, New York, March 1988

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- Catherine Queloz, *La Peintre en Abyeme: Notes sur le Travail de David Diao*, *FACES: Journal d'Architectures*, No. 7, Geneva, Winter 1987/1988
- Collins and Milazzo, *Tropical Codes*, 3. *David Diao, Die Überflüssigkeit der Vision*, *Kunstforum International*, No. 92, Köln, December 1987–January 1988
- Neo-Geo, New Mode from New York*, *Bijutsu Techo*, Tokyo, December 1987
- Nicholas Bourriaud, *L'Heritage de l'Indifference*, *Art Minimal*, *Artstudio*, No. 6, Paris, Autumn, 1987
- Craig Bromberg, *Teaching Tomorrow's Avant-Garde*, *Artnews*, Sept, 1987
- Roberta Smith, *Generations of Geometry*, *New York Times*, July 17, 1987
- Robert C. Morgan, *David Diao's New Paintings: The Historicity of the Present*, *C magazine*, Toronto, June 1987
- Barry Schwabsky, *David Diao-Review*, *Artscribe*, London, April/May 1987
- Christian Besson, *Tableaux Abstracts*, *Art Press*, No. 106, Paris, September 1986, reprinted from catalog, *Villa Arson/ Centre National d'Art Contemporain*, Nice.
- Stephen Westfall, *Diaorama*, *Art in America*, March 1986
- Clark V. Poling, *Geometric Abstraction: A New Generation*, *Institute of Contemporary Art*, Boston, January 1981
- Thomas Lawson, *David Diao-Review*, *Art in America*, Jan/Feb 1979
- Tiffany Bell, *David Diao*, *Arts*, January 1979
- Carrie Rickey, *Fashion/Custom/Style*, *Artforum*, October 1978 [Cover].
- Joseph Masheck, *David Diao's Chinatown*, *Arts*, January, 1977
- John Elderfield, *Diao*, *Studio International*, London, Summer, 1974 [Cover designed by Diao]
- Thomas B. Hess, *Hello Old Paint!*, *New York magazine*, April 22, 1974
- John Elderfield, *Painterliness Redefined*, *Art International*, Lausanne, April, 1973
- Peter Schjeldahl, *Two on the Move in a Movementless Time*, *New York Times*, Sunday, March 19, 1972
- Robert Hughes, *Three Bold Newcomers*, *Time*, New York, March 13, 1972
- Carter Ratcliff, *Painterly vs. Painted*, *Artnews Annual*, New York, 1971
- J. Patrice Marandel, *La Nouvelle Peinture Abstraite Americaine*, *Opus*, No. 28, Paris, November, 1971
- Joseph Masheck, *David Diao-Review*, *Artforum*, New York, June 1971
- Gregoire Muller, *After the Ultimate*, *Arts*, March 1970
- Dore Ashton, *Young Abstract Painters, Right On!*, *Artnews*, Feb. 1970
- Emily Wasserman, *Three Younger Artists*, *Artforum*, Summer 1969