Press Release FLOWERS

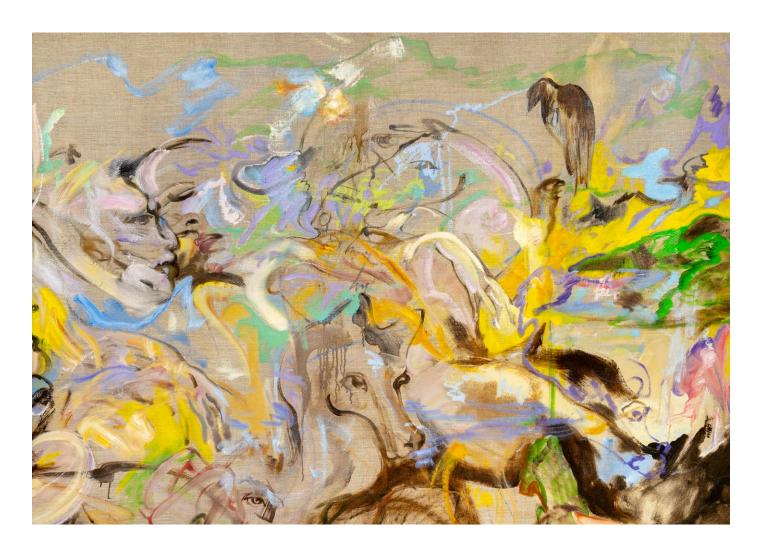
## Wu Jiaru

Apollo Center

27 March - 10 May 2025

Preview & Breakfast: 27 March, 10am - 12pm

49 Tung Street, Sheung Wan Hong Kong hongkong@flowersgallery.com



In *Apollo Center*, Hong Kong-based artist Wu Jiaru presents a monumental painting installation and a series of new works. Within the immersive, participatory exhibition, the viewer is invited to cut out and acquire fragments from the large-scale painting, each incision representing a small act of destruction. Allowing a collective and ongoing recontextualization of the original image, *Apollo Center* is an active collaboration as the audience joins in its creation and transformation.

Inspired by Apollo's mythology, his curses, and his tragic loves, Wu's paintings are made through auto-matic drawing, consistent with her practice, and layer personal history with narrative. The exhibition will explore themes of alienation, individuality, the impact of modernization and the tension between individual and collective experiences in a fragmented society. Wu's ongoing series 'docile\_body' for her paintings refers to this condition, from Foucault's theory of societal conditioning and control.



The exhibition takes its name from the Apollo Shopping Center, a Hong Kong mall local to the artist in the Sham Shui Po district. Reflected in the work, the Apollo building's faded signs recall personal and social memories; its retail stores lie beneath towering residential flats, layering individual experience with acts of consumerism - a confrontation central to the interactivity of the principal piece.

## About the Artist

Wu Jiaru (b.1992) explores the intersection of myth, memory, and contemporary society. Through large-scale paintings and installations, she creates immersive experiences that question the forces shaping our lives and identities, drawing on influences from mythology to modern philosophy.

Wu received her dual BA degrees in Fine Arts and English Language from Tsinghua University in 2014, and her MFA from the School of Creative Media at City University of Hong Kong in 2017. Her work is in the collection of M+ Musuem, Hong Kong and The Burger Collection, Switzerland & Hong Kong.

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