

ART100 New York

**Construction and Contemplation: Noa Charuvi, Li Gang**  
**Exhibition Opening: February 16, 6pm–8pm**

February 16 – March 31, 2017

ART100 New York  
555 West 25th Street  
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Hours: Tues-Sat, 11 am – 6 pm

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**ART100 New York** opened its doors in December, 2016. The gallery’s inaugural show, “A Fine Line,” drew over a thousand visitors. On Feb 16th, the gallery will open its second exhibition: “Construction and Contemplation” featuring two remarkable painters who have developed individuated, contemporary means of expressiveness that grow from distinct classical foundations: the Israeli artist Noa Charuvi , and Chinese artist Li Gang.

**Noa Charuvi’s** work has its antecedents in landscape painting, but the paintings themselves reflect a special focus on her surroundings, and a very particular handling of color and composition. In her early work, Charuvi drew source material from images of demolished buildings in Palestine. Her goal was to deconstruct how painterly abstraction and brushstrokes could facilitate understanding of politics and history. In her newest work, Charuvi paints construction sites that she sees outside her New York studio near the World Trade Center. The small vignettes she creates with deliberate and empathetic brushstrokes reveal the process of both architectural and painterly construction. The physical objects in her demolition works and her construction works are often the same – machinery, cement blocks, wiring, rebar - though the context is quite different. Charuvi does not aim for pathos, her attention is on process – the creation and dissolution of what man makes within the landscape - and what she sees as the “already abstract” quality of human activity on our surroundings.

**Li Gang**'s work is rooted in Chinese ink painting, one of the world's oldest continuous art forms. Li's work evidences the precise motion and change and the "spirit resonance"- the flow of energy between artist, brush and paper - that are among ink painting's basic principles. But Li is a contemporary artist, a contemporary person, and, for him, history and discipline provide the ground and the armature for innovation and self-expression. Li builds his work in layers, first with ink and then acrylic to create a rich palimpsest of color and texture that reiterates the layering of civilization itself. Li creates paintings that gradually unfold to the viewer, revealing history, change, and complexity. In Li's painting, as with architecture, the structure is built from the bottom up, giving the work a sense of depth and gravity. In this series, Li's images, rows of minimally differentiated abstract shapes, have been seen as a recapitulation of ancient depictions of the thousand Buddhas. Li's work can also be appreciated as the fruit of a personal meditative practice bridging ancient calligraphic writing and contemporary abstract expressionism.

Li Gang, *Ink Element No. 20161017*, 19 x 19 in. (49 x 49 cm.), 2016

**Noa Charuvi** was born in Jerusalem, and now lives and works in New York City. She holds a Master's Degree in Fine Art from the School of Visual Arts in New York and a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Art from the Bezalel Academy in Jerusalem. Her work is in the Time Equities collection and has been exhibited internationally, including at the Bronx Museum of Art and the Haifa Museum of Arts in Israel.

**Li Gang** was born in Guangdong, China in 1962. He now lives and works in Beijing. He attended the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Art. Li's work has been exhibited in Strasbourg, France, Heidelberg, Germany, the Venice Biennale and in China at Today Art Museum among others. His work is held in the collection of the Central Academy of Fine Arts Museum, the Shanghai Artists Association, and the Guangdong Museum of Art.

**ART100 New York** occupies a 3,000 square foot ground floor space in a historic 1891 building on the corner of 25th Street and 11th Avenue. It is a project of Bai Jia Lake International Group based in China. Bai Jia Lake International Group supports events and institutions that provide opportunities for cultural exchange through visual art.

ART100 New York is affiliated with the Group's galleries in Beijing, Shanghai, Singapore, and Hong Kong. The gallery presents the work of renowned Chinese and other international contemporary artists, and provides a platform for those who are emerging and distinctive.

*For gallery and exhibition inquiries, please contact gallery director Michelle Y. Loh at 347 668 8936, [michelle.art100ny@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.art100ny@gmail.com)*

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