



Press Release – For Immediate Release

To: Assignment Editor/Editor of Education and Local News Sections

13 February 2026

The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong and ArtNext present Wang Yi's solo exhibition: "The Stars Are Not Afraid to Appear Like Fireflies"

The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong (HSUHK), in partnership with ArtNext, presents the solo exhibition of acclaimed Chinese contemporary artist Wang Yi (王一), *"The Stars Are Not Afraid to Appear Like Fireflies"*. Co-curated by Mianco Wong and Xie Xiaomin, it features recent works from Wang's iconic *Reflection of Shadow* series alongside the new *Ksana* series.

The exhibition's title draws from Rabindranath Tagore's *Stray Birds*, using "shadow" as a lens to examine how self-awareness forms through light reflections, personal experiences, and societal structures, while true existence often remains elusive. Layered, ephemeral imagery in reflective installations and paintings invites viewers to engage with the dynamics of "seeing and being seen", prompting reflecting on the visible and invisible, the individual and the environment.

The immersive space is designed as an abstract maze of reflective black glass and red bulbs, echoing the venue's floor-to-ceiling windows and Hong Kong's layered urban architecture. As visitors navigate through the installation, their reflections illuminate, refract, and overlap, heightening awareness of their existence amid forces of resistance and dissolution.

Reflection of Shadow is the artist's core exploration of "appearing and the concealing". Meticulous outlining turns light into an active generator of shadows. Dense layers and subtle shifts suspend images between certainty and dissolution—always forming, yet fading, like a shadow's reflection—evoking an unconfirmable existence.

The new *Ksana* series extends this exploration into the temporality of appearance, capturing Hong Kong's intense and fleeting light bursts. Using industrial aluminum panels, Wang Yi applies hundreds of translucent pigment layers with a glazing technique inspired by Southern Song Dynasty ceramics. Repeated application and erasure let forms drift, balancing emergence and disappearance—light as a momentary event, appearing, then vanishing.

Born in Shanghai in 1991, Wang Yi earned his master's degree in Oil Painting from the China Academy of Art in 2016. A leading voice among China's new abstract generation, he has been shortlisted for the Tomorrow Sculpture Award and the John Moores Painting Prize (China), and received the Porsche Young Chinese Artist of the Year Award in 2021. These international recognitions underscore his fluid transition across two- and three-dimensional media.

Wang Yi's multidisciplinary practice spans painting, sculpture, installation, and text. Central to his approach is his self-developed theory of "Grand Geometry", which frames light-shadow dynamics



and social issues through rational structures. He views geometric forms as revealing the world's underlying logic and insists that abstract art should function not merely as decoration or formal experimentation, but as a vessel for profound ideas. By distilling the complexities of the urban environment and social orders into precise geometric language, his works construct grand, dialectical narratives within a rational framework.

This exhibition is a key component of HSUHK's Master of Arts in Art Business and related programmes. The partnership between HSUHK and ArtNext exemplifies how contemporary art can seamlessly bridge academia, artistic practice, and the art market, thereby enriching educational dialogue.

Exhibition Details

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| Exhibition | The Stars Are Not Afraid to Appear Like Fireflies |
| Date | 28 March – 17 April 2026 |
| Venue | The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong – Foundation Gallery 1/F, Creative Humanities Hub (CR), The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong Hang Shin Link, Siu Lek Yuen, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong |

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Photos:

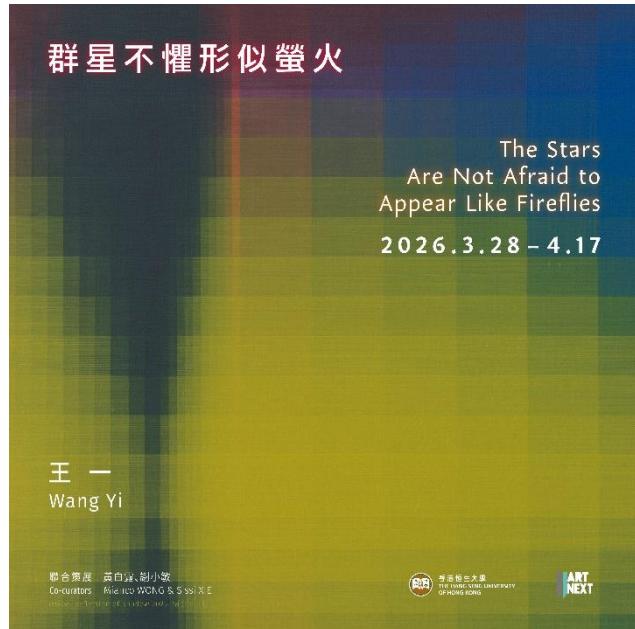


Photo 1: Poster for Wang Yi's solo exhibition "The Stars Are Not Afraid to Appear Like Fireflies". Jointly presented by HSUHK and ArtNext. The exhibition will take place from 28 March to 17 April 2026 at the HSUHK – Foundation Gallery.



Photo 2: Born in Shanghai in 1991, Wang Yi is a leading figure in China's new generation of abstract artists. His works simplify urban structures and social orders into precise geometric language.

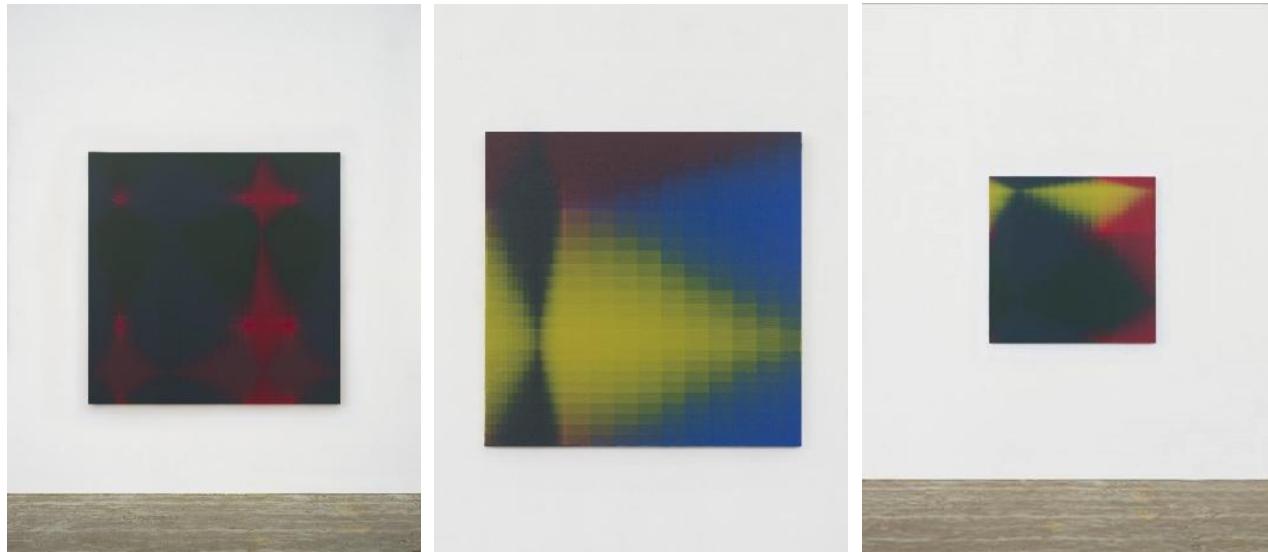


Photo 3 – 5: Wang Yi's representative work, *Reflection of Shadow* series. Acrylic on canvas or resin-coated aluminum panels, create visual depth through the layering of translucent colour blocks.



Photo 6: Wang Yi's *Ksana* series. Named after the Buddhist concept of an instantaneous moment, the artist challenges rigid industrial materials to evoke the fleeting sparkle of fireflies.



Photo 7: Through Wang Yi's meticulous overlapping techniques, he conveys emotional nuances concealed beneath rational geometric structure.

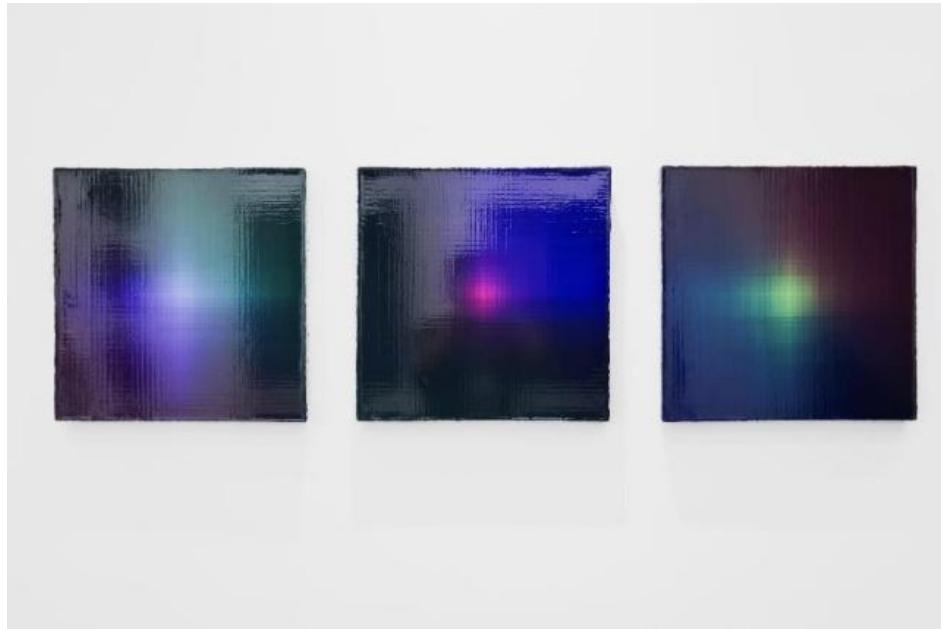


Photo 8: Immersive maze of reflective black glass and red bulbs. Visitors' reflections refract, overlap, and illuminate to heighten awareness of presence amid shifting lights and shadows.

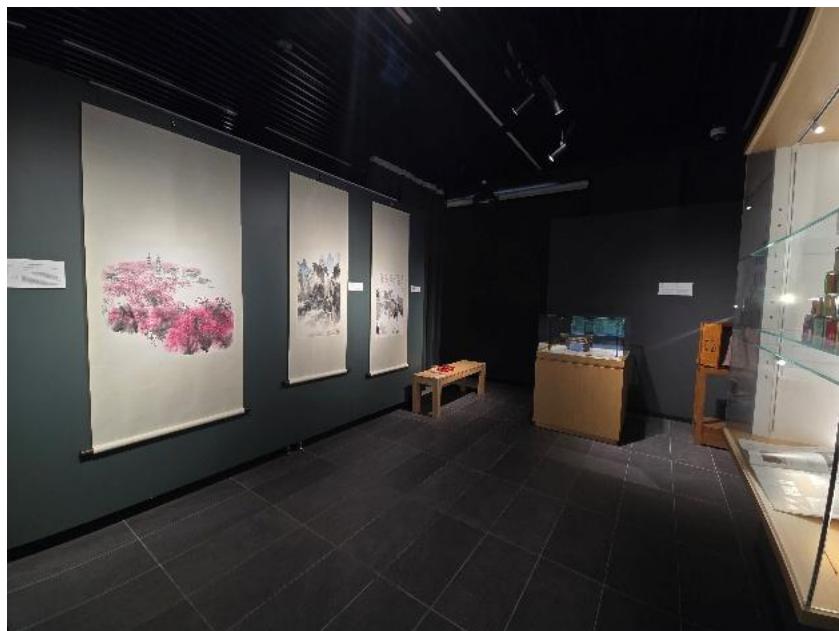


Photo 9: The HSUHK – Foundation Gallery. This exhibition bridges contemporary art with campus life, forging an organic connection between artistic practice, academia, and the art market.

Photos Download: [Link](#)

About The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong

The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong (HSUHK) is a non-profit private liberal-arts-oriented university with six Schools (Business, Communication, Decision Sciences, Humanities and Social Science, Translation and Foreign Languages, and Transdisciplinary Studies), and over 7,000 full-time



undergraduate and postgraduate students. With its unique “Liberal + Professional” education model, HSUHK nurtures young talent with critical thinking, innovative minds, caring attitudes, moral values and social responsibility.

Aspiring to be a leading private university in the region, HSUHK prioritises stellar undergraduate education, top-quality faculty members, award-winning green campus facilities, innovative degree programmes, a unique residential college system that combines living and learning, interactive small-class teaching, close student-teacher relationships, impactful research, and excellent student development and support services.

HSUHK has earned various international recognitions. In the AppliedHE's ALL ASIA Private University Ranking 2026, it secured 7th place in the Greater China region. HSUHK ranked 22nd in Social Sciences and Humanities and 33rd in Economics and Finance among China's top universities in the Research.com Top Universities and Top Scientists Rankings 2025. The MSc in Global Supply Chain Management programme achieved 84th place globally in the QS International Trade Rankings 2025. Additionally, HSUHK's School of Business obtained AACSB International accreditation in 2023, a mark of excellence held by only 6% of the world's leading business schools. HSUHK was also ranked among the top 200 worldwide on “Quality Education” and “Decent Work and Economic Growth” in the Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings 2021.