

# Over the Top: 16 Years of Running a Gallery



## **For Immediate Release:**

Chicago, Illinois: *Over the top:16 years of Running a Gallery*

**Contact: Christina Pannos (p) 312- 829-3312**

**Opening reception: November 20, 2009 (5-8pm)**

Walsh Gallery invites the 50 artists that have shown over the past 16 years to help host an over-the-top art bash,

"The art world is overdue for a celebration," Ms. Walsh, founder of the Walsh gallery explains, "I've created an exhibition that rejoices over the passion to follow one's convictions in the art field. Whether to commemorate the artists who obstinately continue to make art despite the recession in Asia and the US or the dealers who are determined to persevere, it is time for a party."

The show, called "Over the top: 16 Years of Running a Gallery," highlights works in a variety of media, including a novel category of t-shirt design, a debut screening of documentary videos from Walsh Gallery's never before seen Asian Art Interview Archive, as well as installation art and photography created by director Julie Walsh. The show opens Friday, Nov. 20th from 5-8:00pm. Closing date is on Dec. 23. Many of the artists will be present at the opening.

The exhibition will feature an installation by 35 of Walsh Gallery's artists who created limited edition t-shirts. These shirts will be hung from the ceiling on various plastic busts. When art viewers decide to buy T-shirt, the design of the T-shirt will be applied in front of them. Thus incorporating the viewer into the history of the gallery. The images on the t-shirts represent the best talent in Contemporary Asian Art and local talent from the last 16 years.

Many of these artists were emerging when first shown by the gallery and now have become internationally renowned stars in the art market

Ms. Walsh will be exhibiting photos and light boxes made from images based on years of art travels around the globe. The photographs appear in grid of 36 images, resemble paintings, and reflect Ms. Walsh's training in Chinese ink and watercolor techniques. The images were created in the midst of 'art busyness' . . . going to and from art fairs and exhibitions, traversing airports, taking taxis, and visiting artists' studios around the world. The images are often abstract and capture moments of beauty as reflected by different light conditions.

In addition there will be on exhibit a series of 8 light boxes. These phototransparencies, backlit by LED lights, aim to transport the viewer through time and space as they reflect the light of a single day turned to night, much like a high tech examination referencing Monet's haystack series. Ms. Walsh wanted also to simulate a certain disorientation as when a person crosses multiple time zones in a limited period.

Finally, in the project room, there will be an interactive Alice in Wonderland approach to all the postcards created in the 16 years of Walsh Gallery's history. The postcards find a new life as they are distorted and manipulated into wallpaper. There will also be a wall of postcards that have magnets on the back which allow each person to add his own history to that of the gallery.

Visitors can expect several surprise performances created by guest artists as well as the art viewers themselves.

**WALSH GALLERY**

118 N. Peoria Street, Chicago IL 60607  
T 312 829 3312 [www.walshgallery.com](http://www.walshgallery.com)