

1 **'War and the Anthropocene: Chinese Visual and Poetic Narratives, 2022-Present'**

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2 **INTRODUCTION:**

Visual Art & Poetic Narratives

3 **Cao Fei 曹斐: Falling Matryoshka**

On February 25, 2022, 1 day after Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Cao Fei posted on Instagram:

"Falling Matryoshka © Cao Fei 2022. Photo from the border of China and Russia. Project commissioned by @garagemca."

Collaboration Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow, Jan 2022.

4 **Matryoshka in Russia & China**

- Russia: tradition since 1890
- Japan: Honshu doll, daruma doll (but not nested)
- China: traditional roly-poly toy: 'tumbler' (*budaoweng* 不倒翁)
 - Drinking game since Tang dynasty
- Cao Fei: The doll that cannot fall has fallen

5 **Tang drinking game**

- Since Tang dynasty (618-907)
- Wine vessel used for drinking game
- Top light, bottom heavy, used to rotate and point to one person at table
- developed from 'catching drunken immortal' (*bu zui xian* 捕醉仙),
- *xi hu zi* 劝酒胡、*jiu hu zi* 酒胡子,
- like an alien with blue eyes and curly hair who points finger at drinker in a group around a table.

6 **Tang & Song dynasty poems**

References to tumbler, e.g.:

Wang Dingbao 王定保 (870-954), scholar-official from Nanchang (Jiangxi).

- Fled after fall of Tang and served under Southern Han dynasty (917-971).

“Song of the Drinking Tumbler” 《酒胡子长歌》

The appearance of a drinking tumbler resembles a human,
yet it is filled with interest and intent.

However, swaying unsteadily, it moves according to others,
not depending on the drunkenness itself.

胡貌类人，变有意趣，然而倾侧不定，缓急由人，不在酒胡也

。

7 Ming poem by Xu Wei

- Xu Wei 徐渭 1521-1593 (Xu Wenzhang 徐文长), from Shanyin county, today's Shaoxing

- Roly-poly

- Metaphor for people and political rise, fall, and comeback

- “The Tumbler” 《不倒翁》

A black gauze cap and jade belt make him appear a dignified official,

Yet this old man is nothing but a lump of clay.

Suddenly, you shatter him to pieces,

Revealing, inside and out, no integrity or moral substance at all.

乌纱玉带俨然官，此翁原来泥半团；忽然将你来打碎，通身上下无心肝。

8 Famous Painter Qi Baishi 齐白石

Qi Baishi 齐白石 (1864-1957), from Hunan,

“Inscribed on the Tumbler” 《题不倒翁》

This old man is crafty, enough to amuse a child,

Knock him down—don't prop him up, just let him rise again.

His black gauze hat sits straight upon his brow,

Though he has no heart or liver, he still holds official rank.

能供儿戏此翁乖，打倒休扶快起来。头上齐眉纱帽黑，虽无肝胆有

官阶。

-> mocking official authority

9 **Tumbler in Modern Chinese Culture**

Tan Wenrui 谭文瑞 (1922-2014)

- Journalist,
- *People's Daily* editor-in-chief
- Famous for satirical poems

Wrote poem for a comic book:

“The Tumbler Has Fallen” 《不倒翁倒了》

Sometimes bad luck comes,
and the tumbler falls over.

时来厄运到，不倒翁倒了。

10 **‘Martyrs’ (‘Xundaozhe’ 殉道者),**

Liao Weitang 廖伟棠

殉道者

为什么这乌克兰的微笑似曾相识
原来他也曾属于那个西藏男孩。

就像一朵桃花那样的微笑。

她珍爱生命，去拯救被人类放弃的
他珍爱自由，放弃生命去喊出它。

地球没有放弃你们，山和水奔走相告
在炮弹开始流亡的时候，你们

只有你们知道回家的路。路也追随
你们，渐渐涌起巨浪来。

温柔的，坚定的，一亿朵桃花那样。

11 ☐ **China's Utopia: *Locus Classicus***

Tao Yuanming 陶渊明 (365-427)

'Record of the Peach Blossom Spring' ('Tao hua yuan ji' 桃花源记)

12 ☐ **China's Dream?**

- Art / poetry on topics in China's media sphere: Taiwan, Tibet, HK
- China Dream: Xi Jinping's motto, Nov 2012
 - 'Great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation'.
- Ai Weiwei: 'There is no Chinese Dream, only Chinese nightmares.'
- Many unofficial dreams / vernacular culture
- China's many Chinese Nightmares:
 - pandemic,
 - Ukrainian leg of BRI in ruins...

13 ☐ **To explore today...**

- Contesting discourses in China's mediasphere
 - China's social media: Weibo and WeChat
- 3 Themes:
 - Colours of Ukraine
 - Sunflowers
 - Red & Black
- 3 Poets & 6 Artists

14 ☐ **China's Geopolitics**

15 ☐ **Opening Beijing Winter Olympics**

4 Feb 2022: Beijing Winter Olympics Opening Ceremony,
China & Russia pledge 'no limits' friendship

16 ☐ **Joint Statement: No limits Friendship & Media Mirroring**

17 ☐ **National Radio & TV Administration 国家广播电视总局 (2018)**

- 2021 NRTA under Central Propaganda Dept of CCP
- Additional agreement with Russia's Ministry of Digital Development, Communications and Mass Media: Chinese

- media to repeat & amplify Russian propaganda
- Since Feb 2022: converging media narratives Russia / China
 - China amplifies Russia's fake news: Ukraine prepares biological warfare (cf. Hvistendahl & Kovalev, 2022)

18 ☐ **China's Mediasphere**

19 ☐ **China's Mediasphere**

- 'Mediasphere' (Debray, 1991)
- := 'Cultural production in the visual and textual fields characterised by endless expansion'
- Our sources:
 - Online literature
 - Online magazines
 - Visual art & literary websites
 - Weibo 微博 (Sina Weibo)
 - WeChat / Weixin 微信

20 ☐ **Official Discourse on China's Mediasphere**

- Social media / Weibo, WeChat
- February & March 2022:
 - Pro-Putin
 - Pro-Russia
 - Anti-Ukraine

21 ☐ **Official Discourse on China's Mediasphere**

- 'Glorious Russia! Glorious Putin! They have politicians in the West, but Putin, he is a great political player who will go down in history!'
- 'I support the disintegration of NATO! I support Russia, because when Russia falls, China is next!' (Weibo, 2 March 2022).
- 'Russia has done a beautiful job!'
 - (Cf. Bandurski, 2022)

22 ☐ **Pro-Russian Propaganda Poem**

Admirer of Plum Blossoms in the Snow N
19 September 2022

American imperialists become the tyrants of the world,
Expanding eastward to the Russian border.

Instigating Ukraine to provoke Russia,
 Each Nazi is a demon.
 They have killed more than 20,000 Russian civilians,
 Many of them women and children.
 The Russian army rises to resist the Nazis,
 Bravely fighting without fear against the pack of wolves.
 They heroically hold on and smash the encirclement,
 Ultimately ensuring the defeat of the Nazis.

Imitation of old-style regular poem:
 Seven-word couplets, rhyme attempted.
 14 likes, 4 comments
 Author: 2014 followers; 130,000 likes.

Toutiao 头条 (Headlines) Platform, URL:
https://www.toutiao.com/question/7142737941764129055/?source=seo_tt_juhe, accessed 3 January 2024.

23 ☐ **Parrhesia in East & West**

24 ☐ **Parrhesia in Western Culture**

- Greek παρρησία — first in Euripides (c.484-407 BC)
 - Literally: 'saying everything one has in mind'
 - Speaking truth to power, freedom of expression, transparency, duty, idle talk, gossip.

25 ☐ **Parrhesia in Western Culture**

- Foucault, 1983:
 - Condition: truth-tellers face risk or danger for them in telling truth
 - But they feel bound by duty to muster the courage and do so.
 - Foucault, Michel, 'Discourse and Truth: The Problematisation of Parrhesia', Six Lectures given at Berkeley, 1983.

26 ☐ **Parrhesia Tradition in China**

- Duke Huan of Qi 齊桓公 (r.685-643 BC) established office of 'admonition officers' (*jian guan* 諫官) to speak truth to power—until Liao dynasty (916-1125).
- Praised by China's e-government today: He Jing 何靜, website of

Audit Bureau of Guilin City, Guangxi 广西壮族自治区桂林市审计局.

27 ☐ **Parrhesia Tradition as the Intellectuals' Mission**

- Roaming scholars *shi* 士 in pre-Qin China
 - Confucius 孔子
 - Mencius 孟子
- Roam from kingdom to kingdom
- Offer advice on good government to the ruler

28 ☐ **Parrhesia Risks**

- Sima Qian 司馬遷 (c. 145-c. 86 BC) & Grand Historian to Emperor Han Wudi 漢武帝 (r. 141- 87 BC)
 - Sima Qian defended defeated general Li Ling 李陵 (d. 74 BC)
 - Death sentence
 - Commuted to castration and 3 years in prison after
- Tradition of *xiaoshuo* 小说 — idle talk, gossip — history rather than fiction
- Political critique — often indirect

29 ☐ **3 THEMES:**

Parrhesia in China's Mediasphere

30 ☐ **I.**

COLOURS OF UKRAINE

31 ☐ **Cao Fei 曹斐**

32 ☐ **Cao Fei on Instagram**

33 ☐ **Cao Fei**

- 1 • February/March 2022
 - “Found daily colours to support Ukraine”
 - Echoes of Ukraine found in China...

34 ☐ **Cao Fei**

Master of the Art of Indirect Critique

Cao Fei: ‘Comments on China’s society, not criticism’ (NYT, 2015)

35 **Cao Fei**

- Conform to the System
- Avoid direct confrontation with authorities
- Mix art, political & commercial culture
- Design alternative worlds without CCP, new utopias
- In her video artwork 'Whose Utopia?'
- 'My future is not a dream' 我的未来不是梦

36 **Cao Fei**

- Photographer
- Film maker
- Video artist
- Script writer
- Composer
- Sculptor

37 **Multi-media artist CAO Fei 曹斐 (b. 1978)**

38 **Badiuca 巴丢草**

39 **Badiuca 巴丢草**

40

- #StopWar
- #StandWithUkraine
- <https://www.badiuca.com/latest-adventure>

41 **Badiuca website**

- 57,000 followers on Instagram
- 2200 posts

42 **Badiuca: Interactive Art on Blockchain / Mint**

- NFT (non-fungible tokens / cryptocurrency) Ukraine:
 - allows 'collectors to write their own message of opposition to China's authoritarian regime onto the blockchain as part of the minting process, preserving it as a public decentralized record of protest'.
- Badiuca:
 - 'I have been battling censorship from China's authoritarian regime for more than 10 years. When conventional galleries

and venues are too intimidated to exhibit my art due to threats from Beijing, NFTs and blockchain technologies not only provide a safe way to offer critical financial support to dissident artists, but serve as an important immutable public record outside of authoritarian tampering and control.'

- 'Help Badiuca support the brave citizens of Ukraine by collecting this vital work. <https://www.badiuca.com/ukraine>'

43 **Badiuca**

- Born c. 1986 in China
- Known by pseudonym only
- Lives in Australia
- Active on
 - Sina Weibo,
 - other Chinese social media,
 - Twitter,
 - Instagram
- Website: <https://www.badiuca.com/latest-adventure>

44 **Huang Rui 黄锐**

45 **Huang Rui 黄锐: 'Absence of Black Moon'**

- Art Basel
- 2022
- Oil on canvas, 88 x 99 cm

46 **Huang Rui 黄锐: 'Absence of Black Moon'**

- 'Together for Peace': Exhibition by Ukrainian & Polish Embassies, Beijing, 12 March 2022
- *Dao de jing* 道德经 inspiration
- *Yi jing* 易经 *Book of Changes*

47 **Huang Rui 黄锐: 'Absence of Black Moon'**

48 **Huang Rui 黄锐: 'Absence of Black Moon'**

- Paused his other projects to dedicate himself to a anti-war work about Ukraine after hearing the news of its invasion on February 24.

- 'Absence of Black Moon'
- Finished 3 days later
- Presented at Ukrainian and Polish embassies in Beijing
- Ukrainian flag sliced into quarters by lines of red and white = Russia.

49 **Huang Rui 黄锐: 'Absence of Black Moon'**

- *1952, Beijing
- 1978 co-published Jintian 今天 Today literary magazine
- 1980s Co-founder & member of Stars Group 星星画会
- Exhibitions in China, Europe, USA

50 **Deng Kangyan 邓康延**

51 **'Echoes from the Ukrainian Trenches' ('Wukelan zhanhao de huixiang' 乌克兰战壕的回响), Deng Kangyan 邓康延**

乌克兰兄弟

听到你战壕的笛声离死亡很近

我们揪心

看到你故乡的旋律离太阳很近

我们开心

我们也有过梅花和青天血染的清晨

知道恨与爱的山高海深

请接受遥远东方的和音

比炮弹更响的共鸣

比履带更快的前进

52 **'Echoes from the Ukrainian Trenches' ('Wukelan zhanhao de huixiang' 乌克兰战壕的回响), Deng Kangyan 邓康延**

当你的笛声和我们的琴声共振

那是母亲和孩子的声音

那是自由与和平的声音
那是地球山崩地裂的声音

你笛孔里有乌克兰的花黄天蓝
你旋律里回荡着向死而生的国运
没有谁能打败一场心灵的合奏
苍天护佑热爱自由的人民

53 **Deng Kangyan 邓康延**

- Poem:
 - mixes colours of Ukraine's flag with colour of blood
- b. Kunming
- Geological engineer
- Poet
- Author &
- Documentary filmmaker

54 **II.**

SUNFLOWERS

55 **Badiuca 巴丢草**

56

(Badiuca.com, 25 March 2022), Badiuca website, URL:
<https://www.badiuca.com/ukraine>, accessed 20 January 2024.

57 **Ukrainian woman confronts Russian soldiers**

Henichesk, sea of Asov

25 February 2022

"Take these seeds and put them in your pockets, so at least
sunflowers will grow when you all lie down here."

Viral on social media

"#PocketSunflowers to grow sunflowers from their graves!" — a
Twitter user

(Shweta Sharma, 'Brave Ukrainian woman wells soldier: 'Put
sunflower seeds in your pocket so they grow when you die', *The*

Independent, 25 Feb 2022)

58 

1/6 series: Six-piece NFT (non-fungible tokens/cryptocurrency) collection

dedicated to the brave Ukrainians fighting against the Russian invasion, inspiring the world

All proceeds to go to Ukrainian government

59  [Seeds in the Pockets](#)

1 • 25 March 2022

Seeds in the Pockets

is a 6 pieces NFT collection dedicated to the brave Ukrainians who fight against Russian invasion and inspire the world.

March 25th, 2022—Chinese dissident artist Badiuca announces today he has created an NFT collection in support of Ukraine amidst the 2022 Russian invasion. This NFT collection, ‘Seeds in the Pockets’ is dedicated to the brave Ukrainians who fight against Russian invasion and inspire the world. ‘Seeds in the Pockets’ features six new works, each with a message of support and empathy for Ukrainians who are living through this terrible war.

All proceeds from the sale of this collection will be sent directly to the Ukrainian government, [who is now accepting payments via crypto currency.](#)

60 

Sunflower Seeds (*Kuihuazi* 葵花籽)

• Tate Modern, 2010

• ‘Readymades’

• Marcel Duchamp (1887-1968)

• ‘Ukraine-Conflict is a testbed for China’s Taiwan plans’ (7 April 2022)

61  **Xi Yongjun 席永君**

62  **Microblog Poem: ‘Ukraine: Homeland of Sunflowers (Poetry Series): Sunflowers’, Xi Yongjun 席永君, 2022**

向日葵

更无柳絮因风起,

惟有葵花向日倾。

——【宋】司马光《客中初夏》

在乌克兰港口城市亨尼切斯克
一位大妈当街怒怼俄罗斯士兵
她大声质问：你们为什么要来
我们这里？你们是侵略者
你们是乌克兰人的敌人
从这一刻起，你们被诅咒了
你们应该把这些葵花籽
放进你们的口袋里，这样
等你们死后，它们就会
在乌克兰的土地上自由生长
那光明，那沉默的爱……
大妈深爱向日葵
向日葵是乌克兰的国花

63 **Xi Yongjun, 'Sunflowers' Microblog poem**

- Poem 4/12 in series
- Publ. 12 March 2022, Chengdu
- 1110 views
- 39 likes
- On WeChat public channel 'Poetry, Wine and Tea Republic'
shijiucha gonghe 诗酒茶共和, Sichuan

64 **WeChat Channel**

- 'Poetry, Wine and Tea Republic' *shijiucha gonghe* 诗酒茶共和
from Sichuan
- 'Publications of excellent writings on wine culture and tea culture,
and also excellent poetry to disseminate the excellent Chinese
culture.'

65 ☐ **Xi Yongjun 席永君 (b. 1963)**

- b. 1963 Qionglai 邛崃, Sichuan
- Lives in Chengdu
- Poet, with international recognition
- Editor-in-chief of
 - literary magazines
 - *Chengdu Evening News*, etc.

66 ☐ **III.**

BLACK & RED

67 ☐ **Badiuca 巴丢草**

68 ☐ **Stop**

69 ☐ **STOP 3/6**

70 ☐ **STOP 3/6**

‘In my view, if you open the dazzling neon jacket, China’s complexion is nothing more than black and red.

Red is blood, fear and violence.

Black is iron, freezing nights, depression, despair, and the silent corners. It’s the cloth gag covering the screams.

The country is like a giant meat grinder, a layer of fresh blood covering a layer of despair, new despair covering the layer of fresh blood, over and over again.’

<https://chinadigitaltimes.net/2013/12/ten-question-badiuca-%E5%B7%B4%E4%B8%A2%E8%8D%89/>, accessed 20 Jan 2024.

71 ☐ **Red/Black: Colour of Anarchists**

- Anarchy: ‘doctrine of no government’ 無政府主義 *wúzhèngfǔ zhǔyì*
- Against oppressive government
- Popular variant of socialism
- Russian Revolution 1917
- May Fourth Movement 1919

72 **Badiuca 巴丢草**

- Composite Portrait
- 2022
- Badiuca's first solo show
- DOX, Prague, Czechia, May-August 2022

73 **Liao Weitang 廖伟棠**

74 **'Winter on Fire', Liao Weitang 廖伟棠**

Winter on Fire

二二八連假前夕

我坐在路邊

用手機看紀錄片

Winter on Fire:

Ukraine's Fight for Freedom

75 **'Winter on Fire', Liao Weitang 廖伟棠**

Winter on Fire

二二八連假前夕

我坐在路邊

用手機看紀錄片

Winter on Fire:

Ukraine's Fight for Freedom

76 **'Winter on Fire', Liao Weitang 廖伟棠**

77 **'Winter on Fire'**

我想截圖給我防火牆內的朋友看

但只截下來字幕

圖像變成一片漆黑只剩下：

78 **'Winter on Fire'**

「我的朋友和我

開始搖響所有的鐘」

「聖米迦勒修道院的人
正在阻止這件事發生」
「上一次這些鐘敲響
是在1240年蒙古韃靼人
入侵基輔之時」
我不確定他們能否猜到什麼回事

79 'Winter on Fire'

而我住在基輔、第聶伯的朋友
鐘聲盈耳，無暇寫詩
她們忙於撬開
十字架之上
針孔一般狹窄的天空
就像我住在九龍、港島、大嶼山
每天都經歷著二二八前夕
的朋友一樣

80 Liao Weitang 廖伟棠

- b. 1975 Xinxing county 新兴县, Guangdong
- 'Left behind child' in rural area
- Moves to Hong Kong (Cantonese name: Liu Waitong, pun on *liuwang aitong* 流亡哀痛, 'Grief in Exile')
- Poet, photographer, writer, magazine editor, bookshop manager
- Literary prizes in HK, Taiwan, abroad
- Assoc. Prof. National Taipei University of the Arts 國立臺北藝術大學 (Literature Dept.)

81 Qi Shaoting 齐少婷

82 Qi Shaoting 齐少婷

83 Qi Shaoting

84 Qi Shaoting

2022 Qi and her child fled to Dusseldorf

'The idea of the project arose because of the restriction of access to materials when we were fleeing at the outbreak of war. I didn't have paint or rice paper, which are hard to find even in peacetime. If an artist has a passion for art, they can paint with anything: toothpaste, fingers. The first works of art were made in such conditions, in the conditions of war.'

Interview 27 April 2022, Ukrainian Association of Sinologists

85  **Li Qiang 李强**

86  **Li Qiang 李强**

- 'Flight of Ukrainian Refugees'
- After a photograph by Andrea Alexandrova,
- Painted by Li Qiang,
- 27 February 2022, Qingdao'
- Black ink, red stamp

87  **Li Qiang 李强**

乌克兰难民出逃

2022年2月26日，乌克兰与罗马尼亚边境，一名乌克兰难民抱着4岁女儿逃离处境。2月25日，联合国人权办公室宣布已收到至少127名乌克兰平民伤亡报告，包括25人在炮击和空袭中死亡，102人受伤。联合国难民署估计本轮冲突已造成至少10万乌克兰人流离失所，过去48小时逾五万乌克兰难民逃往邻国避难。联合国秘书长宣布从应急基金中拨款2000万美元，用于为乌克兰提供积极人道主义援助。

摄影师：Andrea Alexander

二零二二年二月二十七日，李强画于青岛

Ukrainian Refugees Fleeing

On February 26, 2022, at the Ukraine-Romania border, a Ukrainian refugee is seen escaping the situation while holding his 4-year-old daughter. On February 25, the United Nations Human Rights Office announced receiving reports of at least 127 Ukrainian civilian casualties, including 25 deaths from shelling and airstrikes,

with 102 people injured. The UN Refugee Agency estimates that this conflict has already displaced at least 100,000 Ukrainians, with over 50,000 Ukrainian refugees seeking shelter in neighboring countries in the past 48 hours. The UN Secretary-General declared an allocation of 20 million dollars from the emergency fund to provide active humanitarian assistance to Ukraine.

Photographer: Andrea Alexander

February 27, 2022.

Illustrated by Li Qiang in Qingdao.

88 **Li Qiang**

- Li Qiang, 21 March 2022, ink and red stamp. 'Ukrainians sheltering during a Russian bomb attack'

89 **Translation Li Qiang, 21 March 2022**

1. 俄军动用高超音速武器，乌克兰民众在地下防空洞避难，利沃夫。

3月19日，俄罗斯国防部宣布首次使用“匕首”高超音速导弹炸毁乌克兰军方的大型地下弹药库，协助“卢甘斯克人民共和国”军队成功解放90%以上领土。俄军迄今累计摧毁乌方1412辆坦克和装甲车辆，184架无人机，142门多发火箭炮，542门火炮和迫击炮。当天乌克兰政府宣布通过“人道主义走廊”累计疏散6623名平民。联合国通报本次俄乌冲突已造成至少847名平民丧生，超过320万乌克兰难民逃往邻国避难。

二零二二年三月二十一日，李强画

The Russian military deployed hypersonic weapons, and Ukrainian civilians sought refuge in underground air raid shelters in Lviv.

On March 19, the Russian Ministry of Defense announced the first use of the "Dagger" hypersonic missile to destroy a large underground ammunition depot of the Ukrainian military, assisting the forces of the "Luhansk People's Republic" in successfully liberating over 90% of the territory. The Russian military has so far destroyed 1,412 Ukrainian tanks and armored vehicles, 184 unmanned aerial vehicles, 142 multiple launch rocket systems, 542 canons and mortars. On the same day, the Ukrainian government declared the evacuation of 6,623 civilians through a "humanitarian corridor." The United Nations reported that the current Russia-

Ukraine conflict has resulted in at least 847 civilian deaths and over 3.2 million Ukrainian refugees seeking shelter in neighboring countries.

March 21, 2022.

Illustrated by Li Qiang

90 **Li Qiang**

- Li Qiang, 5 April 2022, ink and red stamp. 'Bucha'

91 **Li Qiang**

Three years ago, I painted the picture 'Ukraine Commemorates the 86th Anniversary of the Great Famine'. Millions of Ukrainians were starved to death. This is a human tragedy caused by the former Soviet government! We must always remember that the human right to exist is paramount. On February 24, 2022, Russia launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine, much to the outrage of peace-loving people around the world. The actions of the Ukrainian people who fought bravely against the aggressors, and defended their freedom and dreams, inspired and moved me. Victory must belong to the glorious Ukrainian people! God bless Ukraine!

92 **Li Qiang**

- 'An elderly Ukrainian man guarding his grandson's sweet dreams. Painted by Li Qiang on 10 April 2022.'
- Ink on paper.

93 **Li Qiang 李强**

- b. 1963, Qingdao
- Studied in USA, lives in Qingdao
- Qingdao Artists Association
- Executive director of Pen Painting Association

94 **Concluding Remarks**

- In sum: 3 Themes on war:
 - Ukrainian Colours, Sunflowers, Red & Black
- Experimenting in mediasphere with different strategies of direct & indirect styles of critique & comment on war
- New styles (<=> pro-Russian propaganda texts in traditional genres)
- Anti-/Utopian visions deconstruct China Dream into a series of dreams & nightmares

- Shed light on perceptions of the Russo-Ukrainian war from unofficial perspectives
- Provide insights into vernacular culture & new mediasphere
- Contesting voices in a network of social and cultural negotiations and exchanges.

95  ***Thank you!***