

A Blue-Flowering Day

Sep 24 — Nov 24, 2024 | Yuan Art Museum, Beijing, China

Yuan Art Museum is pleased to present the group exhibition entitled *A Blue-Flowering Day* curated by Evonne Jiawei Yuan.

South Korean-born, German philosopher Byung-Chul Han, in his book *Praise to the Earth: A Trip to the Garden*, describes his philosophical exploration while tending to the genre of "blue blossom" in his gardening work, and elaborates upon its romanticized essence through color theory. As a symbol of eternal aspiration that calls to one's passion and vocation, "blaue blume" not only embodies the metaphysical longing for the infinite, but also alludes to the lure and desire, or even nothingness – especially concerning its rare appearance. To this day, the blue flower remains an enduring motif in Western art. American poet Maggie Nelson made a similar presentation in her lyrical essay *Bluets*. The special part about blue is that it is solitary yet exalted, projecting a field oscillating between nostalgia for a distant memory and compassion for futurity.

Building on such imagery, *A Blue-Flowering Day* examines works by local and international artists of various generations, which brings forth some simple yet profound concepts of the elusive emotion aroused by the blue flower, or the visual threshold of the particular colour and the speculative ecologies around it.