

# Artist explores styles between East and West, past and present

By Lin Qi | chinadaily.com.cn

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Li Jiwei's solo exhibition *Mozart-Genie* at the Central Academy of Fine Arts. [Photo provided to China Daily]

While studying classical Chinese painting at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in the 1980s, Li Jiwei learned under the discipline of noted artist Ye Qianyu who encouraged students to acquire as much extensive knowledge as possible and to widen their vision. The method of openness inspired Li to research about how to expand classical Chinese art within a modern context.

Since the 1990s, Li has studied, lived and worked in Europe and traveled to North America, to immersing himself in Western art, particularly the evolution of contemporary art. He therefore has formed an abstract style infusing the East and West and the past and present. His explorations have moved from the two-dimensional world on paper to three dimensions,

including sculpture and installation.



Li Jiwei's solo exhibition *Mozart-Gene* at the Central Academy of Fine Arts. [Photo provided to China Daily]

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At his solo exhibition *Mozart-Gene*, Li has brought to his alma mater's art museum in Beijing some 17 works in which he has enriched the presentations of ink art, and employing Eastern aesthetics, he visualizes the spirit and faith embodied in the compositions of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

Li once studied at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, in Austria. The exhibition, through Jan 9, marks the 50th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between China and Austria.



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