

Lu Xinjian

Lu Xinjian (b. 1977, Yixing, Jiangsu, China) is a multidisciplinary artist who graduated from the Graphic Design Department of the Nanjing Arts Institute in 2000. He later studied in the Netherlands at the IM Postgraduate Department of Design Academy Eindhoven (2004–2005) and holds an MFA in Interactive Media and Environment from the Frank Mohr Institute (2006). He currently lives and works in Shanghai, China.



Coming from a design background, Lu Xinjian brings a distinct understanding of the relationships between lines, shapes, and colours into his artistic practice. Influenced by his early training in graphic design, these elements remain central to his work as he transitioned into the contemporary art field.

Lu's breakthrough came with his renowned City DNA series, inspired by Google Earth. In this body of work, he traces aerial views of cities around the world and abstracts them into simplified compositions of lines and patterns. Through this process, he transforms complex urban landscapes into visually striking, minimalist forms that retain the essence of each city.

Since 2009, Lu has expanded his practice through multiple series including Invisible Poems, City Stream, Constellation, Reflections, and Illuminations. His works balance simplicity and complexity, merging abstraction with conceptual depth. While the compositions appear minimal and intuitive, they embody layered narratives tied to the historical, economic, and cultural identities of each city.

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b. 1977 - China

Lives and works in Shanghai, China

JD Malat Gallery
30 Davies St, Mayfair,
London W1K 4NB
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Solo Exhibitions

- 2025 City, Yangyun Aman Hotel, Shanghai, China
2024 Matrix, De Sarthe Gallery, Hong Kong, China
2023 Illuminations, ART LABOR Gallery, Shanghai, China
2022 CITY DNA, CAMPIS, Assen, The Netherlands
2021 Lu Xinjian - City DNA, Feefan's Art, Beijing, China
2020 Lines Across Time and Space, Modern Media, Shanghai, China
2020 Eternal City, ART LABOR Gallery, Shanghai, China
2018 City DNA - Xinjian Lu, European Institute of Contemporary Art and Science, Zutphen, The Netherlands
2018 Boogie Woogie, De Sarthe Gallery, Hong Kong, China
2017 Reflections, ART LABOR Gallery, Shanghai, China
2017 Lu Xinjian: City DNA + Reflections, Fabien Fryns Fine Art, Marbella, Spain
2017 Infinite Lines, De Sarthe Gallery, Beijing, China
2016 City DNA / Jiang Nan, Matthew Liu Fine Arts, Shanghai, China
2015 Constellation, ART LABOR Gallery, Shanghai, 2021 *The Dawn*, DIFC, Dubai, UAE
2014 City Stream, ART LABOR Gallery, Shanghai, China
2014 City DNA IV, Hua Gallery, London, UK
2014 Lu Xinjian: Beautiful Encounters – Cities and Poems, 117 Contemporary Art Center, Ningbo, China
2014 Wired Space, ART LABOR Gallery, Shanghai, China
2012 Invisible Poem II, F2 Gallery, Beijing, China
2012 Invisible Poem, ART LABOR Gallery, Shanghai, China
2011 City DNA III, Fabien Fryns Fine Art, Los Angeles, USA
2011 City DNA II, F2 Gallery, Beijing, China
2010 City DNA, ART LABOR Gallery, Shanghai, China

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2026 *All at Once*, JD Malat Gallery, Dubai, UAE
2021 The Superiority of the Invisible - Chinese Abstract Painting, Galerie Frank Schlag & Cie., Essen, Germany
2019 Personal Structures, 58th Venice Biennale, Palazzo Mora, Venice, Italy
2016 Eja-Xinjian, Beetsterzwaag, The Netherlands
2015 NULNU, Nieuw Dakota Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

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JD MALAT

GALLERY

- 2014 ARTificial Garden, Shanghai World Financial Center, Shanghai, China
- 2014 The Temporary, ARTicle Gallery, Birmingham, UK
- 2013 I Love Shanghai, ART LABOR Gallery, Shanghai, China
- 2013 Filter The Public, Shanghai World Financial Center, Shanghai, China
- 2012 Distance and Dimension, ART LABOR Gallery, Shanghai, China
- 2012 Re-animators, Meulensteen Gallery, New York, USA
- 2012 The Year of Dragon, Gallery Jones, Vancouver, Canada
- 2011 High 5, ART LABOR Gallery, Shanghai, China
- 2010 Basic Forms, 2nd Moscow International Biennale for Young Art, Moscow, Russia
- 2009 Resemblance & Difference, Daegu Art Center, Daegu, Korea

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