

LI CHEVALIER



RYTHME DES DUNES

AT M.O STUDIO X GALERIE 208

26/10/24 - 28/12/24

PRESS KIT



Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech and Galerie 208 are proud to present « Rythme Des Dunes », the inaugural exhibition of their collaboration, showcasing the work of internationally renowned Franco-Chinese artist Li Chevalier. This exhibition delves into themes of identity, the passage of time and memory through Chinese ink paintings and an immersive multimedia installation. « Rythme Des Dunes » alludes to the idea of perpetual movement and the ephemeral beauty of desert dunes, capturing both the serenity and strength of Moroccan landscape.

“Painting with Chinese ink is confronting the unpredictable. Each gesture is an adventure played out in the present moment.” – Li Chevalier

About the Artist : Li Chevalier



Born in Beijing in 1961, Li Chevalier embodies a unique artistic journey that transcends geographical and cultural boundaries. A graduate of the prestigious Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design in London, Sciences Po Paris and the Sorbonne, she navigates between Eastern and Western cultures, bringing philosophical depth and a wealth of influences to her work.

In 2024, Li Chevalier was honoured at the Venice Biennale, one of the world's most prestigious art events, with a retrospective at the Museum of Oriental Arts in Venice. Her inclusion in this major international event highlights the global impact and recognition of her work. Hosting such an artist in Marrakech presents a unique opportunity for the public to experience work typically exhibited in the most renowned international cultural institutions.

“Tradition is not a constraint; it is a foundation upon which I build and deconstruct, where ink becomes a medium of the mind.”

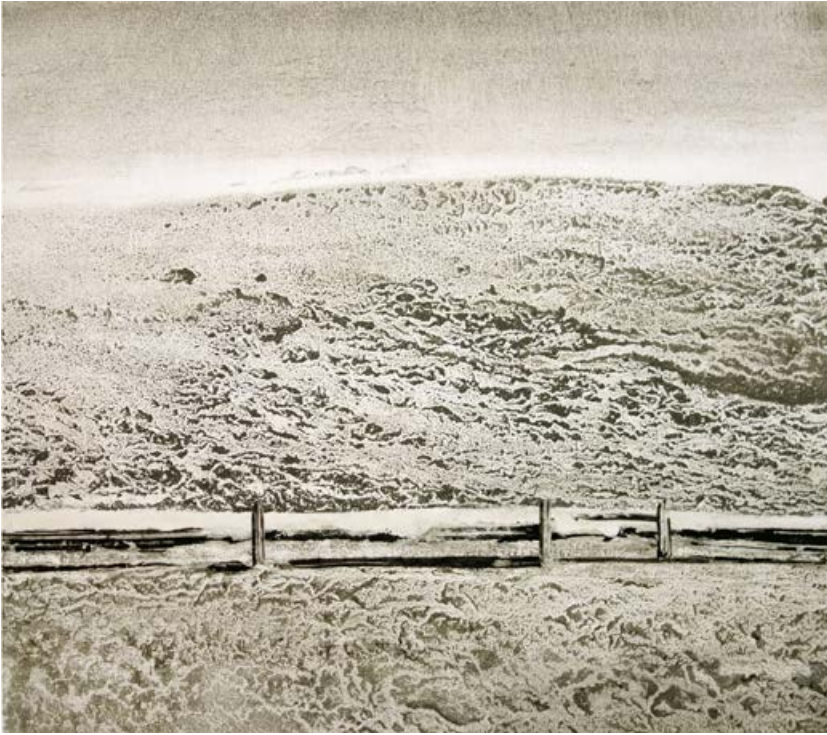
Li Chevalier



Li Chevalier was initially drawn to music before turning to the visual arts, a passion that led her to join the Paris Orchestra Choir as a soprano. This musical sensitivity permeates her visual creations, where each piece becomes a symphony of colours, textures and rhythms. She describes herself as a painter of inner worlds, using Chinese ink to express the nuances of her own inner landscape.

“I instinctively create empty spaces that occupy one or two-thirds of the surface. The void is linked to the traditional Chinese idea of potential; it is the ground on which encounters unfold.”

Li Chevalier



Her work stands out for its innovative use of large canvases on which she applies pigments, sand, minerals and collages, creating textured surfaces that challenge conventions. She seeks to push the boundaries of this ancient art form by exploiting the fluidity, transparency and dynamics of inks.

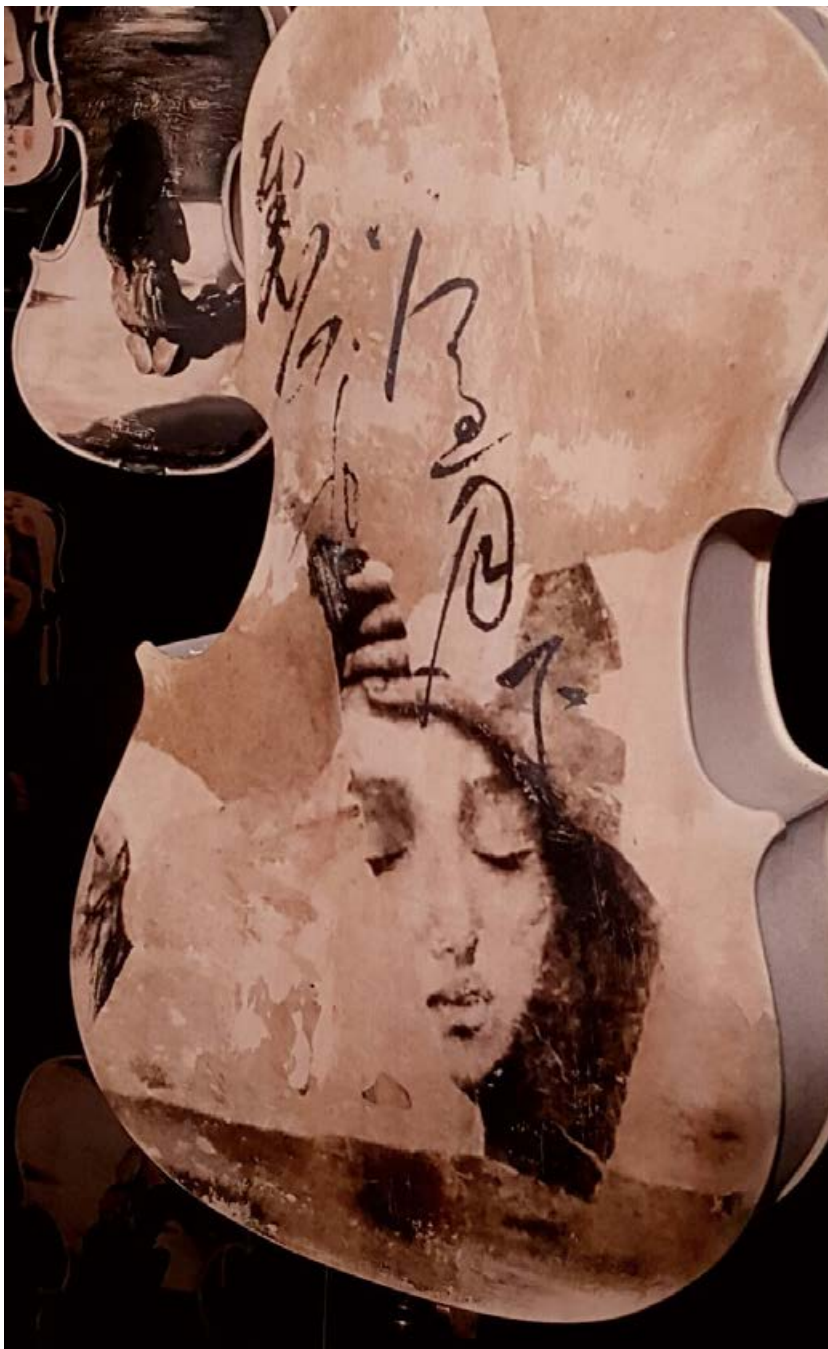
Her works have been exhibited in prestigious institutions such as the Guimet Museum in Paris during Nuit Blanche, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Rome and the Today Art Museum in Beijing. They are featured in renowned public and private collections, including the National Museum of Fine Arts of China and the French Embassy in Beijing.

“It is in the silence of ink and the absence of colour that I find total freedom of expression.”

Li Chevalier

The Immersive Experience: Rêves des âmes flottantes

«Rêves des âmes flottantes», or «Dream of Floating Souls» in English, is an immersive multimedia installation composed of numerous string instruments adorned with paintings and calligraphy, placed in various settings such as abandoned industrial sites or polluted beaches. This visual and auditory landscape explores themes of resilience, memory and the human desire to transcend temporal limits.



“Every artistic configuration is born from the artist’s ‘intellectual struggle’... Creation is a moment of intense introspection, an interview with oneself resonating with experiences and engaging in dialogue with the world.”

Li Chevalier

The M.O Studio: A Bridge Between Cultures



M.O Studio is a unique space in Marrakech that embodies the intersection of different cultures, making contemporary art accessible while celebrating artistic diversity. Initially launched by Carmen Haid, a visionary and founder of Atelier Mayer, and Idriss Karnachi, a Moroccan artist and architect, M.O Studio is a place where nature and architecture meet in a silent dance of light and shadow, inspired by the 1905 Wiener Werkstatt movement.

With its black-and-white striped graphic motifs, M.O Studio provides a contemporary setting that contrasts with the luxury and tranquility of Mandarin Oriental. « Rythme Des Dunes » goes beyond a mere exhibition; it is a nod to the brand's Oriental heritage and a tribute to contemporary art that enriches Morocco's cultural openness by blending local and international influences.

“The balance of opposites, light and darkness, chaos and order unfold in a silent dance.”

Carmen Haid, Atelier Mayer

The Partnership with Galerie 208 : A Promising Collaboration



The collaboration between M.O Studio and Galerie 208 marks a new era for contemporary art in Marrakech. Patricia Chicheportiche, founder of Galerie 208, has brought a bold vision by integrating monumental and innovative works into prestigious international spaces. Together, M.O Studio and Galerie 208 are committed to creating pioneering exhibitions that enrich the Moroccan art scene and beyond.

«Offering the opportunity to introduce exceptional works to both Moroccan and international audiences, in a place where nationalities converge, is something we deeply care about.

International artists will take turns showcasing their work, allowing for a rich and diverse artistic dialogue.»

Patricia Chicheportiche

Inauguration and Events



The official opening of « Rythme Des Dunes » will take place on 26th October 2024 at 7PM at M.O Studio, Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech. Staying true to Li Chevalier's spirit, the evening will feature an exceptional performance by a duo of strings, with a violinist and cellist. This musical presence underscores M.O Studio and the artist's commitment to merging visual and musical arts into a unique experience. The evening will continue with a cocktail reception.

Additionally, on 19th October, M.O Studio will host the culminating event of the inaugural Chefs' Series culinary festival with an exclusive six-hands gala dinner featuring renowned chefs from various Mandarin Oriental properties around the globe. This exceptional evening will offer guests an intimate preview of the «Rythme des Dunes» exhibition, creating an immersive experience where the culinary arts and contemporary visual arts come together.

Practical Information

Exhibition Dates

26th October - 28th December, 2024

Hours

Open Tuesday to Saturday, from 12 PM to 7 PM,
or by appointment outside these hours

Location

M.O Studio, Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech

Address

Route du Golf Royal, 40000 Marrakech, Morocco

Admission

Free

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Galerie 208 Contact

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About Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech



Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech is a sanctuary of luxury and serenity nestled within 20 hectares of olive groves and stunning gardens. The hotel offers 58 private villas and 7 suites, providing an idyllic setting and exclusive services for its guests. The M.O Studio, located within this green oasis, represents a commitment to contemporary art, creating a link between luxury hospitality and cultural openness.

About Galerie 208



Founded in 2006 by Patricia Chicheportiche, Galerie 208 has established itself as a leading reference for contemporary art in Paris, specializing in monumental works and innovative installations. In partnership with M.O Studio, the gallery aims to bring a bold and avant-garde artistic vision to Marrakech.

Discover Li Chevalier's Work



To learn more about Li Chevalier and explore her artistic universe, check out an immersive video on her official website:

Li Chevalier - [Vidéo](#).