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Press release

Kailiang Yang | Paintings | Arches 49 and 51

9th September – 21st October 2006,
Tuesday – Saturday, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Vernissage: Friday, 8th September 2006, 6 p.m.

We are delighted to be able to announce Kailiang Yang's first solo exhibition at carlier | gebauer.

Kailiang Yang's densely atmospheric landscapes are composed around the tension between elements that are only hinted at and precisely reproduced details, and take everyday scenes as their motif. The artist, who lives in Hamburg, focuses on specific sections of streets and districts in the city, transposing what he perceives into the painterly form of views of landscapes, full of poetic atmosphere. Yang explores the diverse possibilities of this traditional subject-matter of painting, testing out its potential in a series of variations.

In the process Yang works subtly with zones that are distinctly delineated and others that are out of focus. This contrast generates a shifting multi-dimensionality in what is depicted in the works. A level of acceleration and distancing is introduced into the painting, particularly through the blurred layers applied as a glaze. The street appears to travel past the observer, the early morning mist lies, tangible, haptic, over the tree-lined boulevard, a shower of rain sweeps across the image.

The Asian cultural tradition of calligraphy encounters European art history, brought together with just a few carefully positioned brush strokes, their technical skill and accuracy reminding us of Yang's training in classical painting in China.

Kailiang Yang, born in 1974 in Jinan/Shandong (VR China), studied painting from 1992 to 1994 at Shandong Art School. In 2001 Yang arrived at the Hamburg Hochschule für bildende Künste to begin a post-graduate course. His teachers there were Olav Christopher Jenssen, Anna Gudójnisdóttir and Norbert Schwontowski. He completed his studies in 2005 with Werner Büttner.

For detailed press information and photos, please contact Jutta Voorhoeve at jv@carliergebauer.com or by phone +49 (0) 30 240 85 211.