

**PRESS RELEASE** 

ARTIST: AN HO (born 1927)

EXHIBITION TITLE: AN HO: RECENT PAINTINGS

**EXHIBITION DATES: SEPTEMBER 6 – 28, 2017** 

GALLERY HOURS: MONDAY – THURSDAY, 11:00 – 5:00

OR BY APPOINTMENT

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**PRESS PHOTOS** 

CHINA 2000 FINE ART (177 East 87<sup>th</sup> Street in Manhattan) takes great pleasure in presenting six recent paintings by An Ho who at 90 is yet discovering novelty in the beauty that surrounds her, painting her vision on silk and paper with eversteady hands and a freshness that astounds.

An Ho's excellence in Chinese brushwork is used as the foundation to reinvent nature with a sense of perfection ideally achieved. Her translucent visions are derived closely from nature, but set forth with such absolute assurance as to create their own, separate reality. Her minute and patient observation lies behind the visual truthfulness of individual elements. Details are drawn with near-miraculous refinement and a sense of order and clarity prevails in every composition. An Ho's landscapes are her own poetical fantasy, part memory, part dream, and have the quality of a dream that is more perfect than reality. Her scenes achieve nobility by their pure expression of a tranquil understanding of the universe, of the harmony between man and nature. An Ho's painting keeps the sparkle in an artistic tradition threatened by the callousness in the contemporary world and re-establishes our connection to the natural universe from which her genius is derived.

## Biography:

An Ho, also known as Wen-ying, was born in 1927 in Beijing, China. Her father was chief editor for several newspapers, and her mother, a painter of flowers. Both parents were senior members of Sun Yatsen's revolutionary movement. Her maternal grandfather served as Vice-Governor of Manchuria province from 1949 until his death in 1970. In 1944, in Nanjing, An Ho was introduced to Pu Ru (1896-1963), who took her as his student and protégée. She studied with him for seventeen years, initially in China and then in Taiwan, guided by his belief that in the practice of Chinese painting equal emphasis should be placed on the artist's mental attitude and the quality of the work of art. His teaching method cultivated



personal character as the basis for advancing in the skillful use of brush and ink. An Ho began by reading the Chinese classics, practicing calligraphy, and imitating the most important paintings of the Tang (618-906 A.D.) and Song dynasties (960-1279 A.D.). She researched painting techniques that had been forgotten over the centuries, revitalized this art form that had always been considered a pinnacle of Chinese art, and became the sole living practitioner of these ancient artistic styles.

In 1952 An Ho's work began to be noticed by the Chinese art world. In 1954 one of her paintings received the Gold Medal in the Second Asian Games Art Exhibition held in the Philippines. In 1962 she was nominated to membership in the Society for Chinese Painting. Her works have been exhibited in China, Taiwan, Germany, Italy, France and the United States. In 1971 An Ho had her first one-person show in Taiwan which included over 100 paintings. In 1977 she won her first critical acclaim in the United States through one-person shows at St. John's University and the Art Institute of New York. In 1983 she was elected to the Chinese Cultural Association, and in 1994 she became the first woman artist to be given a one-person show in Taiwan's National Historical Museum. The show broke all of the Museum's attendance records. Her paintings are in the permanent collections of several museums and private collections in both the Far East and the West.

An Ho moved with her family from Taiwan to Atlanta, Georgia, in 1977 and now lives in Upstate New York.

## CHECKLIST



An Ho (b. 1927)
Misty Landscape of Woodstock, NY 2017
Ink and color on silk
7.875 x 22.75 in. (20 x 57.8 cm)
Signed An Ho with one seal: An Ho



An Ho (b. 1927)
Two Trees on a Hill 2017
Ink and color on silk
10.25 x 8 in. (26 x 20.3 cm)
Signed An Ho with one seal: An Ho





