

Lei Yu (1921-1989) was born in Zhongshan, Guangdong, China. He began to study painting in 1937 with the distinguished Western watercolor artist, Li Tiefu (1869-1952) who studied in New York under William Merrit Chase (1849-1916) and John Singer Sargent (1856-1925). Lei Yu continued his studies at the National Fine Art College in Hong Kong with the well-known artist Chow Kong Lei (1903-1989) and in 1950, founded the Hong Kong Fine Art Academy. In 1953, he studied Chinese painting in Shanghai with the celebrated artists He Tianjian (1891-1977), Lai Chusheng (1902-1975), and Jiang Handing (1903-1963). In Shanghai in 1979, Lei Yu was the founder and Vice-president of the Shanghai Watercolor Society. He was also a member of the Chinese Artists' Association in Beijing and Shanghai and a member of China's Cinematographers' Association. He is listed in the Dictionary of Chinese Artists and China Contemporary Artists Brief Biography. In 1982, Lei Yu moved to New York City where he spent his final years as a distinguished art teacher and watercolor artist.

1952	Set designer Shanghai Animation Studio
1960-1963	Faculty, Shanghai Cinematographic Institute
1962-1964	Faculty, Shanghai Fine Art College
1962	Elected by the Shanghai Art Association to attend the Third National
	Conference on Art and Literature
1982	Taught watercolor classes in his studio in NYC
1985	Watercolor instructor at Bloomfield Art League
1985	Watercolor instructor at Clifton Art Association
1986	Faculty China Institute of America in NYC

Exhibitions and Awards

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1990	Lei Yu Memorial Exhibition, L.J. Wender Fine Chinese Painting, NYC	
1988	Lei Yu – Memories of China, L.J. Wender Fine Chinese Painting, NYC	
1986	New Watercolors by Lei Yu, L.J. Wender Fine Chinese Painting, NYC	
	Group exhibition at Lincoln Center	
1985	Exhibition Paintings and Drawings of Dancers by Mai Hoffer, Darilyn Lowe and	
	Lei Yu, Perridance Center, NYC	
	The Arthur F. Harless Landscape Award at Hudson Valley Art Association	
	Anonymous Benefactor Award at National Art League of New York	
	The Charles T. Bainbridge's Sons Material Award at Art Center of NJ	
	Cynthia Goodgal Memorial Award at the Ridgewood Art Institute NJ	
1984	Second Prize at National Art League, NY	
1983	Exhibited at the Hudson Valley Art Association	
1982	Exhibited at the American Artists Professional League	
	First Prize at the National Art League, NY	
	Exhibited at the Salmagundi Club, NYC	
1981	One-person show at Three Friends Studio, NYC	
1951	Eleven oil and watercolor artists, Hong Kong	
1945	One-person show, Zhongqing	
1943	One-person show, Guilin	