

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Quan Wenfei: *Click and Win!*

Southampton Fairgrounds

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Quan Wenfei, *Click and Win! Cobalt 1*, 2025. Oil and silkscreen on canvas, 39 x 67 inches (100 x 170 cm).
Courtesy of the artist and Eli Klein Gallery © Quan Wenfei

New York, NY, July 7, 2025 - Eli Klein Gallery is pleased to present new works by Quan Wenfei, an interdisciplinary conceptual artist whose exploration of digital nostalgia takes tactile form here in oil and silkscreen on canvas. Deeply inspired by gaming culture and the nostalgia of 1990s computer card games, Wenfei's practice explores contemporary expressions of digital nostalgia. The exhibition will showcase her *Click and Win* series, inspired by the classic 1990s Windows game Solitaire, a touchstone for many who grew up clicking cards across glowing screens, capturing the excitement of small victories in a rapidly digitizing world, at the Hamptons Fine Art Fair in 2025. Wenfei represents and reorganizes internet imagery, aspiring to be the ultimate "sky-cam," observing how our aesthetics have been digitally trained.

Wenfei continually investigates the concept of "selective looking," a unique methodology drawn from her internet experience and printmaking practice. She merges the mechanical reproducibility of silkscreen printing with the subjective expressiveness of oil painting. Through playful manipulations of scale, color, and compositional arrangement, she gradually strips away redundant layers of information from original images. This visual deconstruction and recomposition invites viewers to re-examine familiar yet overlooked visual elements, pixelated cards and drag-and-drop movements, revealing the hidden perceptual mechanisms underlying everyday viewing practices.



The series is rooted in the 1990s Windows Solitaire, which Wenfei identifies as among the internet's first-generation "dopamine-feeding machines," playing a crucial role in the brief history of digital pleasure systems. Wenfei has long been concerned with how digital environments shape aesthetic cognition and viewing habits, describing her practice as "internet archeology," emphasizing the significance of forgotten digital artifacts for understanding contemporary behaviors and aesthetics.

Creation is a form of hybrid, a way of pushing the boundaries of language through known formulas, and it is the only method I have to free up memory in my brain.

— Quan Wenfei

Wenfei's work resonates with traditions of Pop Art and digital art, notably engaging with Andy Warhol's silkscreen works, and interrogates the role of reproducibility and pop cultural iconography in image production. By juxtaposing oil and silkscreen on canvas, Wenfei reflects critically on contemporary society's rapid pace: the slow sedimentation of oil painting starkly contrasts with the rapid dissemination of information on the internet, thus highlighting the inherent tension between temporal perception in viewing behaviors and digital media. Her silkscreen process is remarkably meticulous and time-consuming; each color layer requires its own plate, individually registered and aligned, with the number of plates corresponding to the number of colors in the work. This laborious precision becomes a deliberate counterpoint to the instantaneity of digital images. Through this approach, Wenfei reveals how accelerated societal rhythms and internet mediums subtly shape and control visual perception, inviting viewers to contemplate how we perceive and interpret reality in this context.



About Quan Wenfei:

Quan Wenfei was born in China in 1992 and currently lives and works in New York. She received her M.F.A. in Visual Arts from Columbia University School of the Arts in 2025 and her B.F.A. from Xi'an Academy of Fine Arts in 2014. As part of a new generation of Chinese artists exploring the intersections of digital culture and perceptual habits, Quan has been described as an "internet archaeologist," embracing and interrogating her cultural heritage while addressing the conditions of image production and reception in a globalized context. Her deep understanding of materiality and digital visual culture informs her exploration of silkscreen, painting, and digital image language, constructing a unique vocabulary that examines digital nostalgia and mechanisms of seeing.

Quan Wenfei's solo exhibitions include: *The New Folder of Wenfei Quan*, Radius Gallery, Xi'an, China (2022); *The story of <the story of evolution>*, White Realm Art Space, Shenzhen. Her group exhibitions include: *Fault Lines*, THE BLANC, New York (2025); *Do Not Disturb*, Zepster Gallery, New York (2025); *MFA Thesis Exhibition*, Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery, New York (2025); *Post-Industrial Poetry*, ONE gallery, Beijing (2025); *Group Exhibition of Young Artists*, Shanghai Peninsula Art Museum, Shanghai (2024); *At-Will Adaptation*, Eli Klein Gallery, New York (2024); *First Year MFA Exhibition*, Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery, New York (2024); *ART MIAMI Fair*, One Herald Plaza, Miami (2024); *Mouthful of Fragrance*, Shan Ash Art Center, Xi'an, China (2022); *The 8th Shanghai Youth Art Fair*, HaiPai Art Museum, Shanghai (2022); *Beijing Trendy Art Festival*, Song Art Museum, Beijing (2022); *Digital Immortality*, Hello art, Hangzhou, China (2022); *Yellow Box Open Exhibition*, Yellow Box Art Museum, Qingdao, China (2021); *The Yellow Box Open Exhibition*, Himalayan Art Museum, Shanghai (2021); *The 2nd Great Art Fair*, Wuhan International Convention and Exhibition Center, Wuhan, China (2021); *The 5th China Youth Printmaking Exhibition*, China Print Museum, Shenzhen, China (2019); *The 13th National Art Exhibition Shaanxi Selected Works Exhibition*, Shaanxi Art Museum, Xi'an, China (2019); *The First Great Art Fair*, Shanghai Exhibition Center, Shanghai (2019); *The Second Great Art Fair*, Shenzhen Convention and Exhibition Center, Shenzhen, China (2019); *The First Xuyuan International Print Biennial*, Xuyuan Gallery, Beijing (2016). Wenfei was awarded the Finalist, 5th China International Printmaking Exhibition in 2019 and Finalist, 1st Xuyuan Print Biennial in 2016.

Quan Wenfei lives and works in New York.

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