

Wuchao Feng



Web: fengwuchao.com

Email: fengwuchao.art@gmail.com

IG: @wuchao_feng

Wuchao Feng (b.1998, Ningbo) is a Chinese artist who is currently studying at the Royal College of Art. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2020. Through the use of natural metaphors, particularly water, in her art practice, she advocates for a new definition of identity as a fluid state. She is interested in the natural industries that were once thriving but have now gradually declined due to urbanization in her hometown, where she recognizes her origin. She finds solace in the tranquil embodiment of water, a form of oceanic therapy that soothes her soul and helps her recognize the unbreakable bond between herself and nature.

Pearls of Wisdom

Till Your Tears Mixed Up with Mine

**Misshapen Unrefined Pearls,
Photography,
180x110cm, 2023**

The unrefined misshapen pearls depict unspeakable traumas through the metaphor of pearls, born of time, nature, and heart. It is a journey of self-reconciliation that embraces and transforms the intruder for coexistence. Most of these pearls are considered imperfections in the batches, shaped like alphabetical letters. As flawed and cheap byproducts of pearl cultivation, they have been rearranged and translated into another natural language, beyond the bounds of perfection or imperfection. The Pearl is a confessional mirror, reflecting the self and the group, a testimony to both contradiction and reconciliation. By recalling the past with a glimpse of a soft heart, those sufferings and traumas may yet become the monumental truth of time.



Intro

The pearl cultivation industry in Zhuji, where China's largest freshwater pearls industry is located and which is next to my home city. The once leading industry was impacted by the urban development and aquatic environment regulation. They use plastic bottles as buoys to locate the clam underwater. The grafting process involves operating an oyster to induce nacre secretion. The shape of the nucleus basically decides the shape of the pearl. I regard the process as 50% nature and 50% human-manipulated since the outcome is hardly as perfect as we expected.

I collected the misshapen unrefined pearls in alphabetic shapes from the second hand market to spell the words, secrets, confessions that are hard to speak out through language.



The Pearl Pond



Grafting



The Inner Nucleus of the Pearl



Grafting



Grafting Workshop



Artworks



The Wreckage Becomes A Reef

**Unrefined Misshapen Pearls,
Photography, 180x110cm,
3 Editions + 1 AP, 2023**

Recognition without Control

**Unrefined Misshapen Pearls,
Photography, 180x110cm,
3 Editions + 1 AP, 2023**



Intimacy without Mastery

**Unrefined Misshapen Pearls,
Photography, 180x110cm,
3 Editions + 1 AP, 2023**





Perfect

**Unrefined Misshapen Pearls,
Mixed Media, 40x15x5.5cm
3 Editions + 1 AP, 2022**



Beyond Skin

**Unrefined Misshapen Pearls,
Mixed Media, 40x15x5.5cm
3 Editions + 1 AP, 2022**



Certainty

**Unrefined Misshapen Pearls,
Mixed Media, 40x15x5.5cm
3 Editions + 1 AP, 2022**



Oceanic Heart

**Misshapen Unrefined Pearls,
Mixed Media, 2022**

More Spellings





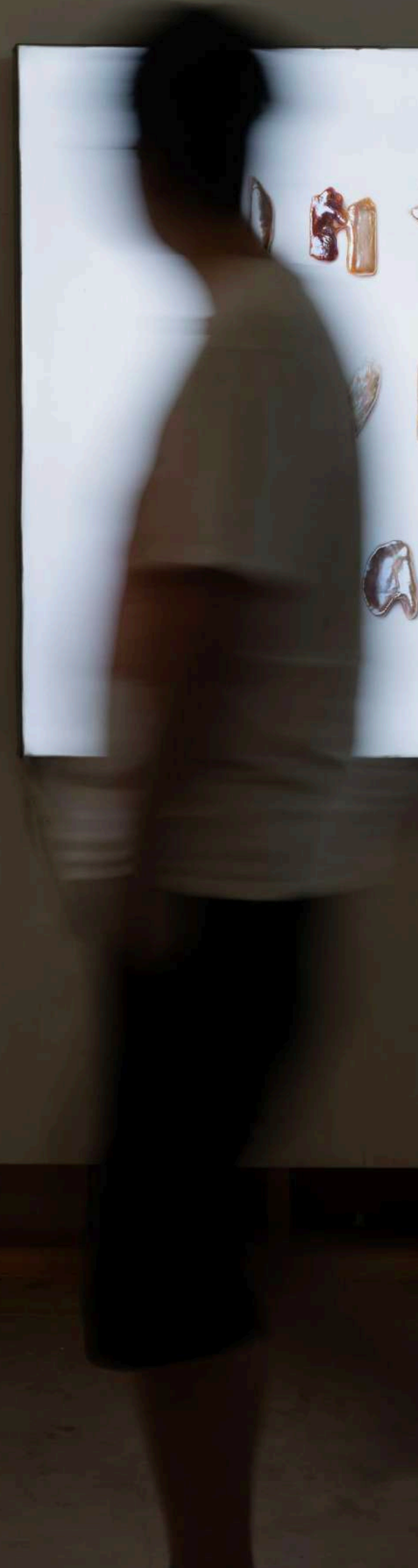




Exhibition View

RECOGNITION
WITHOUT
CONTROL

INTIMACY
WITHOUT
ASTERY



THE
WEEKEND
BECOMES
A
FEEL

TILL
YOUR TRAPS
FIXED UP
WITH
MINE

CERTAINLY

PERFECT



BEYOND SKIN

GENERIC BEAUTY