

# Tang Guo

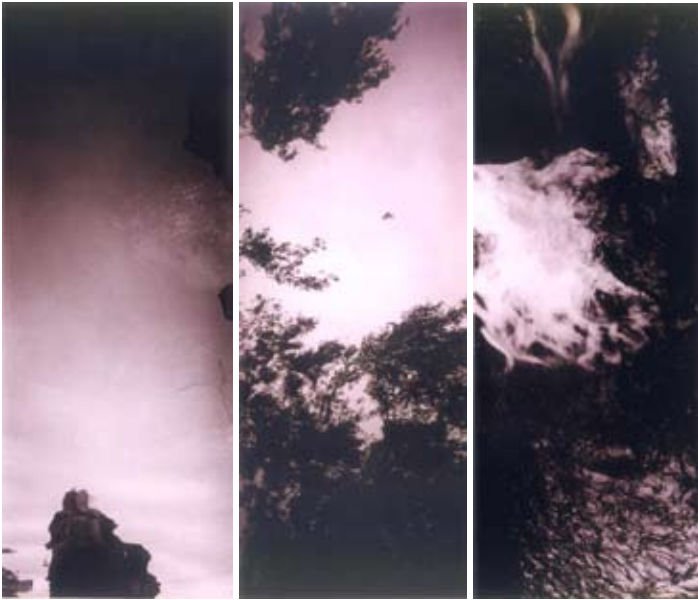
# 汤国



*The Flowing River, 2002*  
Ink color on canvas  
180x140 cm

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*Water, Photo, 2000, 200x70 cm*

Tang Guo has been able to create a very particular universe within the traditional media of ink painting and calligraphy, which only lately has been expanded to include photography. In his ink painting on canvas, color is the basic element out of which a rigorous and poetic pictorial proposal is made. Although at first glance it may suggest certain similarities with abstract expressionism this soon gives way to meticulous and warm compositions. Ranging from the miniscule to the large, Tang Guo's abstract paintings of monochromatic fields change gradually from profound blue to intense shades of red. Tang Guo shows a clear interest in the relationship between color fields that here and there mix up and interact, expanding their own limits. The beauty of the work arises from the harmonious color graduations, achieved by means of the laws of ink painting. Tang Guo has a predilection for repetition, but although the works depend on one another, they function better independently. Each brush stroke is unique, hazardous and unrepeatable, zealously searching on apparent simplicity; despite the reduced color range – color becomes a very strong element in his work.

In his black and white photographic series *Water* (2000-2002) and *Human Territory* a certain poetic nostalgia is articulated – all the photos are devoid of human beings. But whereas the *Water* series are abstract, blurred, and subjective depictions, *Human Territory* apply to the tradition of realist and 'objective' photo documentary.

Tang Guo was born in Wuxi, Jansu Province in 1955. He studied at the Nanjing Art Academy in Nanjing and at the central Academy for Arts and Crafts in Beijing from 1986-89. Today he lives and works in Nanjing. Selected solo-exhibitions include *Tang Guo*, Zhu Qizhan Art Museum, Shanghai, China (2006), *Human Territory*, ShanghART H-Space, Shanghai, china (2005), *Water-Tang guo photography*, ShanghART Gallery, Shanghai, China (2002), *Tang Guo Long Life*, La Galliavola, Milan, Italy (2000), *Tang Guo New Works on Paper*, ShanghART Gallery, Shanghai, China (1998), and *Paintings by Tang Guo*, Guofu Museum, Taipei (1996).



*New Hydrological Survey No 1, 2002  
Ink color on canvas,  
180x140cm*

*The Realm of Hong Ren, 2002, Ink color on canvas  
180x140 cm*