

Chung-Ping Cheng's "The Peony" Opens Saturday February 16 at TAG Gallery, Los Angeles

Cheng's photographs capture the physical and metaphorical layers of this flower and its symbolism in traditional Chinese culture.

LOS ANGELES, CA, UNITED STATES, February 7, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Chung-Ping Cheng's](#) solo exhibition "The Peony" opens Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at [TAG Gallery](#), 5458 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles. An opening reception is planned for Saturday, February 19, 2022 from 5PM to 9PM PST.



Peony #26

Chung-Ping Cheng's photographic work continues her longstanding interest in the natural world of flowers, plants and trees as a metaphor for the life cycle. Specifically, Peonies are captured as they bloom and eventually wither and die, amplifying the inevitable process of growth and change. She focuses on this specific iconic flower because it has special meaning in the Chinese culture. Peonies have

come to symbolize wealth, prosperity, the rebirth of relationships as well as female beauty and reproduction.

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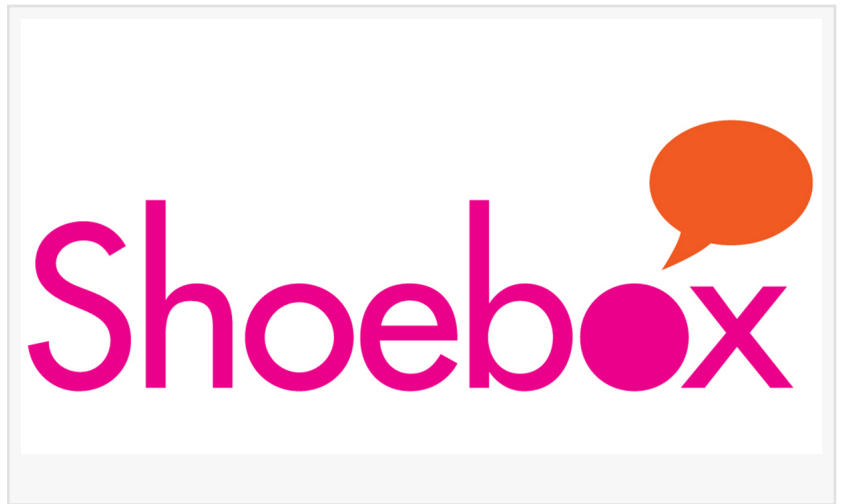
As a photographer, I use the camera to celebrate my Chinese heritage while breaking with traditional norms of Chinese Art.”

Chung-Ping Cheng

Cheng uses color film, a medium format camera and develops her large-scale images in the darkroom, which enables her to manipulate the color and to experiment. “I relish the mysteries of the developing photograph while embracing and using elements of chance that may appear.” is how she describes her darkroom process.

Chung-Ping Cheng's most recent series encapsulates her process oriented experimental

photography. She concentrates on the symbolic Chinese flower the Peony, which is known to represent women; their beauty, their elegance, emotion and character. Cheng doesn't take traditional shots of flowers; she uses the large-scale and unique perspective to draw attention to the many layers both physically and metaphorically. She distills and extracts the image of the peony, presenting us with moments and aspects in serial



imagery, reminiscent of Monet's haystacks. Compositionally, the flowers – like in Georgia O'Keefe's flower painting - are enlarged to take over the whole surface and thus become more powerful, bold and less traditional, still beautiful but no longer fragile or delicate. Cheng envisions the viewer walking into the gallery and being immersed in a 'virtual garden' of "Peonies."

Chung-Ping Cheng graduated from National Taiwan University, where she majored in History. She spent much of her years absorbing millennia of art works and artifacts at the National Palace Museum. In the U.S., she took intensive art and photography courses, pursuing her interest in art and photography. Cheng is among a new wave of Chinese photographers to re-introduce aspects of China's considerable aesthetic heritage within contemporary photography. Cheng's work was included most recently in "Women in Photography in LA", presented by Contact Photo Lab, in the Photo LA event, and also in a solo exhibition at the 1839 Contemporary Gallery in Taiwan.

TAG Gallery is a contemporary gallery located on Museum Row in the Miracle Mile/ Wilshire Blvd district of Los Angeles, California. The Gallery represents award-winning contemporary Southern California local artists working in all mediums and styles.

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