

# The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum

For Immediate Release

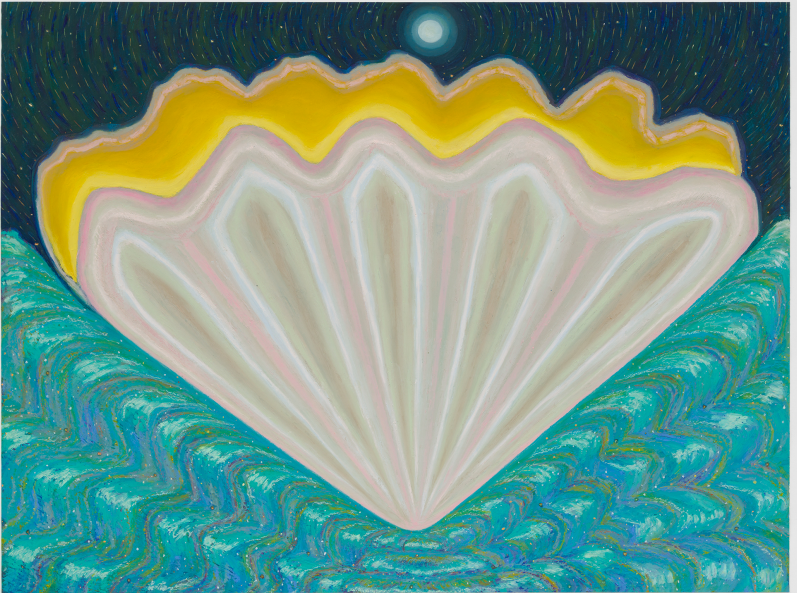
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## **PING ZHENG: WHERE MEMORIES OF TRAVELS GO** September 7, 2023 to January 7, 2024

### **The artist's first solo museum presentation debuts six new paintings on paper**

The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum is pleased to announce *Ping Zheng: Where Memories of Travels Go*, an installment of *Aldrich Projects*, a quarterly series that features one work or a focused body of work by a single artist on the Museum's campus.

*Ping Zheng: Where Memories of Travels Go* will be on view in the Museum's Leir Atrium from September 7, 2023 to January 7, 2024.



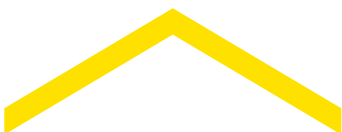
Ping Zheng, *The Moon Illusion*, 2022.  
Private Collection.

The project title describes Zheng's aim to be transported through her creative process in her pursuit of loftier dimensions. Her solitary journeying, initially a way to create refuge from an oppressive childhood in China, evolved into a means to evade the entrapments of our impersonal digital world. Zheng takes inspiration from the varied and expansive landscapes she visited during the numerous artist residencies she has attended over the last decade throughout the United States, Europe, and China.

She also cites artists that orbit many centuries and geographies who too made work that merge their experiences of the natural world with a special blend of personalized spiritualism. Her sources are wide-ranging and span ancient Chinese landscape painting and twentieth and twenty-first century visionary abstractionists like Hilma af Klint, Agnes Pelton, Georgia O'Keeffe, Judy Chicago, Matthew Wong, Joseph E. Yoakum, and Takako Yamaguchi. Working exclusively in oil stick, Zheng presses fingers to paper through intuitive systems of choreographed movements. She builds a distinctive and recurring lexicon of symbolic couplings that range from lighthearted rainbows and pulsating waterfalls, shadowy tree lines and glowing moonbeams, voluptuous mountains and rippling lakes, to cascading canyons and sunny orbs. The works are installed in a sequence that reflects the dramatic passage of light from daybreak to nightfall. Some works feature celestial objects and cosmic phenomena that underscore the unpredictable magic of our sizable planet.

This project will be accompanied by a full-color eight-page 'zine designed by the Museum's Design Director Gretchen Kraus.

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Ping Zheng was born in 1989 in Zhejiang, China and lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. She received an MFA in Painting from the Rhode Island School of Design in 2016 and a BFA in Painting from the University College of London, Slade School of Fine Art in 2014. Her works are included in the collections of JP Morgan Chase Bank, Fidelity Investments Corporate Art Collection, the Cleveland Clinic Art Program, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

*Ping Zheng: Memories of Where Travels Go* is curated by Amy Smith-Stewart, Chief Curator.

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