

Exhibition: Fan Dongwang *Carving Perspectives*

Big Dragon Head, 2016, acrylic on canvas, 180 x 180 cm



My Deck and Watery Sky, 2024, acrylic on canvas, 90 x 90cm

ABOUT:

Shanghai born artist Dr Fan Dongwang studied traditional Chinese art at Shanghai School of Arts and Crafts in the 1970's. Since migrating to Australia in 1990, as an artist of 'Distinguished Talent' he has exhibited works, in his unique painting style, known for the vibrant depictions of dragons and cultural icons that explore the intersection of Eastern and Western perspectives.

In *Carving Perspectives*, Fan Dongwang merges traditional Chinese jade carving techniques with contemporary painting. Using brushes to 'sculpt' the canvas surface, he creates intricate lines and shadows, evoking a three-dimensional illusion. This fusion of Chinese decorative art, Western perspective, and pop art invites viewers to explore a spatial depth that transcends the canvas.

<https://www.fandongwang.com/>

STUDYING

When we consider traditional Chinese painting we often see images drawn in ink on long scrolls.

Look at <https://www.metmuseum.org/essays/chinese-painting> read about the tradition of Chinese painting.

- Compare the style of Fan Dongwang with works on this site - consider materials, use of colour, composition and meaning.
- research the symbolism of the dragon in China

MAKING

Create a three dimensional painting using colour – “carving perspective” Look at the two works above.

Materials: acrylic paint, brushes, board, canvas or paper

Subject: the head of an animal or bird, or a familiar place

Technique: draw your subject in simple outlines. You will not use tonal blending to show depth, instead different shades of colour will be applied. You should try to lightly draw the outline of all the different areas of colour.

For more inspiration relating to the style of Fan Dongwang look at his website