



Dien Berziga: WILD GRASS

Feburary 2025

The Bomb Factory Art Foundation 206 Marylebone Rd London NW1 6JQ Curated by

Catherine Li

04 Intro06 Selected Works48 BiographyCatherine Li

'Time present and time past
Are both perhaps present in time future,
And time future contained in time past.'
—T. S. Elliot, Four Quarters: Burnt Norton

Wild Grass, an exhibition marking the first solo exhibition of London-based painter Dien Berziga. The exhibition reimagines the site as a vast, flat field of dense time, where vitality and decay, loss and remembrance, slide across a singular surface. Featuring Berziga's most recent works from the past two years, the exhibition emphasises his ongoing exploration of the canvas as a time-space, where variations in texture, tactility, and form reimagine painting's capacity for storytelling.

Berziga has developed his practices through distinctive approaches to material and form, unraveling narratives that extend beyond imagery. His paintings are rooted in specific cultural contexts, yet untamed, drawing upon personal and collective recollections and the remembrance of objects, whilst navigating how heritage anchors and transforms in the hands of the maker. The exhibition invites viewers to consider this continuity—what was there and how it got here.

Geometric motifs take on greater importance in both his paintings and structural frames over the last two years, while still retaining expression. The painter explores his desire to celebrate the beauty and mystery of the visible and invisible world. The layered surfaces, under his austere, painterly touch, are always simultaneous and not successive. The imagery, although mostly appearing subtle, remains grounded in reality, holding solid references from his past and present lives. In his frame-paintings,

Berziga draws on his culturally hybrid experiences in China and Italy, preserving cultural histories and truths while blending painting, digital techniques, and architectural façades. His works exploit the aesthetic attraction of the aged, timeless qualities and refined techniques of previous centuries, creating a space where the past is preserved through craftsmanship, whilst exhibiting a roughness and unmistakable marks of the maker.

By juxtaposing Berziga's multifaceted practices, *Wild Grass* also examines the fine line between craft and fine art, between traditional craftsmanship and conceptual approaches. The works presented here are not isolated pieces or the products of an individual, but as part of a continuous exploration of heritage and its potential in unexpected directions. Perhaps it is precisely through the ability to remember that today's artists and makers can intervene on behalf of those who came before, protect certain things, and preserve for themselves. Whether change is embraced or resisted, it remains an inseparable part of this matrix of memory.

2025 text by Catherine Li Curator

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Selected Works

Works are priced upon request.





Shy Poets, 2023, Oil on paper mounted on canvas, 45 x 35 cm



Queen, 2025, Oil on canvas with gilded 3D printed frame, $93 \times 50 \text{ cm}$



Screen, 2025, Oil on canvas, 78.5 x 60 cm



Counting Sheep, 2025, Oil on canvas, 44.5 x 35.5 cm



House of the Black Heads, 2024, Oil on Canvas with 3D Printed Frame, $45 \times 50 \text{ cm}$



Late morning in Essex, 2025, Oil on canvas, 70.5 x 60 cm



田字格上的家, 2024, Oil on canvas, 55 x 55 cm



Zabadaks, 2024, Oil on canvas, 60 x 30 cm



Princess, 2024, Oil on canvas, 60 x 52 cm



Cloudwatcher, 2024, Oil on canvas, 29.5 x 25 cm







Apple orchard, 2023, Oil and charcoal on canvas, with PLA printed frame, 35 x 25 cm $\,$



Bay, 2024, Oil on canvas, with PLA printed frame and timber, $34 \times 44.5 \text{ cm}$



Crossing the yellow river 面对黄河,我惭愧, 2023, Oil, latex and graphite on canvas, 35 x 30 cm



Via Aurelia, and her men, 2023, Oil on canvas, 28 x 40 cm



Meadow, 2024, Oil on canvas, 120 x 100 cm



Young sailors, 2024, Oil on canvas, 121.5 x 91 cm



Parenthood, 2023, Oil on canvas, 150 x 60 cm



King, 2023, Oil on canvas with gilded 3D printed frame, 100 x 60 cm





Farm, 2023, Oil on canvas with 3D printed frame, 76.5 x 46 cm



Round Table, 2022, Oil on canvas, 45 x 35 cm



Outside the window, 2024, Oil on canvas, 43 x 32 cm



Intense stillness, 2024, Oil on canvas, 61 x 46 cm





Guru Hall 祖师殿, 2024, Oil on canvas, 21 x 35 cm



Filial Piety, 2025, Oil on canvas, 61 x 46 cm



画儿花, 2022, Oil on canvas, 45 x 35 cm



Tang Hu Lu, 2022, Oil on canvas, 45 x 34 cm



Chalkboard, 2024, Oil on canvas, 31 x 26.5 cm



Village, 2024, Oil on canvas, 45 x 35.5 cm



Thieves on Mars, 2023, Oil on paper mounted on canvas, $44.5 \times 33.5 \text{ cm}$



Birthday body, 2022, Oil on canvas, 45 x 35 cm



Grandma's dress, 2023, Oil on canvas, 34.5 x 26.5 cm





Letters from Tonino, 2023, Oil on canvas, 159.5 x 139 cm





Dien Berziga b. 2001 Beijing Lives and works in London Dien Berziga is a Chinese-Italian artist living and working in London. His multidisciplinary practice includes painting, digital collage, 3D printing, and the use of found materials. Berziga's work explores themes of individuality and value within urban landscapes, blending traditional techniques with contemporary technology. His paintings evoke childlike wonder, while the carefully crafted frames add a refined aesthetic. This contrast reflects a broader tension in his work between spontaneity and control, as well as experimentation and precision.

Berziga received his bachelor's degree in Fine Arts from Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London in 2023. His works has been featured in recent exhibition at OHSH Projects, London (2025); Art Platz Gallery, Riga, Latvia (2024); Good Rice Gallery Koppel Projects, London (2024); SET studios Gallery, London (2024); Nunnery Gallery, London (2024); University Women's Club, London (2024); Millbank Tower, London (2024); Liliya Gallery, London (2024); Hypha HQ, London (2024); Lot Projects, London (2024); White Conduit Projects, London (2023); Henrietta Contemporary, London (2023); Lethaby Gallery, London (2023); Slash Arts Gallery, London (2022).

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