

**YAN PEI-MING****A BURIAL AT SHANGHAI – REPRODUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL**

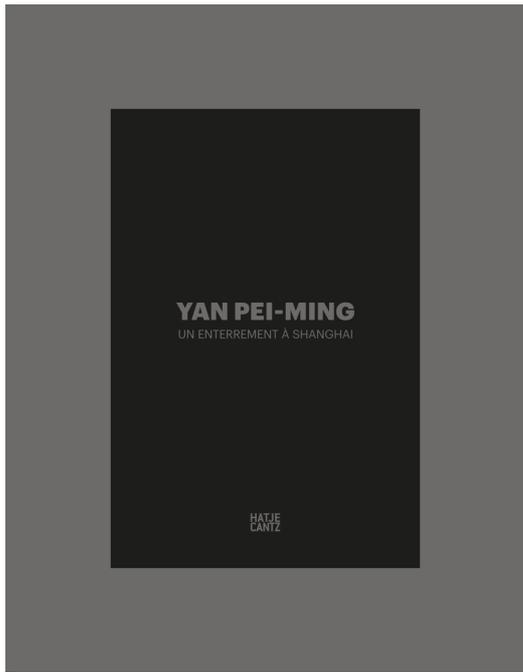
With *Un Enterrement à Shanghai* (A Burial at Shanghai), Yan Pei-Ming pays tribute to the French Realist painter Gustave Courbet. Three paintings comprise this monumental work, which alludes to Courbet's masterpiece *Un Enterrement à Ornans* (A Burial in Ornans). This artist's book makes it possible to experience one of the three paintings, measuring more than six meters in width and three meters in height, in its original dimensions.

Berlin, November 14, 2019 – When Yan Pei-Ming, who was born in 1960 in Shanghai and grew up during the Cultural Revolution, arrived in France in 1980 at the age of twenty to study at the École des Beaux-Arts in Dijon, the first thing he did was to go to Ornans, the birthplace of the great Realist painter Gustave Courbet. Thirty-nine years later, Pei-Ming himself has become an outstanding contemporary painter, and he has taken the 200th anniversary of Courbet's birth as an occasion to prove his reverence for him and his masterpiece, *A Burial in Ornans* (1849/50) at the Musée d'Orsay.

Aside from the abstract landscape *Montagne celeste* (Mount Celeste) and the portrait *Ma mère* (My mother), Pei-Ming transposes the scene in the small city of Ornans to Shanghai in *A Burial at Shanghai*. It is not only the place where Courbet was born, but it is also where his mother was buried. The painting *L'adieu* (The farewell) from the triptych depicts the funeral scene in same size as Courbet's original. "Yan Pei-Ming is not interested in 'copying' Courbet, but in a personal interpretation," says Laurence des Cars, president of the Musée d'Orsay and the Musée de l'Orangerie.

The art book is subject to the conditions of a limited format. It is difficult to convey to readers the actual dimensions of very large works in particular, which are typical of Pei-Ming. Conceived by the artist, this book gives the reader a chance to reconstruct the work in its actual size. You can take the 290 detailed images out of the book and reconstruct the painting *L'adieu* in its original size of more than six meters in width and three meters in height.

Exhibition: October 1, 2019–January 12, 2020, Musée d'Orsay, Paris



**YAN PEI-MING  
UN ENTERREMENT À SHANGHAI**

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by Christoph Radl

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Especially in the digital age, Hatje Cantz regards itself an element linking museums, artists, galleries, collectors, and art lovers. Conveying knowledge - in terms of both content and visuals - as well as an enthusiasm for art is always at the heart of our engagement.

In keeping with our ambition to make it possible to experience art beyond the medium of the book, Hatje Cantz has launched the EDITION HATJE CANTZ as we continue to expand our portfolio of strictly limited, signed editions featuring works on paper, photographic works of art, and art objects.

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