

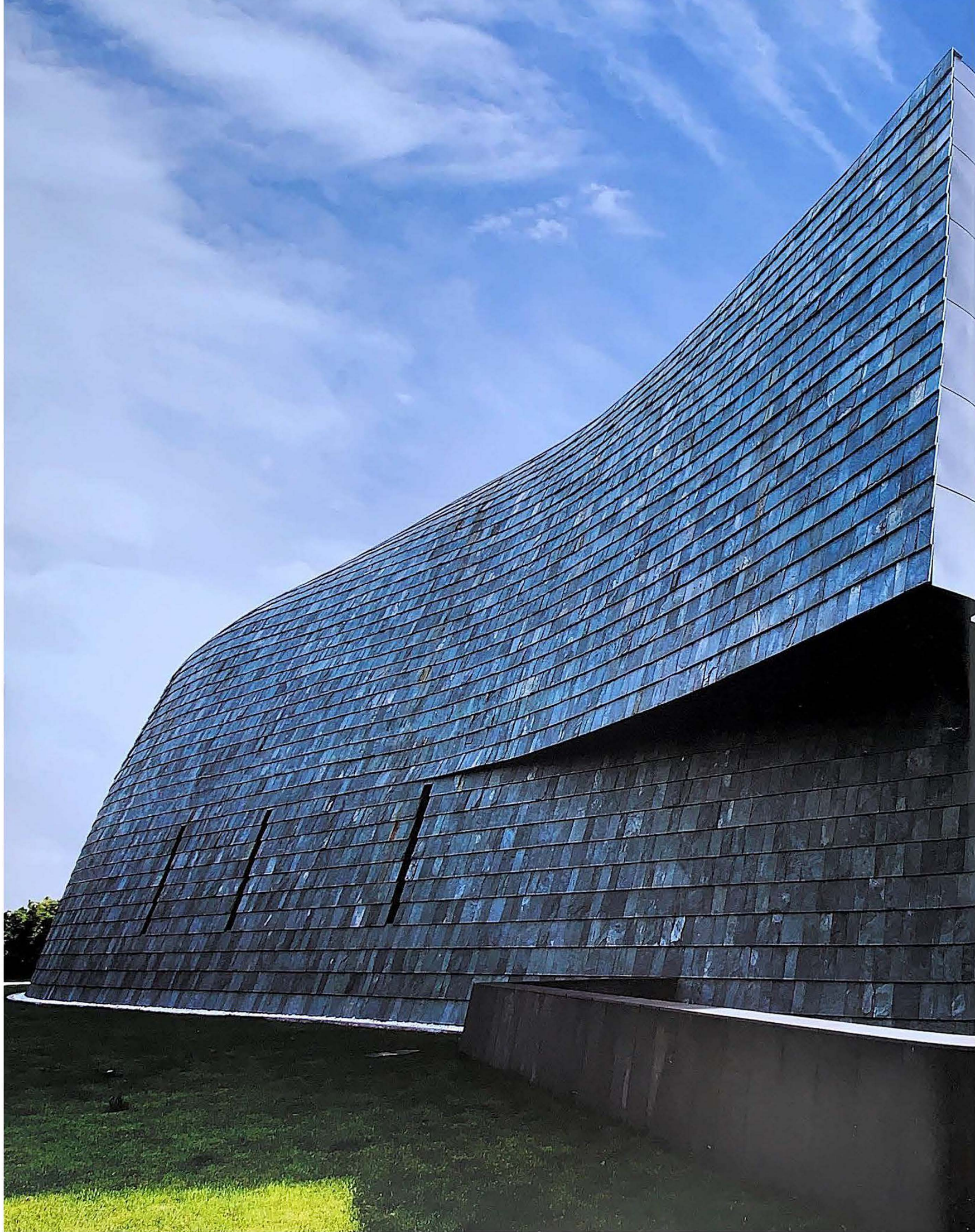
苏珊·斯沃茨

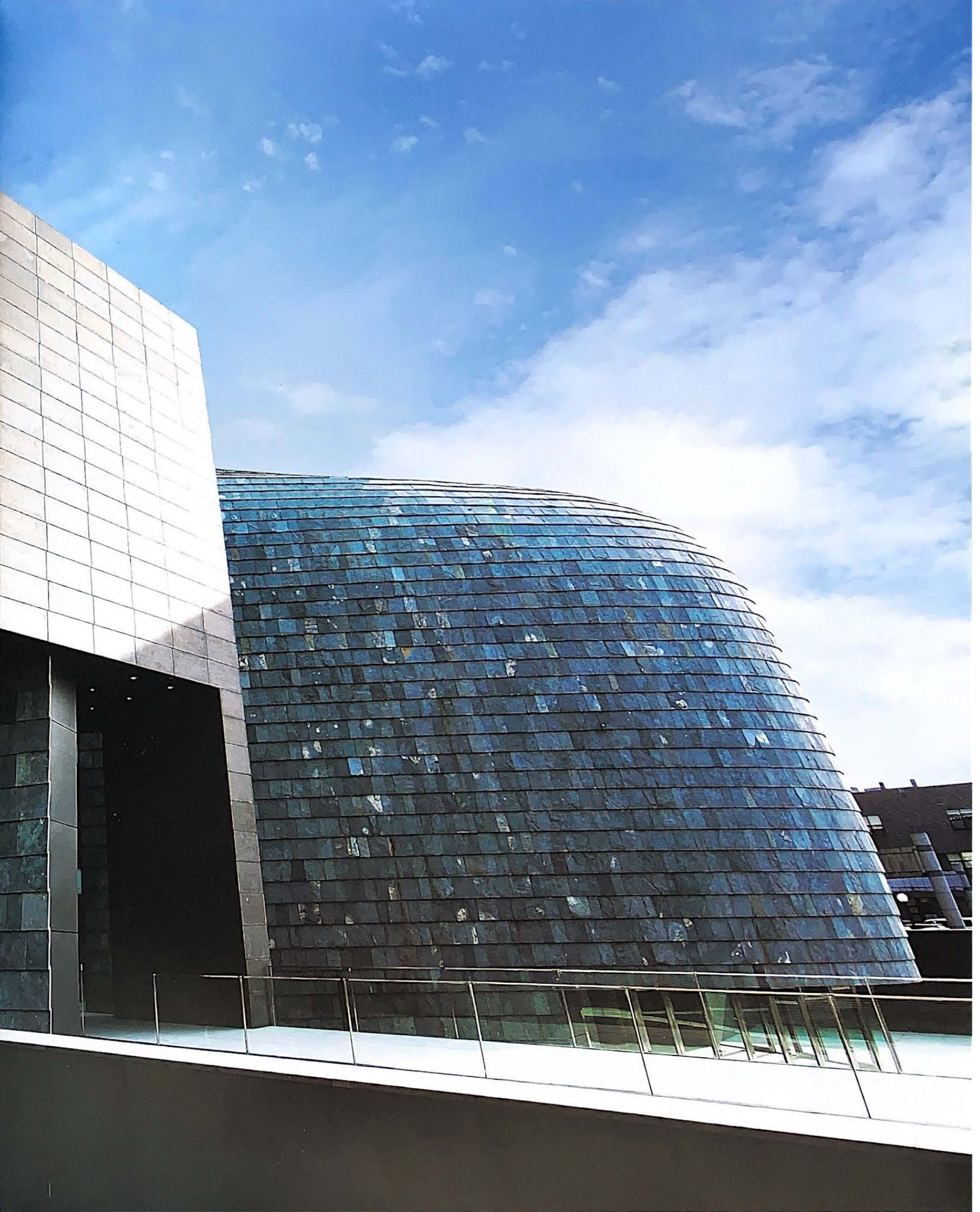
**SUSAN SWARTZ
PERSONAL PATH**

个人历程

中央美术学院美术馆

Art Museum of Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing





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A Unique Scenery, A Doorway to the Heart

I am very delighted that Susan Swartz's exhibition can be held at CAFA. It is the first time that her works have been shown to the Chinese audience after being exhibited in Germany, Hungary, Austria and Russia.

"If a painter hopes to create marvelous art works, he should learn from nature and his own inner world", a line put by Zhang Zao, a famous Chinese painter of the Tang Dynasty, might be the first sentence that comes into our mind when we stand before Susan's paintings and appreciate the vibrant colors she used to depict different scenarios, either a stunning sunset, a luxuriant spring scene, or a wisp of mist above a glimmering river. Susan has studios in Park City, a quaint town in Utah, and Martha's Vineyard, off the coast of Massachusetts. She travels to and from these two places every year. The mountains and the sea she has seen during these trips have brought her endless inspiration. We can feel the vivacity of nature in her paintings, whether they are simple or complex. These artworks originate from nature, but reflect her true thinking on the world. Each tint of color and trace of stroke on the canvas can reveal her creation process--asking herself a question, answering it by her own, and asking another...By repeating these Q&As, she is actually going deeper to her soul, which imbues her works with a restrained style and adds a spiritual reflection to the joy or splendor of the natural scenery. From this perspective, her creation method is consistent with major characteristics of the Chinese art, which focus on striking a balance between the scenes themselves and the feelings people have when they are in the scenes. In this process, people and nature, the self and the world are truly brought together.

Susan once mentioned that her works were greatly influenced by Caspar David Friedrich, an important figure in German art history. As a great landscape painter and a representative of Romanticism in Germany, Friedrich portrayed the sea and the mountains in an unprecedented cold and lonely way, injecting mysterious cultural charm into the tranquil landscape. In Susan's artworks, we can also see the secret con-

独辟蹊径的心灵风景

范迪安

十分高兴在中央美术学院美术馆举办苏珊·斯沃茨的展览，这是她的作品在德国、匈牙利、奥地利、俄罗斯相继展出后首次与中国观众见面。

“外师造化、中得心源”，当我们站在苏珊·斯沃茨的作品前，体会阳光照射在水面上的氤氲幻景，春天万物萌发的绚烂斑斓，亦或是夕阳余晖留下的浓烈紫红，中国观众可能会首先想到这句唐代画家张躁关于画学的名言。苏珊在美国犹他州的古朴小镇帕克城，以及马萨诸塞州外海的玛莎葡萄园岛都有工作室。她每年往返于这两地进行创作，四季转换间色彩与光线变幻丰富的高山与大海，为她带来无尽的创作灵感。我们可以在她或单纯强烈或多彩鲜艳的畫面中，感受大自然跃动的生命。她的艺术来自面对自然的感受，但创作的目标指向心灵的探寻，指向一种自省式的冥想，从“造化”通向“心源”。画布上的颜色堆叠和笔触留痕，犹如一次次的自问、自答、再自问，是不断朝向心灵深处的追寻。这种灵魂深处的求索为苏珊的作品带来一种内敛的气质，为自然风景的欢愉或震撼增添了精神的分量，从这个角度来说，它与中国艺术中追求“写意”、“气韵”的重要特征颇有相合之处，既写物象之意，又写胸中之意，在这个过程中，人与自然、自我与世界彼此交融。

苏珊曾谈到，她的作品受到德国艺术史上重要人物卡斯帕·大卫·弗里德里希 (Caspar David Friedrich) 的影响。作为德国伟大的风景画家和浪漫主义代表，弗里德里希以前所未有的空冷寂寥情调表现大海与群山，在宁静的风景中注入神秘的文化灵韵。在苏珊的作品中，我们也能看到关于自然风景和精神哲思之间的神秘联结。在她的笔下，人与自然彼此平等，人类感怀于自然的无限魅力，同时，又真诚地与自然对话，在绵绵不绝的交流中，不断澄明自身生命的意义。

苏珊的创作曾经以具象为主，而后转为抽象。这种艺术语言的转变，是苏珊从心出发的自然选择和必然结果。然而，形态上的“具象”还是“抽象”并不是苏珊所关心的首要问题。在此次展出的83组作品中我们可以看到，极具抽象造型的作品系列，与具象形象稍有留存的作品系列，有时会交替出现。艺术家所要做到的，只是为自己的关切和情感找到最恰当的表达方式。也正是这种发自“心源”的艺术创作，使得苏珊的作品不囿于抽象艺术在它一百多年的历史里已建立

nection between natural scenery and spiritual philosophy. Men and nature are equal. Human beings are inspired by the infinite charm of nature. At the same time, they seek to have sincere conversations with nature. In the ceaseless exchanges, humans are able to clarify the meaning of their lives.

Susan's creations were mainly realistic at first and then turned abstractive. This transformation of artistic language is natural as the only thing that she follows is her own heart. However, to use 'realistic' or 'abstractive' way of creating is not a primary concern of Susan. The 33 works exhibited this time include those with very abstract shapes and also those kept with certain realistic features. What artists have to do is to find the most appropriate expression for their concerns and emotions. It is also this kind of artistic philosophy that makes Susan's works free from the various paradigms that have been established in the field of abstract art in its more than one hundred years of history. She neither rely on precise calculation, which geometric abstraction demands nor try to stay as casual as one can, a common method used in completing abstract paintings. She always listens to the voice from her heart, respects her true desire and aspiration, and naturally expresses her ideas and emotions. She has her own unique way of understanding the meaning of art creation. The brushstrokes and textures of her paintings reveal both rich senses and vivid characters of her as a female artist.

This exhibition is another collaboration between the CAFA and Stiftung für Kunst und Kultur e.V., following other cooperation projects, such as the "China 8 - China Contemporary Art Exhibition" (2015) and the "Deutschland 8: Deutsche Kunst in China" (2017). We cherish the good friendship forged between us and look forward to further cooperation. Here, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all the friends who have worked hard for this exhibition!

Fan Di'an

September, 2018

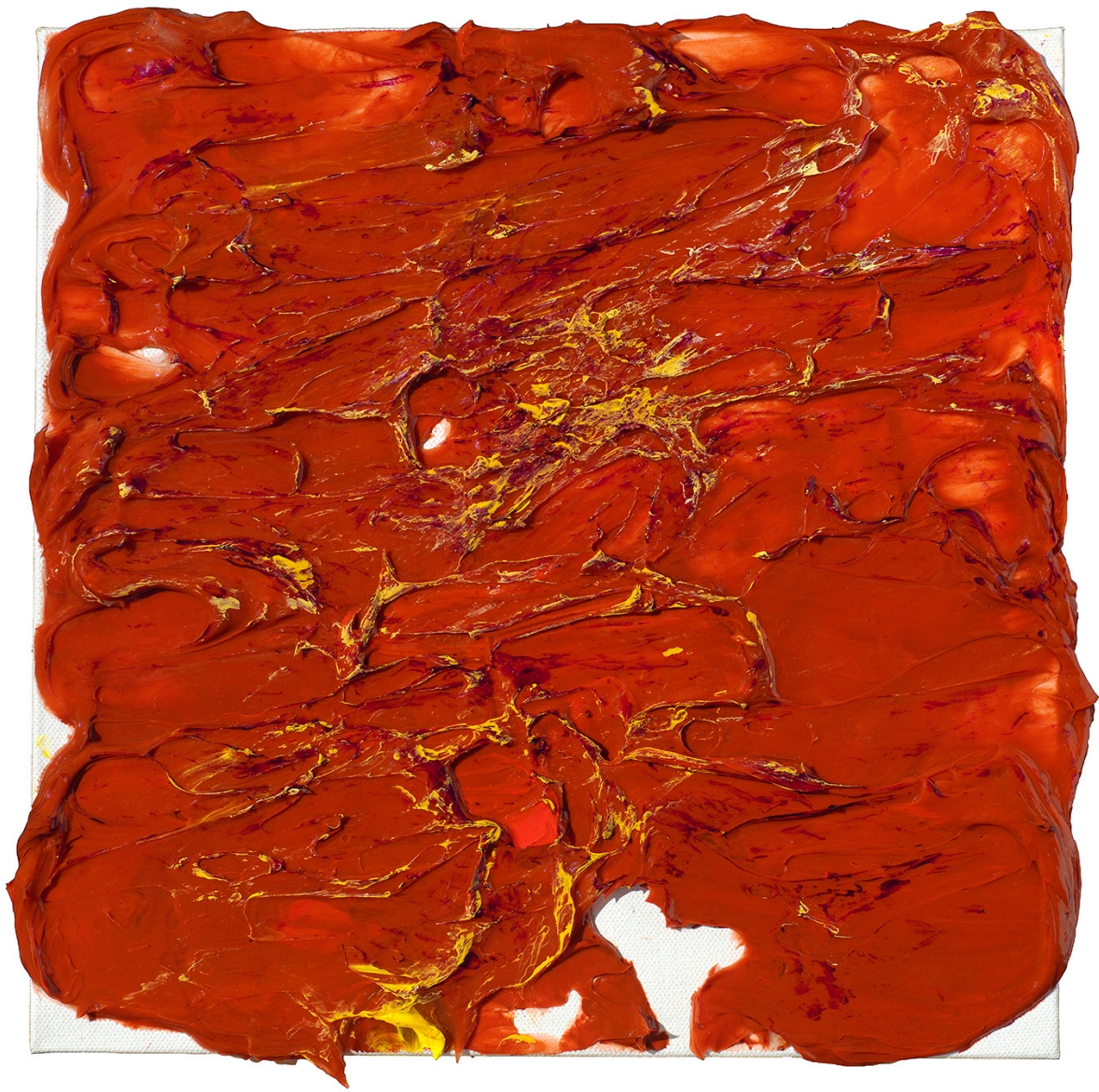
Fan Di'an, President of the Central Academy of Fine Arts, ex-Director of National Art Museum of China, Professor, Ph.D. supervisor.

的各种程式，既不像几何抽象那样依靠极为精密和系统的理性计算，也不像行动抽象绘画那样感性地随意挥洒，她总是时常回顾内心，尊重自我真实的渴望和想往，并自然地给予释放与解答。她对媒介物质性的把握有自己的独特方式，图绘的笔触和肌理上展现出丰沛的感性，也透溢出女艺术家的鲜明性格。

此次展览，是中央美术学院与德国波恩文化与艺术基金自2015年“中国8——中国当代艺术展”、2017年“德国8——德国艺术在中国”展览之后的又一次合作。我们十分珍视彼此建立的良好友谊，也共同期待未来的进一步合作。在此，向为此次展览付出努力的所有朋友表示衷心的感谢！

2018年9月

范迪安，中央美术学院院长，教授、博士生导师，曾任中国美术馆馆长。



Synthesis #1
2018
12 x 12 inch / 30,48 x 30,48 cm



Synthesis #2

2018

12 x 12 inch / 30,48 x 30,48 cm