

Yi Kai

at Dolly Fiterman Fine Arts



Yi Kai, *Word Mixture in Red, White and Blue*, 1997, oil on canvas, 64 x 94 inches

Born in China, Yi Kai studied traditional ink painting before emigrating to America in 1990. In less than a decade, he has transformed the basic aspects of China's venerable pictorial tradition into a personal expression charged with Western values. The exhibition, *Millennial Confluence: A Decade of Paintings by Yi Kai*, at Dolly Fiterman Fine Arts (9 June - October 1999), includes forty works. The show focuses on the cultural blending that has always defined America's social fabric. Yi Kai combines Western icons including maps and flags in primary colors, with Eastern symbolism and calligraphic brushwork. While the work of Pollock, De Kooning, Johns and Rauschenberg provide visual context for Yi Kai's abstracted paint surfaces, the integration of themes as disparate as Ameri-

can individualism and Confucian family values reflect the unique insight of an immigrant Chinese artist. Yi Kai's paintings further affirm that America is currently the best demonstration that cultural diversity works and that, at the time of the millennium, this universal harmony will be even more fully realized.

Dolly Fiterman Fine Arts is located at 100 University Avenue Southeast, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and by appointment. For further information, please call 612-623-3300. Exhibition dates: 9 June through October 1999.

An illustrated catalogue will accompany the exhibition.

On the cover: Yi Kai, *Flag No. 1*, 1999, oil on canvas, 30 x 24 inches

Gallery Guide

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Yi Kai at Dolly Fiterman Fine Arts, Minneapolis, Minnesota