

SUN JINTAO

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PROFILE

An artist and researcher investigating the intersection of ancient intangible cultural heritage and artificial intelligence. My research leverages Generative AI to deconstruct and reimagine traditional material culture, exploring themes of materiality, cultural identity and mythology in the digital age. I possess a hybrid skillset combining mastery in traditional art methodologies with cutting-edge AI generation and digital media.

Research interests: Generative AI, Digital Art, Computational Creativity, Material Aesthetics, Art Practice, Intangible Cultural Heritage

EDUCATION

Tsinghua University, 清華大學

09/2021 – 07/2024

Master of Fine Arts, major in Craft art

GPA: 3.98/4

Thesis: Integration as a Creative Liberation: Reconsidering Visual Form in Modern Lacquer Painting

Tsinghua University, 清華大學

09/2017 – 07/2021

Bachelor of Arts, major in Craft art

GPA: 3.66/4

Honors: Excellent Undergraduate Graduates of Tsinghua University

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS & RESIDENCIES

Xuyouji 2025 · Luoxing Art Fair Annual Exhibition, Foshan Municipal Bureau of Culture and Tourism and Sports | 2025

Light & Shadow HyperSense – Bund Art Season, Xiaohongshu | 2025

National Fine Arts Itinerant Exhibition (14th Edition), China Artists Association | 2024

"THE NEW CRAFTS" International Traveling Exhibition & Invitation Exhibition, Tsinghua University | 2024

National Youth Lacquer Painting Academic Nomination Exhibition, Hubei Artists Association | 2024

GuardianArt BULE | Qiao Shiguang Lacquer Painting Art Innovation Award Auction, GuardianArt | 2024

"THE NEW CRAFTS" International Traveling Exhibition, Tsinghua University | 2024

Hubei International Lacquer Art Triennial, Hubei Art Museum, Hubei Artists Association | 2023

Contemporary Arts and Crafts Criticism Academic Nomination Exhibition, China Arts and Crafts Association
| 2023

"DISCOVER FLOW" - The 2nd Tsinghua graduate student creation exhibition, Tsinghua University | 2023

National Paint Exhibition (6th Edition), China Artists Association | 2023

China Sports Art Exhibition and Sports Culture Expo, China General Administration | 2023

Art Residency & Solo Exhibition ("JUMP"), Dongguan Yanling Garden | 2023

The Beijing Youth Art Biennale, The Communist Youth League Beijing Committee | 2022

Art Residency & Group Exhibition ("Three People"), Shanghai Acentricspace | 2022

AWARDS & HONORS

The 5th Qiao Shiguang Lacquer Painting Art Innovation Award, Student Excellence Award | 2024

Yanling Park Moxiang Resident Program, Most Popular Award | 2023

Tsinghua University Academic of Arts and Design MFA Comprehensive Scholarship | 2022

College Students "Art Star" Art and Design Competition, First Prize | 2022

The 13th University Art Works Exhibition of the Academic year, Second Prize | 2021

The 8th "Academy Award" National Art and Design Competition, Third Prize | 2021

Excellent Undergraduate Graduates of Tsinghua University | 2021

Tsinghua University Innovation Excellence Scholarship | 2020

Tsinghua University Huang Qianheng Scholarship | 2020

The 1st Lacquer Art Invitational Competition, Lacquer Decoration Class, Second Prize | 2019

Tsinghua University Evergrande Scholarship | 2018

KEY PROJECTS & COMMISSIONS

MidJourney | Creative Collaborator | Global, 2025 – Present

- Selected as an official Creative Collaborator in MidJourney's closed beta program.
- Granted early access to advanced generative features and dedicated compute resources to develop new workflows.
- Produced experimental artworks exploring material simulation and cultural motifs, several of which will be featured on the platform's official channels.

Independent AI Art Practice & Digital Engagement | Xiaohongshu, 2025 - Present

- Created and curated AI-driven art series (Forms Born of Xuan, Celestial Menagerie), blending traditional Chinese motifs with generative methods.
- Built a digital art channel with 10K+ followers and 1M+ views, and Officially recognized by Xiaohongshu as a premium creator, maintaining long-term collaboration with the Xiaohongshu platform through featured campaigns and events.
- Invited by other major institutions, including the National Art Museum of China and CCTV.

Zhipu.ai | AI Product Manager | Beijing, 2025 - Present

- Led feature and interaction design for generative-AI products, translating abstract model capabilities into clear, user-centered functions and workflows.
- Collaborated with engineers to prototype and refine AI-assisted creation interfaces, defining interaction logic that balanced model autonomy and user control.
- Collected and analyzed user feedback data to identify usability pain points and guide iterative improvements in design and functionality.

Contributed to a successful product launch that scaled to 100 K + active users within three months,

Lovart | AI Marketing & Content | Beijing, 2025

- Explored and expanded practical application scenarios for generative-AI design tools, adapting existing model architectures to diverse creative workflows.
- Collaborated with designers and artists to produce high-fidelity case studies that demonstrated the system's creative and stylistic potential across visual domains.
- Gathered and analyzed user and professional feedback to identify high-impact use cases, refining promotional focus and scenario recommendations.
- Contributed to the successful global launch, reaching 100 K + users within five days and establishing Lovart as a leading AI design platform.

Urban Art United (UAU) | Contracted Artist | Shanghai, 2024 - Present

- Selected for the Young Artist Support Program, creating public-facing art projects that bridge artistic practice and commercial application in urban spaces.

Starbucks Tsinghua Store Project | Artist and Designer | Beijing, 2024

- Commissioned by Starbucks to design and create a large-scale indoor wall installation for their flagship Tsinghua University store.
- Integrated personal artwork "JUMP" to merge corporate branding with university culture, reflecting the campus's vibrant academic atmosphere.

TEACHING & LECTURING

Teaching Assistant, "Lacquer Art Restoration and Conservation," Tsinghua University School of Architecture | 2024

Lecturer, Special Intangible Cultural Heritage Course for the Embassy of Indonesia | 2024

Lecturer, Public Lacquer Craft Course, Art Science Class Company | 2024

PUBLICATIONS

Sun, Jintao. (2024). "Evolution of lacquer painting aesthetic orientation." Grand View of Art, (24), 113-115.

Illustration work featured in Pattern Decoration Skills (Guan Donghai, Author). Tsinghua University Press. (2025).

SKILL

AI & Digital Media: Midjourney, Toughdesigner, Processing, p5.js, Krea AI, Stable Diffusion, Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, After Effects), Procreate

Digital Fabrication & 3D Modeling: Blender, Autodesk Fusion 360, 3D Printing, Laser Cutting

Traditional Crafts: Lacquer Art, Metalwork, Glass Art, Ceramics, Silk Screen Printing, Fibre Art

