ENGLISH COVERAGE Edouard Malingue Gallery Song Hyun-Sook | 2 Brushstrokes

## **UPCLOSE** Song Hyun-sook



Korean-born,
Germany-based
painter Song
Hyun-sook
creates minimalist
yet evocative
works using
tempera—

a paint made of eggs and pigment. She tells Jacqueline Garwood about the evolution of her technique, her artistic goals and why she counts her brush strokes.

## HK: What do you think your works' distinguishing features are?

SH: It's hard for me to say. I don't think about these things when I'm doing my art. It's more for the viewers to say than myself. But what might be one of the differences is that I am very focused on the process of drawing itself, down to the single brush stroke. [When I first started painting] I tried to deliver certain content and tell a certain story. But it came out very complicated and loaded. Then I came to a point and realized that the simpler I make a painting, the stronger the statement. If you compare it with a poem, it would be like a haiku, where you have very short sentences and statements but they make the content stronger.

## HK: What is your work process like?

SH: Firstly, when I prepare myself and try to draw a painting, I do sketches on paper and set up the composition to see how I'll approach the work. When I paint on canvas, the canvas lies on the ground. I stand above the painting. [The canvas] still has to be wet when I paint, and the whole thing happens in one stroke. Every brush stroke is connected. In that moment, all the power is forced to get out. It's not a process where I start and stop. I have to do it in the moment, so I can't pause. I have to prepare myself to do that. It distinguishes [my work] from classic Western art, where you can paint and stop or pause and step back; brush it out or try it again on the same canvas. That doesn't happen with me. If it doesn't work out, I have to throw the painting away and start all over again with a new canvas. If I am uncertain or flustered, you can see it in the brush strokes... it stops. You can see every emotion in the strokes. It doesn't mean that it's bad. I have to capture the emotion in one moment.

## HK: What is the importance of counting your brush stokes?

SH: Numbers can contain a certain meaning as well. For example, your birthday can say something about your personality. And if you count brush strokes, you follow a certain chronology. If you start from one and end at 10, you follow a direction. That takes you through the process; you are actually seeing the painting happening in front of you. It's the same thing with calligraphy. You have an order to follow when you draw a character. You can say there are 20 strokes, and then you see the character happening from beginning till end.

#### HK: Are there any common reactions to your paintings?

SH: It really depends on the viewer and the circumstance. The reaction I often get is that the paintings evoke old or lost memories. I think nostalgia is more of an Asian reaction to my paintings. Maybe something of Korean society has been lost during industrialization. The reaction in the west is totally different—people say my work gives a certain meditative effect; it calms you down and helps you relax.

#### HK: Do you have any goals?

SH: I don't seek to accomplish anything. I think more about painting as a science to do research about painting itself; I see myself as a researcher of painting. It takes a very high amount of discipline for me to do that. My daily life is built on that, so I have a very structured life of eight to nine hours of work per day, six days per week. Sometimes I take my time. For instance, from 2009 to 2010, I didn't do any exhibitions.

## HK: What advice would you give to aspiring artists?

SH: The most important thing for me is to improve your ability to see art and watch art. There's a Korean saying, "You raise your eye that can see," and that's essential for doing art. It takes a long time to do so. An artist has to train that. That's the first thing. Secondly, you have to find your own way of expression, then stick to it and develop it over a long time. That's the hardest challenge because it's so easy to go off track. To distinguish yourself in a very unique way takes a long time and a lot of effort. When I was a student, I tried different things like pottery and film, but slowly and gradually I found my path to painting.

See Song's exhibition through September 1. For more information and an example of her work, see arts listings, p.28.

## **HK PICKS**



## Song Hyun-sook

Korean artist Song Hyun-sook is known for her minimalist yet evocative style, which primarily involves a colored canvas and a few concise strokes. A specialist in tempera, a medium made from eggs and pigment that was popular in the medieval Europe, Song paints everyday objects as well as human figures. Through Sep 1. Edouard Malingue Gallery, 1/F, 8 Queen's Rd. Central, 2810-0317.

work to the permanent collection of M+. Dr Sigg set out to build a museum-quality national collection of global significance. The period 1979–2009 in China is a unique moment in art history. Given both the fact that many works, especially from the first ten years of this period, were destroyed due to lack of interest from collectors and institutions, and [with] the subsequent boom in the market for these works, it would be impossible to now build a collection similar in

depth, scope, and quality." Dr Uli Sigg said, "In the early 1990s I realized that nobody was collecting Chinese contemporary art even remotely systematically-neither individuals nor institutions in China or abroad. That seemed odd for the biggest cultural space in the world, and for what will be in hindsight a very important period. So I decided to change my approach and collect like an institution would: documenting the art production of China from day one to today-along the timeline, across all media, rather than according to my personal taste as a private collector would. I set out to create that 'document' about Chinese contemporary art that is missing in China, and missing outside as well."

Dr Sigg added, "By joining forces with M+, the art works will ultimately come full circle back to China as I have always hoped they would. My intention is to return something to China for what it has allowed me to experience over the last 33 years: an incredible journey, whose most intense core has been formed by so many encounters with Chinese artists. This is my contribution: to enable these artists to have a space within M+ where they will communicate with an international audience, and where they will meet with a Chinese public. Having explored various opportunities. I am convinced that there will be no better platform for my collection and for Chinese contemporary art than that which M+ can provide."

NEWS





Amongst the works from the Sigg Collection are Liu Ye's Silence of the Sea (1995, above left) and Wang Guangyi's Mao Zedong Red Grid No.2 (1988, above right). Images: Courteav of M+.

The WKCDA Board approved the setting up of a trust to hold the collection. The collection will be displayed in dedicated galleries when M+ opens in 2017. Starting this year M+ will also be engaged with the Chinese Contemporary Art Award, founded by Uli Sigg in 1997, and the CCAA Art Critic Award.

M+, opening in 2017 as part of the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD), will be the museum for visual culture in Hong Kong, focusing on 20thand 21st-century art, design, architecture, and the moving image from a Hong Kong perspective, expanding to other regions of China, Asia, and the rest of the world. M+ aims to build a world-class collection of Hong Kong, Chinese, and Asian visual culture. The scale of the building, at around 60,000 square meters, will be on par with the Museum of Modern Art in New York. It is a project with a strong public service ethos, and is conceived as a museum

for Hong Kong and Asia, firmly rooted in the location and its unique culture.

## MACAU

#### The Power Of Clothing

i Qing: Interweaving is on view at Macau's Fundação Oriente (Orient Foundation) through August 26, 2012. Li Qing explores, in Interweaving, issues raised by clothing: the manufacturing of clothes, weaving as creativity and resistance, the social symbolism, and civilizing effects of clothing.

The artist's ruminations on the subject drift across selected historical artworks, period photographic images, and current realities of China's export-based economy. The references bring together distant cultures and stretch across temporal epochs; this presents a

puzzling pastiche in which the artist seems to delight.

To thicken the narrative plot, his explorations are made intentionally 'academic' through visual auotations and historical anecdotes, but this also makes turgid the artist's original visual imagination. Arguably it was his visual imagination that lured him into the theme in the first place, and this is where unpacking of the artist's intention should start. It would be curious to know how he decided on his choice of references, how they fit into his own historical frame and what cultural milieu he speaks to. Behind the academic façade, the artist has perhaps left messages quietly embedded in this linked group of artworks.

Born in Huzhou, Zhejiang, China in 1981, Li Qing graduated from the oil painting department of the China Academy of Art in 2007 with a Master's degree. He lives in Hangzhou, China. He has had solo exhibitions in China, Hong Kong, and the United States, and has participated in many group shows in the United States and Europe, as well as in China.

Fundação Oriente (Orient Foundation) is at Praça Luís de Camões, 13, Macao. For more information, please contact HanartTZ Gallery in Hong Kong at Tel: (852) 2526 9019 or email: hanart@hanart.com.

## HONG KONG

#### Expressive Minimalism

douard Malingue Gallery will present a solo exhibition by the Korean artist Song Hyun-Sook from July 3 to September 1, 2012. The paintings of Song Hyun-Sook are compelling in their simplicity and expressive feeling. Delicate and powerful at the same time, they are composed of only a few brushstrokes yet possess a depth of emotion.

Born in 1952 in a mountain village in South Korea.



Li Qing, Showcase of Natural Science #1 (partial installation), 2012, mixed media installation, 170 x 164 x 86 cm. Image: Courtesy of the Artist and Hanart TZ Gallery.

## NEWS

BRIEF

Song traveled to West Germany in 1972 where she studied at the College of Fine Art in Hamburg from 1976 to 1981. After returning to Korea to study Korean art history at Chonnam National University in Gwangju (1984–1985), she subsequently settled in Germany where she began a career as an illustrator, documentary filmmaker, and artist.

In Song's work, canvas surface is the only color field and the subject is depicted in a few, distinct brushstrokes. She counts the brushstrokes and entitles each of her paintings with the number of strokes needed to complete it.

Song uses tempera, a medium that was often used in Western medieval paintings. Made from egg and pigment, tempera is water-soluble and opaque. Combining Western and Eastern elements in her art, she applies it using a coarse horsehair brush, traditionally used in Korea for painting ceramic wares. Her brushstrokes are vigorous yet sensitive, evoking both space and time.

Her subjects are simple structures and objects from everyday life in Korea: a wooden post, a fence, the corner of a house, cooking pots, lengths of ramie fabric hanging on a line, or sometimes human figures. Her works evoke nostalgia and respect for her homeland. They are also symbolic: for example, women in the Hansan region of Korea have woven ramie fabric for 1,500 years. Light and fine, it is also durable and has come to symbolize the perseverance of Korean women.

Between the figurative and the abstract, Song's paintings feature an elegant, subdued palette. They evoke a deep longing for her homeland, yet have a serenity that speaks of a wandering artistic soul that has found peace.

Song's works are in the collections of the Kunstmuseum Bern, Switzerland; the Kunstmuseum Bonn, Hamburger Kunsthalle and Kunstmuseum Düsseldorf, Germany; the National Museum



Song Hyun-Sook, 2 Brushstrokes, 2009, 160 x 240 cm. Image: Courtesy of the Artist and Edouard Malingue Gallery Hong Kong.

of Contemporary Art, Leeum-Samsung Museum of Modern Art, Seoul Museum of Art, Gwangju City Art Museum, Gyeonggido Museum of Modern Art, and Sungshin Women's University Museum, Korea; and the Mori Art Museum, and Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Japan.

Edouard Malingue Gallery is located at First Floor, 8 Queen's Road Central. Tel: (852) 2810 0317. E-mail: mail@ edouardmalingue.com. control by use of force in order to divert or appropriate, a deliberate attempt to act on a change of direction. Utilizing portraiture, digital collage, archival images, documentary snap shots, internet grabs, and refined photographic tableaux, the 25 artists in this exhibition explore themes as diverse

as curious weekend leisure pursuits, gender politics, and displaced Indigenous culture.

Hijacked III is a Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts' touring exhibition and premiered simultaneously across two sites: Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts (PICA) in Perth, Western Australia, and QUAD Gallery in Derby, United Kingdom, from March to May 2012. A full-color, 420-page Hijacked III compendium has been published by Big City Press to accompany the exhibition.

This expansive exhibition has been co-curated by Louise Clements (Quad Gallery, Derby), Mark McPherson (Big City Press), and Leigh Robb (PICA). Artists whose works are on view include Tony Albert, Warwick Baker, Broomberg & Chanarin, Natasha Caruana, Bindi Cole, Maciej Dakowicz, Christopher Day, Melinda Gibson, Toni Greaves, Petrina Hicks, Alin Huma, Seba Kurtis, David Manley, Tracey Moffatt, Trish Morrissey, Laura Pannack,



Laura Pannack (The United Kingdom), Shay, 2010, photograph. © Laura Pannack.



#### Unique Energies Come Together

ijacked Contemporary Photography from Australia & the UK, on view from June 30 through August 19, 2012, at the Australian Center for Photography (ACP), draws on the success and unique energy of Hijacked I (Australia & USA) and Hijacked II (Australia & Germany), both exhibited at ACP, to bring together two geographically distant but historically connected communities through diverse photographic practices.

Artists are notorious for their ability to hijack; meaning to stop and hold up, to seize



Petrina Hicks (Australia), Emily the Strange, 2011, photograph. © Petrina Hicks.

CHINESE COVERAGE Edouard Malingue Gallery Song Hyun-Sook | 2 Brushstrokes











## 今日文化節目精選

- ■「亞洲長號音樂節2012:總延音樂會」晚上八時 新華爾大會意演奏廳舉行。
- ■樂天藝術社主路的「樂天與您秀獻財」音樂會・ 下午三時於屯門大會愛文與暗演出
- ■香港中原国演奏的「拾花精・溢新娘 郭雅志的 吹智世界2」音樂會、晚上八時於香港文化中心音 樂廳演出
- ■數樂早場:電影(冷梅情談)上午十一時於香港 電影資料館電影院上頭・
- ■「香港中國畫馆進會字畫規」下午二時至晚上 八時於香港大會堂局實趣展出,展期至本月十 五日。

# 太陽劇團訪港演雜技



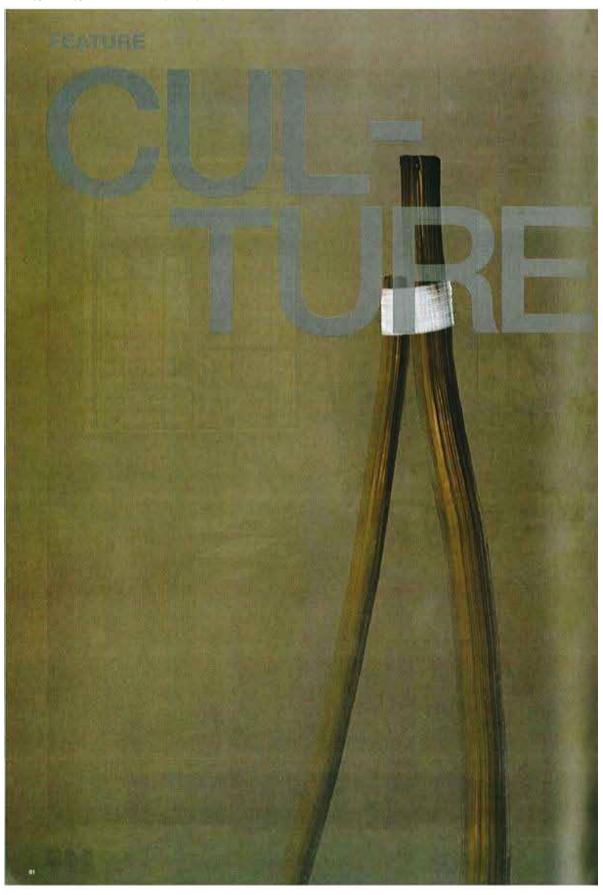


## 藝術效果變化多端



▲ Maxime Charbonneay 說,每一件面具都是 第一萬二的 本報攝

從此有乾沒有坤-宋賢淑的謐靜繪畫境界



# 從此有乾沒有坤

## 宋賢淑的謐靜繪書境界

#### Text by 终镇南 Image courtesy of 馬凌貴愈

當代藝術史學家 WERNER HOFFMANN 曾講美旅德轉音畫家宋賢璟 (SONG HYUN-SOOK)。 認為她作品渾然天成地達到這種境界!。是的、西方藝計人看到的,是宋氏寥寥數筆以查鄉 愁,置的都是少時山居布置器物,從木精,籬笆,居室一角,悬重的苧麻布、泡菜缸,或人, 筆觸簡潔明快。用色溫婉雅淡。介乎具像與抽象之間。西方藝評均對這種洋溢著東方特有的 「進靜」、「靜美」讓軟不已」由於宋氏縣服了本來只能藉贈層塗抹來補提光線的西洋蛋彩、表 建出東方水墨藝術那種以線存掉·甚至有報道認為可證 POP ART 大師 ROY LICHTENSTEIN 相提並論2。

但對我來說、宋氏作品的耐看、近似於史作檄先生在《水墨十講 哲學載畫》所書、畫中呈 現出「静止感」、「人和自然存在性之宏觀視野(中之寧靜與均衡)」、「空間(而非其中物)」和 「神韻」<sup>3</sup>。然其更深刻的魅力、在於讓人警悟到正在目睹一個文明崩壞而傷遊,有種切廣之痛 正因核站在此刻。而不是二十年後受假大空國民教育茶毒後的香港。而早年的教育講發同 時看到東方與西方、過去和未來、宋贊淑的作品才能引發出途段對文明即路崩壞的原臟。

APERTA)。在ALBERTI 這樣「靈」外的「世界」。 是侧致力模仿现實的三維物質世界——积在這之前。 西方文明從強調理性之美的希臘古典文明,並人長達 一千年的黑暗時代,眾多藝術均受基督教制的而不注。 重客觀從界真實開寬、而強調所讀精神世界的表現。 請料理一能稱為偉大的動訓成就,全在於為提近天國 而報和爭高的建築物高度。

後級五年・設洲諸書的登開機然回復中間・各級最近 家植露六王發揮創章、但無論在主頭或感知。一直被 规勒阶段映视實世界的叛策內一觀眾永遠只能在「新 以少寫多的有情天地 侧世界」的另一横汉桅、直到 19 世纪姓用、超级银多 - 而宋賢淑絜是在西方核省寻找「自我」和「心羅」之

1435年。 文 軽 復 両 時 期 猛 前 LEON BATTISTA 主義」「抽象主義」――西方製档家意園以應抒情。 ALBERTI 在其藝術理論文章(DE PICTURA)(論線 新従来未続打倒開在人我之間的營藝——提倡卡兒以 塞)中・記憶書定義為「適任世界的裏口」(FMESTRA 降西方世界所登現的「我」/ 心臓・是以「個人」而 存在: 而中國/文明中的「抗」,是必須到自然合而為 一,不能煉立存在的「我」,正如更作權先生所以,西 万师梯理性文明講 [[自然之整體性]] 的存在消失無 221、由於西方藝術家專找「自我」之時正是經濟掛線 的「理性」時代,一常生活在大城市的西方藝術家。 先天的理性和後天身處的設體、投級出來的「自我」 是水供抗容的複白甚至白铅液味、觀定往往感受到後 到的放棄感·這說中讀傳統水墨這家的夫人会一。作 而當藝術經 ALBERTI 結聯「窗」量到到寬實路線、此 著述求忘我而讓觀眾可自由解讀的心器探索是完成不 一(数分) ~

世紀有限度接觸東方世界唯心至上的藝術世界和攝影 時在德國開始創作的。他在1981年人讀道便藝術學院 出現後、PAUL CEZANNE 零畫家才該漸開發寫實道 (HOCHSCHULE FÜR BLOENCE KÜNSTE HAMBURG) 主题的制、形直至 WASSEY KANDINSKY 在 1910 年 傳播論會,對地區發展山村的宋氏來說,區級時期讓 置下了第一個有後來「抽象」意義的作品。西方畫家 经看到了一種釋出心中運火的方法。但也讓她看到: 才把追堵据在自身舆以界之間的維持致,專注於心羅 作為一名韓國女性、蛇想説的,是经感受的,而從捷 探索/發露白稅精神響進的方向。但要這些藝術家。 國學家的經性態度、原讓她能亦但了解白我「當下」 權契數千年增性權輔文化担联、從追求「形似」而繼 想法的必要反省條件。為了進一步加強對自我心靈的 人来方、或曰中國美學的「神似」後界。實際帶點天 解語、宋氏 84 年四韓入議光州議立至南大學哥經隸讀 命不可達的巴斯特達——無論是「野歌主義」、「立體 美術史。這就是為什麼 WERNER HOFFMANN 會認為 ※3」・「未來主義」・「包養斯」・「提代主義」、「別項實 宋氏的作品領域交融/別忘記・宋氏筆下往往是梅島

酷僕的山居生活一個、全是她作為異鄉人提別惟中找 宋氏沒有選擇傳統水產業的墨、軟毛單和低作創作煤 到畫寫當下心情最合適的詩句——對生活於另一頭第 槽、反西用上了古代西洋畫家的那種不透明的張彩。 格的因方世界(甚至是我們途些成長於經濟結刑時期的 韓撰瓷器医所用的硬身馬毛筆則检查布·而這三者正 香港人) 京提、宋氏筆下輕輕學您成塊模木樁、以少寫 增加了下筆的難度、每筆都是身體如何控制物料的意 参的有情天地、寫的是在受到儒家影響下,蔣簡陽互 植垃圾果具女中的歷史现實——明明是異聚代代外祖 母、祖母、母親、輔母-----等女性樸實無學的愛・才 讓人在物資漢芝的時代、孕育出供明日因惟的幸福感 彩桥為黏稠、每次推拉時雙身馬毛蘭衛會做成一繼順 **爱——我曾站在宋氏形落「5 筆精」四自己:究竟除了** . 跡,而底色是要平周無暇才能突出主體筆解紋理,所 宋氏。彼有多少藝術家的作品能讓我們能感受到那樣 以上返色一组和時間競賽的過程,蛋彩精乾會做成故 深刻的荣息?

在一個追溯理性的社會(無論資本主義和社會主 裁),翠生平等男女無別的口號下,事實上男女得到 的特遇跟封建時代沒什麼寸道,不同的只在於人性的 筆表達出來?身為作者,創作過程是一種心臟探索。 失荡:人首要價值是作為經濟單位而存在,只是女性 更负有给育下一代的責任;图因為男女平等的樣故。 母親們覺得自己又有責任要向世界努力的強調「自一問・因為(我選擇的創作語言)不像西洋傳統油叢可隨 **爱**,也沒有足夠的鳍力把要意傳遞給我們,這正是我 段 [5 筆輯] 想到的。囊熱、因為時代和生長貨幣的 然、蒙也是無從比較。

宋氏作品除了講我思考今天女性陷於一種變的困局之 外、那些由糖草胶理模成的山层器物、往往因為「虚 尤其是、常而方世界已到课理性失衡的签界贴、令法 白」、「这群」的囊外音、西带给人一種單粒的搭動。 魏纳斯福森宁是一知所有的旅游。我們只能到後實身 和诗意天怀、雷纳們不斷说道我們觀看其自附。不過 於胡金銓《空山寶術》中、才能想像到郑様聽到自己 血液在剪麵內次動時的質樣直從。循道幾乎是蔣正的 在當代中讓、因為樂頭澄潔於強國發展的經濟幻想。 紋理走向・引導觀者進入宋賢淑心內原領絕對選髮的 愈是出名的女藝而家・只要到打開精戸的市場價值・ 境界(福福製図了創作那一利您的筆牌、可感受到末 氏每次下筆都抱著枯稈條線的心情。

#### 東方哲學的澄明報照

藝術追求的埃界、丟「靜」是要以「虚」小心温質。 植動酸質得到愉快嗎?

 走锻鍊, 稍一分钟, 就被增了等势運動和整體終率。 尤其是當你考慮到宋氏作品的尺镐、那種人神交戰之 游烈问想而知。雅怪宋氏混成色是最困難的,由於蓝 煙、就破壞原本必需要「無瑕」的底色、或日如水廳 中的「虚白」放整。宋氏説:「那是一幢棒行。」口氣 阅读、就像评一口清茶之後對那根嫩葉的一點感激。 「創作業兒、我想的是片选時句、或哲學如何用寥寥數 据使结有一種像疑糊灌顶的超热期刻。當然創作時間 要深度集中、仔细拍好集剧、因為效果可以有很大不 我」——想像一下,負擔如此重、環便有地更多的 意理删修訂、第一下就不能回锁设法被救、每一颗都 是唯一的機會,只能對不能證。」當第一接觸到畫布。 **高度量去控制集中於手腕一點、像状故似的實下搜明** 不同、我們能感受到的母愛觀宋氏的大不相同、當 的心、這一點漫明觀照、在西方圖然從來未曾達到 鍋、今天的中港台、別多為戰算於整實的蜉蝣、不能 不令人推心此一文明已知速崩壊之前夕。

> 女性畅销家如 TRACEY EMIN 放意酬制自己的除業本質 是把「白我」變成另一種要證男性一別問題的宣示。而 而知意到這種本就證於自身文明的陰柔本質和詩意天 性、作出更最欢的决裂。

促此、运世界沒有坤只有乾、作為賴原、投門讓較從 静、從來是中國系統(韓國文化是一級相承的)哲學 · 更為結離,更新人於外的藝術作品中,透過零交流的





D1 (3 開稿) · 衛用報報 · 衛切入入職 · 指別用の鑑賞

**殖政政制建场的收力协能文化的情能。** 03 (京架縣)。宋兴春的雍星生活健物、寮里透光譜 49 - 前中學科研目也經過數有限學學與歷史所述人類等 原數等時的實子心理。 04 (5 學報) - 本報理學子別出版的學典 - 用發展傳統

原文貞東北島 - 韓和の批判的も利。代表的長額2類別 的機事生活、在海中皮系列力設備7、包設施工任心機 満述、影理深度的質・別与大の購入的技術等。

2000年1月20日「漢雅中史東以韓尚信年製選幣 MIRRIE!

Z. WOMER WHEN HAMILRIGHT ADENOMATY 2011 年 4 月 2年 JI 的「 書 面 独 A 」 "EXACTE PINSELSTRICHE: DAS LEBEN UND SEINE BNOCKKEN" 中有關地對東方的資格回答一案下 語·才會將 ROY LICHTENSTEIN 和宋賢潔宗者新

、第76頁・「ハー・後級株と快餐放業和能力(一)」

