

Annysa Ng: Saatchi Online Critic's Choice By Rebecca Wilson

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'Who is the Dreamer', 2006

Hong Kong-born, New York-based artist Annysa Ng addresses issues of femininity and female suppression in her exquisitely executed sculptural and wall-based works. After studying in Hong Kong and Germany, Ng moved to New York to enroll at the School of Visual Arts, and her work reflects her observations of women in both Eastern and Western cultures.

Ng uses materials such as bra straps, silk, ribbons, hair, metal locks and coat hangers in the creation of her sculptural and installation works. She has made wall murals of corseted silhouettes bringing together East and West in images of Western women's dress and traditional Chinese foot binding, a symbol of female gentility within the male-dominated culture. In her 2007 series 'Tea Silk and Porcelain' Ng's silhouettes depict elements of European women's clothing such as the ruff, embellished with specifically Chinese details such as the mandarin collar. The silhouette genre Ng has chosen to use in these works inherently blacks out any individual characteristics, suggesting the negation of women's distinct personalities, and the loss of identity felt.



'Tea Silk and Porcelain' series, 2007
Ink on paper, 22 x 30 inches




The inspiration behind her sculptural piece 'Who is the Dreamer' comes from a famous dream recounted by the ancient Chinese philosopher Zhuangzi, who dreamt that he was a butterfly. After he woke up, he wondered how he could determine whether he was Zhuangzi dreaming that he was a butterfly or if he was in fact now a butterfly dreaming he was Zhuangzi. This philosophical conundrum is played out with found objects, hair woven into the shape of a pillow, a butterfly symbolising Zhuangzi himself.

Ng participated in the 2007 SCOPE art fair in Basel, and was part of a group show entitled 'Young Artists from New York 2007' at the Egon Schiele Art Centrum in Cesky Krumlov, Czech Republic. To see more of her work registered on Saatchi Online click [here](#).

Rebecca Wilson

Rebecca Wilson is the editor of Saatchi Online magazine, and was formerly editor of ArtReview.

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