

September 11th 2017

ARTIST OF THE
MONTH

PHIL AKASHI



Born in 1978 in Brussels, Phil Akashi is a multi-award winning artist based in Brussels, Hong Kong and Zurich.

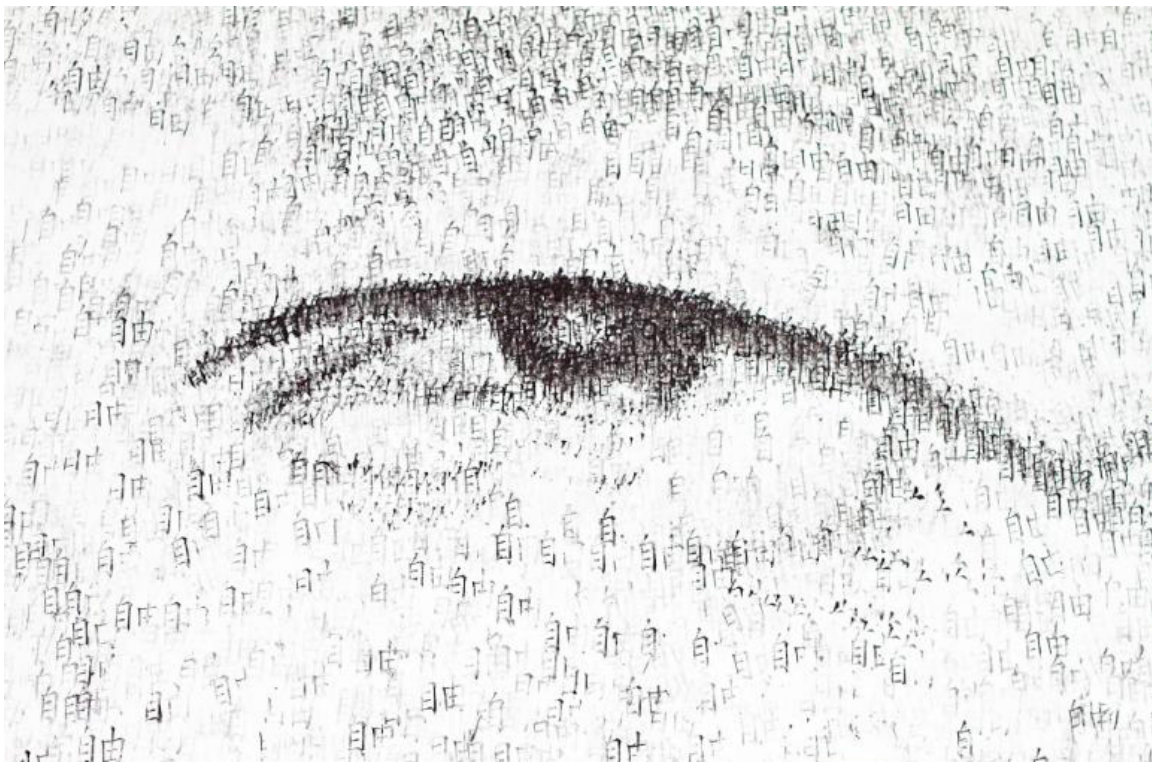
Phil Akashi carved out a unique visual language using the aesthetics of Asian languages with a cross-cultural and conceptual approach to fusion East and West and place the past in the service of the present.

His arts practice involves experimenting with a wide range of materials and media often combining traditional crafts, systematic repetitions, and innovative techniques. The artist often uses metaphors in his narrative, figurative or abstract works to re-evaluate, challenge and engage perceptions of contemporary issues.

As a vibrant player in the East/West dialogue, he is dedicated to breaking down boundaries between street art and fine art painting, between power and resistance, between tradition and modernity.



His most famous and well-received work to date is arguably "Tribute to Mandela", a monumental street art mural which was awarded as a major international public art project in 2013 by the Palo Alto Public Art Commission and was shortlisted for the Hong Kong Human Rights Arts Prize in 2011.



Fascinated by the cultural complexity and aesthetics of Asia, Phil Akashi carved out a unique artistic identity. He chose the pseudonym "Akashi" meaning "bright stone" to express his passion for the multifaceted Japanese culture. While living in China, he also enriched his identity with a Chinese name "涛程" meaning "big wave journey" where the two characters were intentionally reversed in order to challenge the structure of the Chinese language. Along with his Chinese name, Japanese pseudonym and Western background, Phil Akashi plays with paradoxes and shares how he views the world as a transcultural element.

<http://www.artqube.com/whatsnew/>