

Hansel Tai

STATEMENT:

Pearls and their host Pinctada Oyster are born in both inland lakes and the open sea, carrying the duality of two worlds. *Threshold 0004* reflects on how new beginnings often emerge from endings. Pearls themselves form from a wound, transforming irritation into beauty. In this work, that transformation becomes a larger narrative: a liminal realm where aquatic and terrestrial worlds merge, and where pearls continue their journey beyond the shell, shaped by mutation, piercing, and a familiar past.

CV:

BORN: 1994, Mountain Emei, CN

EDUCATION:

2016 - 2019 Estonian Academy of Arts, Tallinn, MA
Jewelry and Blacksmithing Department by prof. Tanel Veenre

2018 Gerrit Rietveld Academie, Amsterdam
Jewelry – linking bodies Department by Prof. Sonja Bäümel

2012 - 2016 Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing, BA
Art Jewelry Department by prof. Fei Teng

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

2024 Guest Critic, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence

2023 Guest Lecturer, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence

2020 Visiting Lecturer, Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing

2019- Founder/Creative Director, NRTN Jewelry, Tallinn

2019-2025 Jewelry Designer, Tanel Veenre Jewelry, Tallinn

MEMBERSHIP:

2022- Estonian Artists' Association

TALENT PROGRAMME:

2020-2021 GEMZ Talent Accelerator Programme, Current Obsession / Creative Industries Fund NL

ARTIST ACTIVITY:

2025 Panel Discussion - MAGICAL / MYSTICAL: The Narratives of Contemporary Mythology, Munich Jewelry Week 2025 Headquarters, Munich

2024 MassArt Visiting Artist Lecture - Hansel Tai, MassArt, Boston

Symposium - PRACTITIONER Presentation - BLACKOUT: EKA Ehe ja sepis 100, Narva Art Residency (NART), Narva

2023 GLANZ&KANTE podcast with Hansel Tai about cyberspaces and jewellery

Senior Professional Practices Lectures - RISD Jewelry + Metalsmithing

- 2021 Panelist, *Thursday Night Live! at Het Nieuwe Instituut GEM Z: The Farthest from Earth We've Ever Been*, Het Nieuwe Instituut, Rotterdam
- Curator, *Revolution*, HOP Gallery, Tallinn
- 2019-2020 Artist-in-Residence, Estonian Academy of Arts, Jewelry + Blacksmithing
- 2019 Panelist, *Non-Stick Nostalgia: Y2K Retrofuturism in Contemporary Jewelry*, Museum of Art and Design, NYC
- Presentation of work and roundtable moderated by Marina Elenskaya, *Social Club Munich Jewelry Week*, Munich

WORKS AT COLLECTION:

CODA Museum, Apeldoorn, NL
 Museum Arnhem, Arnhem, NL
 Kadri Mälk, EE
 Teng Fei, CN
 among others

AWARDS:

- 2024 One for the Future Award 2024 honoree, NYC Jewelry Week, USA
- 2023 The Gallery Alice Floriano Award, Budapest Jewelry Week 2023, HU
 BKV Prize 2023 for Young Applied Arts - First Selection List, Munich, DE
- 2021 Best designed Estonian books of 2020 - KINGDOM OF DREAMS, Designer, EE
- 2019 Enjoia't MISUI Award 2019, Barcelona, SP
 Second Finalist Enjoia't Awards Student 2019, Barcelona, SP
 Cum Laude of graduation, Estonian Academy of Arts, EE
- 2018 Amberif Design Award - Finalist, Gdansk, PL
- 2016 Top Young 2016 - Finalist, Ubi Gallery, Beijing, CN
 The Second Prize of Graduation, CAFA, Beijing, CN

SOLO EXHIBITION:

- 2024 ASSASSINATION – Voyage to Paradise, HOP galerii, Tallinn
- 2022 NUDE JADE PIERCED, The Closer Gallery, Beijing
 After Party Yet to Come, A-Galerii, Tallinn
- 2021 BREAKING RULES, Galerie beyond, Antwerp
- 2020 EDEN OF THE EAST, Vent Space, Tallinn
 DENSITY OF STATES, Galerie beyond, Antwerp
- 2019 NUDE JADE, A-galerii, Tallinn
- 2018 HANNA HANSEL, HOP galerii, Tallinn