

HYPEBEAST

Ernest Chang's 'Bling Dynasty' Is a Blend of Traditional Chinese Art and Western Pop-Culture

Shedding light on the influence of “Chinese consumer power on the global marketplace.”



Arts

February 21 2021

By Charlie Zhang

Ernest Chang has pulled back the curtains to his latest solo exhibition titled *Bling Dynasty*, a series of silkscreen prints, handicrafts and sculptures enlivened with images of some of the most recognizable cultural icons. From glossy prints of Eric Cartman, Rick Sanchez and Lois Griffin, dressed in Han and Yuan Dynasty robes, to a towering embroidery of blossoming Pirhana Plants from [Super Mario Bros.](#), each piece is a vibrant mishmash of Western pop-culture and traditional Chinese art.

The exhibition spans pieces like a *Jianzhi* (traditional Chinese paper cutting) of *The Chipmunks*, a print of [Baby Yoda](#) riding an Eopie, a portrait of [Samurai Jack](#) in a digi-camo [Stone Island](#) robe and an image of Lucy van Pelt outfitted in [Off-White™](#) against the backdrop of a traditional Chinese painting, to mention a few.

According to a press release, the works offer a commentary on the “dominating influence of Chinese consumer power on the global marketplace.” Chang’s works also shed light on the “ubiquitous advertising” of global luxury houses that cater to the trend of hyper-consumerism. There’s a handful of noteworthy artworks reflecting this idea.

These Turbulent Times, 2021 is a Jianzhi of Gyrados cut with painstaking detail. *Things Are Never Going To Be Perfect, 2021* is a nod to Chinese bird-and-flower paintings, featuring a bright yellow [Tweety](#) in a [Prada](#) bucket hat. This piece, like many others in the exhibition, is made with layers of screen-printed plexiglass offering a nuanced dimensionality. Other works referencing the likes of [Kermit the Frog](#), Princess Bubblegum or Bob Belcher round off the exhibition.

Head over to [The Stallery’s website](#) to view the full range of artworks in *Bling Dynasty*.

In case you missed it, [Takashi Murakami has curated a new group exhibition at Perrotin Shanghai titled “Healing.”](#)