

Vogue, octobre 2023

‘The Clouds 祥云’ (2023) and ‘The Streams 溪流’ (2023), Yang Yongliang



Chinese artist Yang Yongliang invites us to reflect on the realities of unrestrained urbanisation and industrialisation with *The Clouds* 祥云 and *The Streams* 溪流, eight minute long videos that depict moving digital collages. Displayed on LG OLED screens, Yang’s compositions are reminiscent of mystic shan shui paintings digitised to present rushing streams and wafting clouds. Upon closer inspection however, the mountains are complex superpositions of towering buildings, dilapidated urban villages, and construction cranes that give way to crystal-clear scenes of metropolitan life. Once meant to illustrate the immutability and tranquillity of nature in ancient Chinese culture, these landscapes now comment on the social truths of modern societies using the contemporary mediums from whence they came.