Uncompromising Courage

The art exhibit Chinese Communist officials have been Pressuring U.S. & Korean venues Not to show...

...has come to Australia

The timelessness and universality of art works exist because they inspire and uplift the human heart and mind. Such works move people toward greater wisdom and understanding.

This exhibition portrays the manifestation of good and evil in the context of a modern human atrocity: the brutal persecution against Falun Gong led by the Chinese Communist Party. These paintings remind the world that Falun Gong practitioners have met the persecution with uncompromising courage, responding to hatred, inhuman torture and killing with a spirit of great compassion and forbearance in order to uphold justice, freedom, dignity and humanity.

All of the paintings are original works, created by a group of accomplished artists from around the globe. Kunlun Zhang, a professor of art, was released from a Chinese forced labour camp in 2001 after three months of psychiatric and physical torture. Shortly after, he collaborated with more than a dozen artists from around the world who practise Falun Gong to create the works in this exhibit.

Falun Gong is a self-improvement practice consisting of meditation and slow moving exercises, espousing the principles of Truth, Compassion and Forbearance. The practice, which is rooted in traditional Chinese culture,became widely popular in the 1990's. Fearing Falun Gong's popularity was overshadowing his own legacy, however, China's top Communist leader at the time, Jiang Zemin, ordered that the practice be "eradicated."

In Harmony *(Oil on Canvas).*
This painting depicts a young woman in the fifth exercise of Falun Gong, "Way of Strengthening Divine Powers". The clear water and blue sky reflect her tranquillity and a feeling of union with heaven while in meditation. The four "celestial cherubs" play amidst her energy field.

Banner *(Oil on Canvas).*
The young mother is sewing a banner with the words "Falun Dafa is Good" in both Chinese and English. These are positive words, but they are also considered words of protest because countless practitioners of Falun Gong have spoken or written them in defiance of the efforts of Chinese authorities to tell them otherwise. The healthy baby in the foreground can be seen as a sign of hope, perhaps that the peaceful and life-giving nature of Falun Gong will prevail.

*The painting **"Red Wall"** records the personal experience and inner turmoil of the artist, Professor **Kunlun Zhang**. Prof. Zhang was imprisoned inChina for three months and tortured.*

A Tragedy in China *(Oil on Canvas)*
A wife weeps beside her husband, who has been tortured to death at a brainwashing centre. He holds a document in his hand that he was to sign, a pledge that defames Falun Gong. The document is torn apart...