

SHIZHE QIAN

Shizhe's interdisciplinary approach critically examines the rigid structures of logic, language, and categorization.

Shizhe Qian is a visual artist molded by the industrial landscape and human warmth of northeastern China. His work delves into the interplay between autonomy and connection, questioning human-centric philosophies and rigid structures of logic, language, and categorization. With a background in physics, theater, philosophy, and art, Shizhe's interdisciplinary approach examines visual representations of our inner world and the physical realm. His latest project, "Diffusion," explores the intersection of memory and technology through abstract images created with photography, unsupervised machine learning, and automatic jacquard weaving. By transforming personal memories into visual art, Shizhe invites viewers to reconsider how we can reshape our historically constructed narratives. His works usually engage with the abstract, the mythical, and the ritualistic, offering dialogues about our collective genetic memory and the endless possibilities of what we could become.

WEBSITES

personal website

shizheqian.myportfolio.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/shizheqian/

EDUCATION

2022 - Philosophy Leiden University, Leiden
2023

2020 - Photography Den Haag, Koninklijke
2024 Academie van Beeldende Kunsten
diploma

2008 - Physics Ocean University of China
2012 diploma

2008 - Theater Directing Ocean University of
2012 China

EXHIBITIONS

2025 Bobbi's Summer School: Fruiting Bodies
Exhibition space 38CC Delft, Netherlands
www.38cc.nl/bobbi-s-summer-school-3--fruiting-bodies

Group

2025 Ghosts Upstream Gallery Amsterdam,
Netherlands
www.upstreamgallery.nl/exhibitions/257/ghosts

Group

2025 Threads of Loss, Patterns of Return MaMA
Rotterdam, Netherlands
thisismama.nl/en/events/general/threads-of-loss-patterns-of-return/

Group

2024 Graduation Show The Royal Academy of
Art, The Hague The Hague, Netherlands
graduation.kabk.nl/2024/shizhe-qian

Group

2024 Highlight Delft Delft railway station Delft,
Netherlands
www.highlightdelft.nl/program/in2023/ir-projector-working-title/

Group

2023 As above so below The Grey Space in the Middle The Hague, Netherlands
[Group](#)

PROJECTS

2025 Diffusion (part2) The Hague, Netherlands
shizheqian.myportfolio.com/diffusion-part-2 In "Diffusion," I delve into the intersection of memory and technology, merging machine learning, personal history, and photography to explore the fluidity of recollection. Through a diffusion model, I have trained an AI on my family albums and hometown photos. The model disperses the information within the photograph, introducing 'noise' to erode the image, then gradually removing it to reconstruct new imagery based on visual patterns learned from the dataset. As a result, photographs no longer possess fixed meanings; instead, they become malleable data that allows reinterpretation. Guided by my drawings, the AI helps me create abstract visuals that blend the past with my current reflections. In these visuals, I depict "giants" — the influential figures from my childhood, who enforced their expectations upon me, shaping my identity under their weight. By transforming them into tapestries, those fragments of memory behind the giants are deconstructed into materials and woven into tangible expressions. Yet, paradoxically, these tapestries—traditionally used to preserve stories—are now crafted by an automated machine following predetermined programs. This natural and organic appearance is, nonetheless, achieved through technology which both enhances and distorts our understanding of the past. The diffusion process, with its erosion and reconstruction of images, mirrors my journey of reimagining the past. "Diffusion" reflects on our methods of capturing and remembering the past and also invites you to reconsider how we can reshape our historically

COMMISSIONS

2024 Unseen Echoes Emergence Delft Delft, Netherlands The Emergence team about their project: 'With our first main project, we seek to develop "Real" Augmented Reality technology. For this we are experimenting with creating a projector that has an Infrared (IR) light source.
www.highlightdelft.nl/program/in2023/ir-projector-working-title/ finished

constructed narratives.

2024 Diffusion (part1) Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands
shizheqian.myportfolio.com/diffusion-part-1 In “Diffusion,” I delve into the intersection of memory and technology, merging machine learning, personal history, and photography to explore the fluidity of recollection. Through a diffusion model, I have trained an AI on my family albums and hometown photos. The model disperses the information within the photograph, introducing 'noise' to erode the image, then gradually removing it to reconstruct new imagery based on visual patterns learned from the dataset. As a result, photographs no longer possess fixed meanings; instead, they become malleable data that allows reinterpretation. Guided by my drawings, the AI helps me create abstract visuals that blend the past with my current reflections. In these visuals, I depict "giants" — the influential figures from my childhood, who enforced their expectations upon me, shaping my identity under their weight. By transforming them into tapestries, those fragments of memory behind the giants are deconstructed into materials and woven into tangible expressions. Yet, paradoxically, these tapestries—traditionally used to preserve stories—are now crafted by an automated machine following predetermined programs. This natural and organic appearance is, nonetheless, achieved through technology which both enhances and distorts our understanding of the past. The diffusion process, with its erosion and reconstruction of images, mirrors my journey of reimagining the past. “Diffusion” reflects on our methods of capturing and remembering the past and also invites you to reconsider how we can reshape our historically constructed narratives.

ACTIVITIES

- 2025 - Artist Talk/Presentation: "Creative
2025 Reuse - Reshaping narratives", with
Cees Martens Publiek Domeindag,
Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague
- 2025 - Workshop: "Imagine your Memories of
2025 Tomorrow" with AI, Bobbi's Summer
School, 38CC, Delft



Diffusion, 2025
Machine learning, Photography, Digital painting



Diffusion, 2025
Machine learning, Photography, Digital painting



Diffusion, 2025
Machine learning, Photography, Digital painting



Diffusion, 2025
Machine learning, Jacquard Weaving, 75cm x 245cm;
80cm x 300cm; 75cm x 245cm



Fish Don't Exist, 2025
Machine learning, Photography, Inkjet prints , 50cm x 75cm x 3



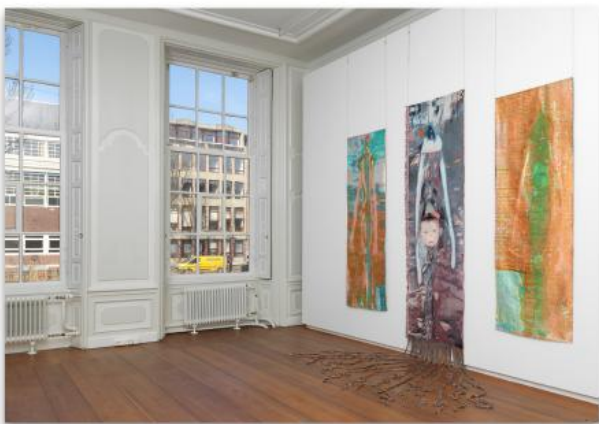
Diffusion, 2025
Machine learning, Photography, 3D laser engravings in crystal, 20*6*6cm



New Youth, 2025
Machine learning, Photography, 3D laser engravings in crystal, 12*4*18cm



New Youth, 2025
Machine learning, Photography, 3D laser engravings in crystal, 12*4*18cm



Diffusion, 2025
Machine learning, Jacquard Weaving, 75cm x 245cm; 80cm x 300cm; 75cm x 245cm



Diffusion, 2025
Machine learning, Photography, Digital painting