## ANTIQUES And The Arts Weekly

February 5, 1988 -

## Oils by Zhang Hong Nian at Grand Central Art Galleries

NEW YORK CITY — Recent oil paintings by Zhang Hong Nian, from The People's Republic of China, will be on display at Grand Central Art Galleries, 24 West 57th Street, from February 10 through February 28. The galleries are open Mondays through Fridays from 10 am-6 pm and Saturdays from 10 am-5 pm.

The artist belongs to the prestigious Chinese National Artists Association and many of his works are housed in the China Central Art Museum's permanent collection. He was selected as an outstanding artist in China in 1985 and received a commendation award from the Beijing Municipal Government.

Municipal Government.

He was born in Nanjing,
China in 1947. He studied the
western academic art tradition as opposed to the traditional Chinese style, but his
early training was interrupted by the Cultural
Revolution (1966-1976) when
all artists were forced to submit to the dictates of Mao.

During the revolution, Zhang had to create posters ridiculing the revisionist art in China, the art that he actually wanted to do. He was then sent into the countryside to do hard labor. He shared a mud hut with nine other artists and, at the end of the day, his hands were often frozen after picking ice out of the rice paddies.

After the Revolution.



"The Old Story"

Zhang was able to continue his own artwork and began to win acclaim throughout his country. In 1985 he came to New York City to do graduate studies.

Zhang most often paints portraits or canvases with historical subjects. He uses the old master techniques of applying thin layers of transparent and opaque paints to achieve his desired effect. He places great value on tradition and cultivation in his works. Often the special arrangements of his paintings give the sky, land, people and animals equal importance.

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