

926 Gallery – Ethics in Paintings

[Press release] In 2015, World Dog Alliance (WDA) has registered 26th September as Dog Lovers' Day. In Cantonese, the phonetic pronunciation of "926" is similar to "gau yi luk" which means "Dogs are easily happy". WDA intends to remind us that dogs are our best friends and we have a moral obligation to protect them from the horrendous dog meat trade in Asia. Previously, 926 events were held in the United States, United Kingdom, Italy, Canada, Taiwan etc. This year, the 926 events will be held in World Dog Alliance's Hong Kong headquarters, in our gallery exhibiting our Founder's dog-themed oil paintings.



Paintings Name: JUBILANT GATHERING

The dogs playing poker were all Genlin's pets, the two Weimaraners are brothers. Older brother Shogun lives in the States, younger brother Knight lives in Hong Kong. Though blood brothers, their personality are completely different. Shogun is trying to cheat, but when Knight saw him, he was astonished. Dogs bring us limitless joy indeed!



Paintings Name: GLUTTONY FOR MYTHICAL BEAST

Western people find it hard to believe people actually eat dog meat, especially pedigree dogs. The painting shows two people eating a Tibetan Mastiff, bragging to their friends, “We are eating a Tibetan Mastiff.” This is a symbol of their social status, which is enraging for dog lovers.

Many people find it surprising that pedigree dogs like German Shepherds and Golden Retrievers are involved in the dog meat trade. This scenario can be easily explained, out of the 30 million dogs eaten each year in the dog meat trade, at least 70% of which are stolen pets. Although eating dog meat is unethical, stealing dogs and separating dog owners from their family members are more abominable!

Therefore, WDA’s motto is “Explicit legislation banning dog meat consumption; Amendment of statute severely punishing dog theft.”



Paintings Name: ASTRONMICAL PRICE

With the Yulin Dog Meat Festival heating up, dog vendors are selling dogs in public. Out of nowhere, a dog vendor clamped a dog and screamed at dog lovers there, “400! You want it or not?” Dog lovers had no choice but to buy an overpriced dog.

This is not a simple issue of eating dog meat anymore, he took advantage of dog lovers’ kindness to raise the selling price. Quoting Mahatma Gandhi, “The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.” This not only revealed dog vendors’ despicable behavior, but also reflect the moral bankruptcy of the society, allowing such inhumane behavior to happen in public. Asian countries should immediately legislate a dog meat ban to uphold their international image.



Paintings Name: FAMILY DINNER

Because of this painting, we have acquired 100,000 signatures from U.K. citizens, the U.K. government applied diplomatic pressure to South Korea, 5 presidential candidate publicly supported animal issues, Seongnam city mayor shut down South Korea's largest dog market – Moran market, president Moon Jae-in recently adopted a dog. This painting has achieved massive resound!

Our next step is to promote South Korea's legislation, president Moon just adopted a dog from our South Korea partner's shelter. We are communicating with them, hoping to utilize the 2018 Pyeong Chang Winter Olympics opportunity to give South Korea international pressure, so they can prohibit the bad habits of consumption of dog meat as soon as possible.

South Korea is an economic giant being the host of the Olympics, they should not let the bad habits of a minority affect its international image. We are planning to invited president Moon to persuade the Korean people to support the adoption of legislation to ban dog meat and make South Korea a more civilized country,

World Dog Alliance has produced a documentary, “Eating Happiness”, highlighting Asia’s dog meat issue, travelling through Vietnam, South Korea, China to shoot its dog meat markets, slaughterhouses, restaurants, revealing the dark inside stories of Asia’s dog meat trade. From our experience: Dog lovers do not dare watch it, non-dog lovers do not want to watch it. This is especially true for Western audience, most of them burst into tears seeing the graphic footage. We hope to spread the message of legislation banning dog meat consumption to the public with the oil paintings, a much more mild means than the bloody scenes, which can be accepted by the general public.