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Bravo, Tony, "Zheng Chongbin: Unfolding," Datebook, March 28, 2025

DATEBOOK PICK

The chaotic beauty of 'Zheng Chongbin: Unfolding'

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Zheng Chongbin, "Undulation of the Fracture," 2017. Photo: Altman Siegel

ALTMAN SIEGEL

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San Francisco artist Zheng Chongbin is known for his work putting East Asian ink painting in conversation with multimedia video installations and large-scale public projects. His first solo exhibition with Altman Siegel, Zheng debuts a series of ink on paper paintings with an accompanying complex immersive video sculpture. In works that deconstruct nature, time and space, Zheng meditates on the flow of matter and energy, which exist in a constant state of chaos.

In the paintings on Xuan paper, ink pools create intersecting planes and membrane-like forms resembling tectonic plates or ice-age landscapes. On video, the viewer is caught between fused and layered projections on mirror, glass and semitransparent scrims, juxtaposing the pace of technology with the serenity of the environment. There's a deep sense of collision and drama in both media, an entropy that can't be avoided.

Zheng's companion exhibition, "<u>Golden State,"</u> at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, runs through Jan. 4.

"Zheng Chongbin: Unfolding": 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday. Through April 12. Free. Altman Siegel, 1150 25th St., S.F. 415-576-9300. <u>www.altmansiegel.com</u>



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