

Spot the dissident

Liu Bolin is China's invisible man — an artist who literally loses himself in his work





Since 2005, the Chinese artist Liu Bolin has been mastering the art of invisibility by concealing himself completely in his own work. Bolin began to portray himself as an "invisible man" in Beijing after government officials forced the closure of his studio nine years ago. Ever since, he has used his work as a form of silent protest. Rather than relying on digital manipulation, the artist paints his entire body to blend into a background. The painstaking procedure can take up to 10 hours, but, once finished, he claims that even passers-by fail to spot him.

*Bolin's first solo exhibition in Britain, **The Heroic Apparition**, is at the Scream gallery, London W1W, until May 10. Visit screamlondon.com*

ABOVE
Hiding in the City
— Info Wall, 2011

PREVIOUS PAGE
Hiding in the City No 31
— Holding Democratic
Elections By Law, 2006

LEFT
Dragon Series
(Panel 4 of 9), 2010