Three exhibitions to see in Shanghai this weekend

*From Louise Bourgeois’s giant spider at the Long Museum to literally walking on glass at the Shanghai Museum of Glass*

Anna Brady

Katharina Grosse’s first solo-show in China—and her first in a shopping mall—is an ambitious undertaking, and sees the German artist take over the entire 1,500 sq. m of the Chi K11 Art Museum with five “zones” of her trademark variegated spray-painted installations. Mumbling Mud (until 24 February 2019) was produced almost entirely onsite, with a team of Chinese assistants installing the bare materials (including soil, building materials, living room furniture and, of course, huge hanging swathes of canvas) before Grosse moved in two weeks later to start painting. On entering, you are straight into what Grosse describes as the most “saturated and unruly” of the installations, clambering over a technicoloured demolition site, before then encountering the cool white body of Ghost, a sculpture carved from Styrofoam using a hot metal wire which cuts through it “like butter”, Grosse says. After walking over, through and around these vivid large-scale paintings, ending in a living room sprayed white, you stumble out into the shopping mall again—a Shanghai shrine to luxury, Grosse’s mounds of technicoloured earth and sand bags seemingly a world away.