

Ho Sin Tung

Artist Statement and Biography

Artist Statement

Chung Ling-ling is a Hong Kong female writer whose works are all autobiographical. Ode to the Lotus Flower is a novel she published in 1991, mainly based on 9 letters exchanged by a pair of long-separated ex-lovers written between 1988-1990.

After separated for 17 years, the woman (Chiu Lin-sun) is now married and living in Hong Kong, while the man (Chi-Ching) is divorced and living in Boston, USA.

They talk about how they met each other in the The Protect Diaoyutai Movement in 1971 (Chung herself was an activist who got arrested in the 70s). They share their recent lives and status, but mostly discuss the possibility to meet again. However, in between their conversation, The Tiananmen Square Massacre happens in 1989 and changes everything.

It has been difficult for me to read the book properly as I felt odd reading these personal (and yet very political) letters in a printed form. So I transcribed the letters in the novel one by one. One letter per day. It became my daily ritual in my residency in Vermont Studio Center.

I used my strong hand to transcribe the woman's letter and my left hand to transcribe the man's. My left hand is very weak as compared to my right and it feels alien to my body.

I re-read their letters many times and yet I cannot tell if it is an act of drawing, writing or performing. Maybe it's just a way to read a book that has to be re-read in Vermont in the winter of 2013. And maybe I am just curious about the weight of 17 years in the measure of letters.

Artist Biography

Ho Sin Tung Hong Kong

b. 1986

Ho Sin Tung was born in 1986. She graduated with a BFA from the Fine Arts Department of The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2008 and lives in Hong Kong. Ho's work is multi-disciplinary, her two-dimensional work predominantly uses pencil, graphite and watercolour in combination with found and ready made images – including the use of stickers, maps, charts, rubber-stamps and timelines. These are reinterpreted to narrate stories of places, relationships and periods of time often within a considered, objective historical setting. Ho also makes video and short films, and she illustrates and writes essays for art, film and literature magazines and newspapers in Hong Kong, Taiwan and China.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2013 The Void of Course Monday, Para Site, Art Basel Hong Kong
- 2012 Hong Kong Inter – vivos Film Festival, Hanart TZ Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2011 You Are Running A Business Called None of My Business, Hanart TZ Gallery, Abu Dhabi Art Fair
- 2010 Don't shoot the messenger, Hanart TZ Gallery, Hong Kong

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2014 Ghosts, Spies and Grandmothers, Seoul Museum of Art / Korean Film Archive, Seoul, South Korea
The Part In The Story Where A Part Becomes A Part Of Something Else, Witte De With, Rotterdam, Netherlands
Animamix Biennale 2013-14: This Slow – That Fast, Run Run Shaw Creative Media Centre, City University of Hong Kong
- 2013 Hong Kong Contemporary Art Award 2012, Hong Kong Museum of Art, Hong Kong
Drawing: Expression and Limit, Art Museum of Nanjing University of the Arts, Nanjing, China
Heterotopia, Nanji Exhibition Hall, Seoul, South Korea
The Floating Eternity Project, Para Site, Hong Kong
The Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin/Madrid, Haus Der Kulturen Der Welt, Berlin
Hong Kong Eye, ArtisTree, Hong Kong
- 2012 Hong Kong Eye, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK

Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin/Madrid, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France
 The 9th Shanghai Biennale: Reactivation, Shanghai Museum of Contemporary Art, Shanghai, China.
 The Repository of Coherent Babbles, Southsite, Hong Kong
 CAFAM . FUTURE, China Central Academy of Fine Arts Museum, Beijing, China
 “Traits, Ox Warehouse 2nd floor showroom, Macau
 Market Force, Osage Kwun Tong, Hong Kong

- 2011 Octopus, Hanina Contemporary Art, Tel Aviv, Israel
 Urban Utopia: if and only if, Goethe Institute, Hong Kong
 Societe Generale Chinese Art Awards 2010 Tour Exhibition, Hong Kong / Beijing / Shanghai / Taipei / Paris / Singapore / London
 Literature Museum in the ruin – Woodstock in Choi Yuen Village, Choi Yuen Village, Hong Kong
- 2010 You’re Here, I’m Not., Osage Gallery, Kwun Tong, Hong Kong
 Drawing Out Conversations: Taipei, Nanhai Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan
 Shifting topography, Hanart Square, Hong Kong
 The Hong Kong Contemporary Art Biennial Awards 2009, Hong Kong Museum of Art
 Labium, Gallery EXIT
- 2009 a place changes when we look, agnes b’s Librairie Galerie, Hong Kong
 Drawing Out Conversations: Hong Kong Leg, Studio Bibliotheque, Hong Kong
- 2008 Hong Kong, Hong Kong, Hanart TZ Gallery, Hong Kong

Artist in Residency

- 2013 Oct – Nov Vermont Studio Centre, Vermont, USA
 Jul – Sept SeMA Nanji Residency, Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, South Korea

Selected Awards

- 2013 Finalist of Lu Xun Culture Award, Award for Best Artwork, Soho.com and Lun Xun Culture Foundation
- 2012 Hong Kong Arts Development Award 2012 – Award for Young Artist, Hong Kong Arts Development Council
 Hong Kong Contemporary Art Award 2012, Hong Kong Museum of Art
- 2010 Finalist of Societe Generale Chinese Art Awards 2010, Societe Generale
- 2009 Finalist of Hong Kong Contemporary Art Biennial Awards 2009, Hong Kong Museum of Art
- 2008 Hui Yeung Sing Fine Arts Award, Chinese University of Hong Kong

Grotto Fine Art Award, Chinese University of Hong Kong
Lui Lup-fun Curatorial Award, Chinese University of Hong Kong