

MADE IN HONG KONG  
香港製造

號外

wanqingli 萬青芳

蝶翼吻八卦  
繪也野三極益版高屋頂



kumchikeung 甘志強



# 香港製造 KONG KONG

frogking 郭孟浩



MADE IN

vincent yu wai kin 余偉建



chowchunfai 周俊輝

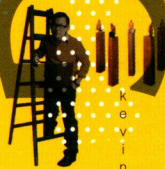


周俊輝

chuhingwah 朱興華



kevinfunglikyan 馮力仁



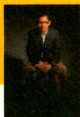
當代藝術展

Contemporary Art Exhibition



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Eve Tam, Curator (Modern Art)

Mention “Made in Hong Kong” and people readily think of her industrial or commercial products. Is this true that Hong Kong is a “cultural desert” just as some describe? Does Hong Kong have any art of her own?

To investigate about Hong Kong art, we must first excavate the place. Art and culture are not produced in a vacuum. Culture is something cultivated from a land. There is almost a blood relation between a place, its people and their works. On one hand, the environment plays a defining role in shaping the artist and his works. On the other hand, works produced in a specific place contribute to the understanding of its origin and foster new visions of its future. The interface of a place and its art is reciprocal.

In understanding the inter-relationship between a place and its art, we need to keep a few questions in constant review: How does art come into meaningful play with the life of its people? How can it provoke reactions from others? How does it arouse collective consciousness and facilitate a new form of public life? From my observation in the museum workplace, so far discussion about art remains confined to the art circle. Generally, audience finds art incomprehensible and disparate. Feelings of segregation shadow people’s sight of the humane value of art. In the promotion of arts and culture, it is therefore important to reconsider how art discourse can interrelate with collective life discourse. Moreover, when we are now globally connected, we should further consider what the Hong Kong art discourse can contribute to the world’s life discourse.

To contemplate these questions, I would like to share some of my thoughts on certain art issues.

**Art is not the core business**

Visitors always raise this question to me: “What is ‘art’?” Usually, I quote words of E.H.Gombrich in response. In his discussion of art history in “The Story of Art”, the first line of the German art historian is: “There really is no such thing as Art. There are only artists.” Gombrich’s words reveal to me a reversed logic in understanding art. It calls for a drastic shift of focus from artworks or art trends to a correspondent re-positioning of the artist as the ultimate center of the art discourse.

Understanding in this light, “art” is not a self-referential entity. It is essentially a pronoun. In the realm of modern art, “art” also takes the form of a “verb”. It is an active enterprise that evolves with the advancement of tools, the transformation of mode of life and thinking. The meaning of “art” remains controversial. Definitions and values of a time are often overturned by later generations, which are yet to be upturned in time to come.

In the same light, “artist” is an ever-changing concept rather than a definitive term. Neither should “artist” be understood as a collective entity. Fundamentally, artist is an individual, he who feels and thinks deeply, who uses his imagination to express himself creatively through a medium. He is an individual with a unique personality and an acute vision. His art is his vision made visible, bearing his strong character. “Great

artist”, so to speak, is one whose vision and language carry a greater wavelength, which can strike a chord with many and ring a bell in everyone.

Art is unspeakable, yet it speaks a lot. Works of great artist bear strong resemblance of his soul, of his time and of his people. It is he who produces visual evidences of his fellowmen’s spiritual existence and social disposition. It requires deep understanding and exceptional skills from the artist to give life an insightful form, to articulate the unspeakable in an intelligible visual outfit. Dalai Lama once says: “Everybody must die, but no one is dead.” The function of art can be perceived this way. Art keeps people of different times and spaces in dialogue and enables sustainable life at both individual and collective levels. In my belief, the ultimate value of artwork lies in its ability to engage people in continuous dialogue that contributes to transcendental human interests.

**Dating with art**

To separate an artist from his work is as impossible as parting the dancer from his dance. When we are in touch with an artwork, we are naturally in contact with the man who gives life to it. In studying Hong Kong art, it is not the “object” that interests me, but the mind, person that fascinate me. It is the imagination, the sensibility of the place and its people that are expressed which pulls me into the works. To me, works displayed are people assembled. Exhibitions are in fact sites of life encounters and energy exchanges.

More often than not, “good art” does not start with art history. It starts with life. To appreciate art, it does not matter if we know little about art or its history. Appreciate a work as you welcome a new friend. In this exhibition, I am introducing 7 artist-friends to you. They come from different backgrounds, showing the diversity of artistic talents that Hong Kong nurtures and attracts. Their works which image Hong Kong in various dimensions are verification of Hong Kong’s unique plural-culture charisma. Just put your heart in the right place to hear their Hong Kong art stories. If his work touches you, it is the “art” for you.

**Everyone is an “artist”**

Art does not exist for the museum. It is nothing by itself out of the human context. Art does not exist for the sake of artists, neither for art historians. Art should not be shared only by the rich, nor be cared for merely when one sees its potential economic return. The mission of art promotion is about spiritual and cultural well being of all people. It is about uplifting human creatures to human beings. We must acknowledge that a half-hearted effort in this mission is one of little use.

Creative activity requires both intellectual and emotional quotient. The pursuit of “art” is by and large a self-discovering journey. The renowned German artist Joseph Beuys sees life of the individual as a piece of “social sculpture”. To him, everyone is an “artist” in his own right. Truly, in sculpting our life, our future and our Hong Kong, who else is better qualified than ourselves?

# Hong Kong Artist



## My Favourites

### Local food :

Authentic and not authentic. An example of non-authentic food is a meal with cuisines from more than ten countries. A great big jumble, that's what I like about Hong Kong.

### Places I like to linger about :

Mongkok. In a building in Sai Yueng Choi Street you find street delicacies, sneakers and fashion on the ground floor, book stores on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, HiFi shops on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, and SMEs, Buddhist associations and Tai Chi clubs on upper floors. On the façade is a giant advertisement board which its content changes every month. All the above started business in different eras and the operators have different backgrounds, it's a kind of organic development with no purposeful planning.

The countryside. Can't afford the time to hike so I explore the hills on my motor bike. Hong Kong people have many misconceptions about their home city. Most of us think Hong Kong has limited land and no wild country. The truth is that 70% of Hong Kong's land is green, and there is a high vantage point where your gaze can take in both Central and Sheung Shui. I won't tell you the location. It would be destroyed if too many people know about it.

### Things to do:

For art pieces that I want to do, all those I can handle have already been done. Unfortunately there are too many that I am not capable of tackling. For example, I want to produce a replica of a building in Sai Yueng Choi Street and relocate it in Central.

### Creative media : Chow Chun-fai

### Most important exhibitions :

My works were exhibited in Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai, Manchester in UK, Munich in Germany and Salzburg in Austria.

### Artworks collected by :

Hong Kong Museum of Art, Hong Kong Heritage Museum, HangART-7 of Austria and private collectors.

### Hong Kong brands :

Chow Chun-fai

### Hong Kong celebrity :

Chow Chun-fai

### Artists : Chow Chun-fai

### Local artists :

Chow Chun-fai

### Local artworks :

Chow Chun-fai

### Plans of the next five years :

I just set up an art studio in Beijing and I have planned to spend the coming years to continue my artistic career in both Hong Kong and Beijing. The themes of my previous works are all related to Hong Kong's local culture. I hope the Beijing experience will lead to more new elements.

### How do you define art / artist?

One day, a lady-in-waiting asked the King what art is. The King replied after thinking very hard for three months, "Art is stacking up instant noodles." Learning this, all his loyal subjects rushed to buy instant noodles. The panic buying pushed up prices and in less than two weeks instant noodles became expensive items that only the rich could afford. Different types of instant noodles were priced differently.

Apart from stacking up instant noodles, people had no other artistic activities. The situation was so bad that national production ground to a halt because everyone was enthralled in the most meaningful thing in life. Art and other social activities declined. People did nothing but pursuing the true meaning of "noodle stacking". (Written in 2001 - *Art is Noodles*)

### How do you feel as being an artist in Hong Kong?

When meeting my artist friends for dinner in Fo Tan, the most talked about topics were the progress of our recent works and exhibitions that one had seen and the others hadn't. When meeting my artist friends for dinner in Beijing, the most talked about topics were some famous artists just opened restaurants by the boulevard and some other famous curators just bought new cars, indicating he was worth more these days.

This difference is mostly attributable to the population size of artists. There are few art critics and curators in the local art circle, and their disciplines are also limited. What kind of art will get mentioned after an exhibition depends on what kind of art critics we have in this little art circle we have in Hong Kong.

If the number and range of art critics and curators are more and diversified, more artists would be reared in Hong Kong.

Having said that, Hong Kong's small artist population and humble size of the local art market do allow artists to carry on with their artistic creation freely without any pressure from the art circle or art market. They can roam free in the wide realm of art. In cities where the art market is mature, many artists are led along by the market reluctantly. Or to put it neutrally, they earn their living by making artworks.

I am not saying there is anything wrong with any particular place. It is just that the art atmosphere is different everywhere. I enjoy my dinner gatherings both in Hong Kong and Beijing.

### Advice for people who want to be artists in Hong Kong:

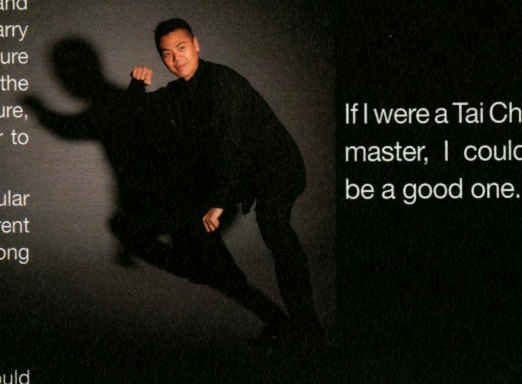
Since I am the youngest one in the exhibition, I think I should not be the one to give any advice.



## Chow Chun-fai

Name	:	Chow Chun-fai
Nickname	:	Fai (There are many more but I think it would be much more fun if I tell you after you get to know me)
Place of origin	:	Daliang, Shunde, Guangdong Province
Education	:	Master of Fine Arts
Occupation	:	Artist

### Why do you become an artist?



If I were a Tai Chi master, I could be a good one.

## Chow Chun-fai - The Art Thinker

Chow is a thinking type of artist who approaches art with questions. He revisits the "classical canons", be they iconic historical paintings, popular movies or government propaganda, in search of the collective ideologies embedded in people's sub-consciousness. In appropriating visual idioms with his simulated images, he challenges habitual perception fixation and manipulates the doubleness of their reconstructed return. To him, every re-interpretation is a creation in its own right.

Chow belongs to a young generation of artists who have grown up in a pictorial age. It is an era of popular visual culture, a time burdened with abundance of references from art history. In dialogue with the multiple visual traditions, Chow inquires into the relevancy of canons of knowledge to contemporary issues. He refreshes audience's critical perceptions and asserts the individual as an active, anarchic agent in mapping the world. To Chow, art is a process of discovering and creating new knowledge. It is a stage for perpetual self-(re)invention.

### Repainting "10th Anniversary of Reunification" 2007

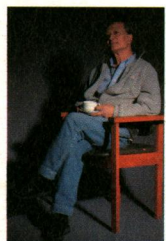
Acrylic on paper and video  
Painting each 13 x 16.5 cm,  
a set of 47  
Video duration 1 min



Repainting "Infernal Affairs" 2007  
Acrylic on paper and video  
Painting each 10 x 15 cm, a set of 58  
Video duration 3 mins

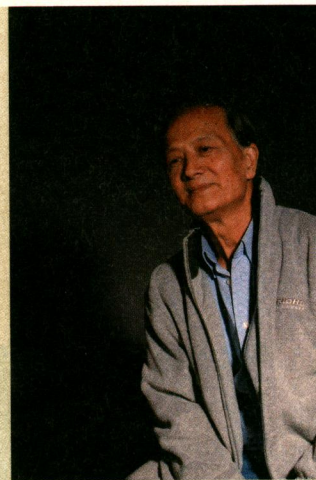
# A Colourful Life

Name : **Chu Hing-wah**  
 Nickname : Ah Chu  
 Place of origin : Xin Hui,  
 Guangdong Province  
 Education : Secondary  
 Occupation : Painter



My Favourites

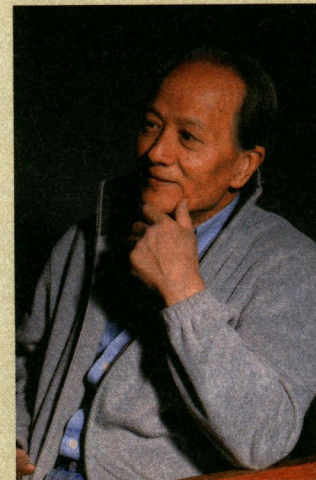
**Local food** : Plain congee and deep fried dough sticks  
**Places I like to linger about** : Temple Street, Yaumatei  
**Hong Kong brands** : No favourite brands  
**Hong Kong celebrity** : Fong Yim-fun (Cantonese opera artist)  
**Artists** : Picasso  
**Local artists** : Tong King-sum  
**Local artworks** : My own work – “My days in Temple Street”



**Things to do:**  
 Painting, Cantonese opera singing  
**Creative media:**  
 Chinese brush painting and wood carving

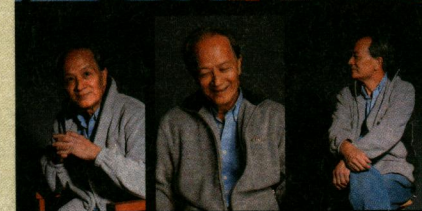
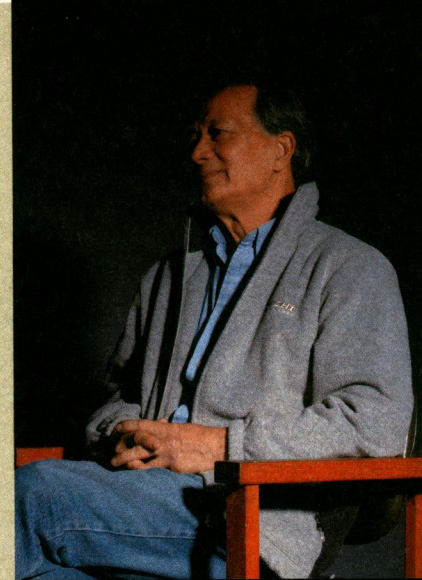
**Solo exhibition held in the last five years:**  
 “My Fifty Years” (2006)

**Artworks collected by :**  
 Hong Kong Museum of Art, private collectors

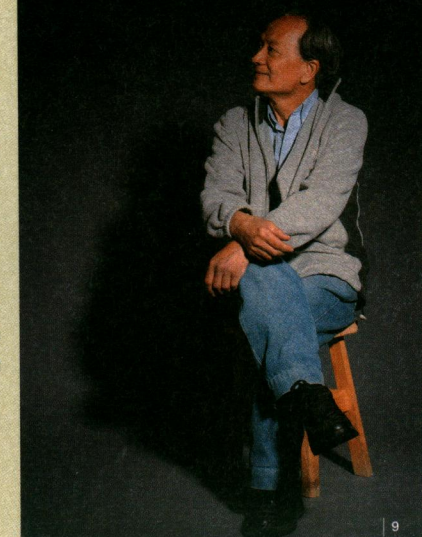


**How do you define art / artist?**  
 What I have to say, I say it through the characters in my paintings.  
**Why do you become an artist?**  
 Because I am a sensitive person.  
**How do you feel as being an artist in Hong Kong?**  
 There are a lot of freedom in creation of art, however it is affected by the limited time and space. It is also hard for artists to make a living in Hong Kong.

**Advice for people who want to be artists in Hong Kong:**  
 Lay a sound foundation first and enjoy your life in order to gain life experience. Express yourself through the process of creation and the process has to be meticulous.



**Plans of the next five years:**  
 Continue visual art creation.

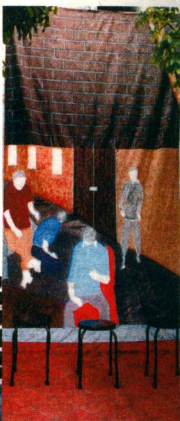


## Chu Hing-wah - The Art Caretaker

Painting for Chu is always personal. During his 28 years of nursing mentally ill patients, he acquired exceptional sensibility and his scenes and figures are always charged with emotional powers. He likes to use modulated, rhythmic ink washes to produce a psyche space of relaxed harmony and awesome stillness. His sensuous and expressive brushstrokes create textures for the subjective emotions of those troubled souls and their psychological complexity. In the hustle and bustle of the city, everyone could have a psychic maniac in his inner stage. Far from being abnormal, Chu has given form to the darkness that is perhaps inherent in all of us.

Everybody experiences moments of darkness in his life. Chu takes a warm and sympathetic view of people and their predicament. Chu says: "Our creator has given me a gift - it takes the form of art. I hope to give people, through my vision, an understanding of needs and sensitivities of other mortals. If this can be seen, then my life is meaningful." To Chu, he makes art therefore he is. To make art is to speak love.

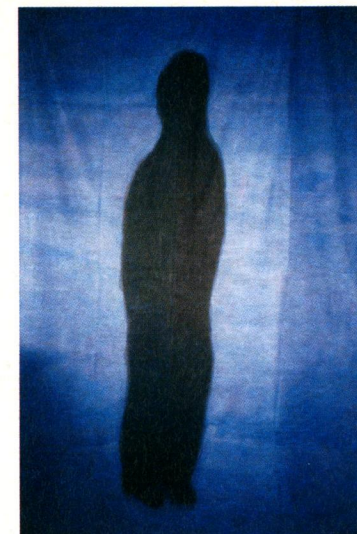
Strange Silence 2003  
Mixed media installation  
315 x 196.5 x 150 cm



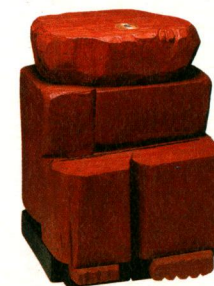
Child Forever 1992  
Ink and colour on paper, vertical scroll  
106 x 75 cm  
Collection of Hong Kong Museum of Art



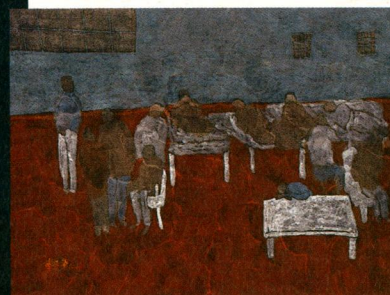
A Portrait in Asylum 1985  
Ink and colour on paper,  
vertical scroll  
99.5 x 67 cm  
Collection of Hong Kong  
Museum of Art



Dream No. 8 2004  
Ink and colour on cloth  
256 x 158.5 cm



Man Chai 90s  
Wood  
39 x 29 x 28 cm



The Night Dormitory 1996  
Ink and colour on paper,  
horizontal scroll  
76 x 106 cm  
Collection of Hong Kong  
Museum of Art



Red Dress 1987  
Ink and colour on paper,  
vertical scroll  
180 x 97 cm



Embedded 90s  
Wood  
47.5 x 27 x 26 cm

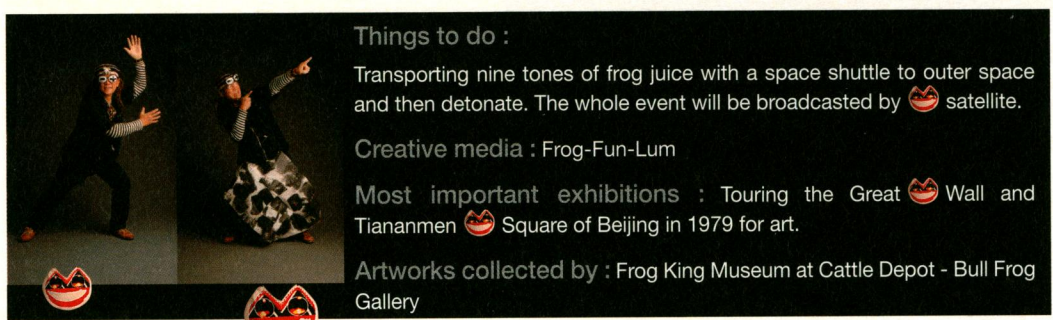


# Frog Play

Name : **Frog King Kwok** (Kwok Mang-ho)  
 Nickname : Frog King, Frog Dooking  
 Place of origin : Pun 🐸 yu, Guangdong 🐸 Province  
 Education : Northcote College of 🐸 Education, New York 🐸 Community University  
 Occupation : 🐸 Artist specialising in creative Frog projects

## My Favourites

- Local food : Deep fried 🐸 fish-balls served with Maggi seasoning
- Places I like to linger about : In search of frogs along Sai Yeung Choi Street South and Gold Fish Street in Mongkok
- Hong Kong brands : Vienne 🐸 Tam, G. 🐸 .D.
- Hong Kong celebrity : Chow 🐸 Fat + 🐸 Poon + 🐸 Li + Bow-tie 🐸 + Regina Ip Lau 🐸 x 3 ÷ 2
- Artists : Lu 🐸 kun and Ming 🐸 Fay
- Local artists : To 🐸 wan Chan 🐸 Shing Unknown senior
- Local artworks : Frog King's works, "Focus 1074" relief at the Concert Hall of City Hall Lower Block



## Things to do :

Transporting nine tones of frog juice with a space shuttle to outer space and then detonate. The whole event will be broadcasted by 🐸 satellite.

Creative media : Frog-Fun-Lum

Most important exhibitions : Touring the Great 🐸 Wall and Tiananmen 🐸 Square of Beijing in 1979 for art.

Artworks collected by : Frog King Museum at Cattle Depot - Bull Frog Gallery

## Plans of the next five years:

Frog King has been creating frog media for more than forty years. Majority of early Frog works were eaten by termites.

A Frog collection from Pak Tin Village studio in Yuen Long in the 1970's have survived.

1,500 rolls of undeveloped New York 🐸 films from the 1980's and 1990's were hurriedly developed in the dark room to share them with all members of the 🐸 community.

World tour Frog Exhibition including the work "Nine Million Frogs".

## How do you define art / artist?

All frogs are the same, wearing 🐸 glasses and drinking high purity 🐸 ink. They lead normal frog lives.

## Why do you become an artist?

Incapable of doing commercial art and to be an art frog is my only option.

## How do you feel as being an artist in Hong Kong?

Holy Frog! Artistic creation was bound and gagged by the colonial laws and regulations as well as the dominate commercial factors for years. It has been difficult for Frog King to make a living. It's too late to be in love with frogs and nine million frogs were crying out loudly.

## Advice for people who want to be artists in Hong Kong:

Have a 🐸 dream where I solve all my troubles. Life is full of near misses and safety hangs by a thread! Lucky me!

Walking on the path of Frog is lonely and I have been working hard for years and moving with the times. Trying to find a balance and there is light at the end of the rainbow!

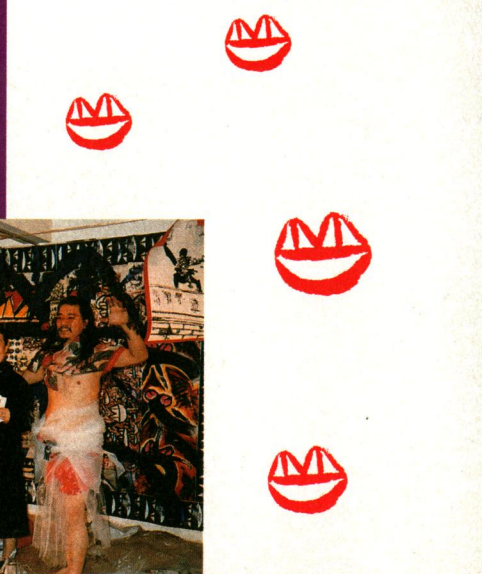
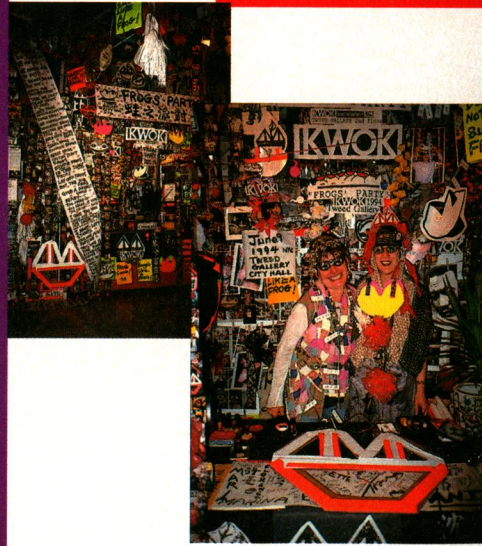
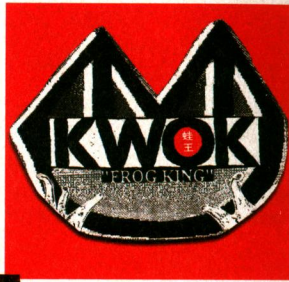




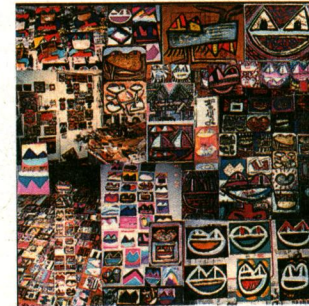
## Frog King - The Art Rebel

Frog King (Kwok Mang-ho) is an artist who believes nothing is impossible. He is the first happening-performance artist in Hong Kong who is famous for his prodigal style. Throughout the years, he strives for total human expression in free form. He invented his own branding - "frog-fun-lum" art. It is a kind of art in "-ing" form that crisscrosses different media as well as temporal and spatial dimensions. It is a seemingly chaotic abundance that characterizes Hong Kong. His works enact instability, unpredictability and spontaneity. It is art as a performative space, a space of numerous possibilities.

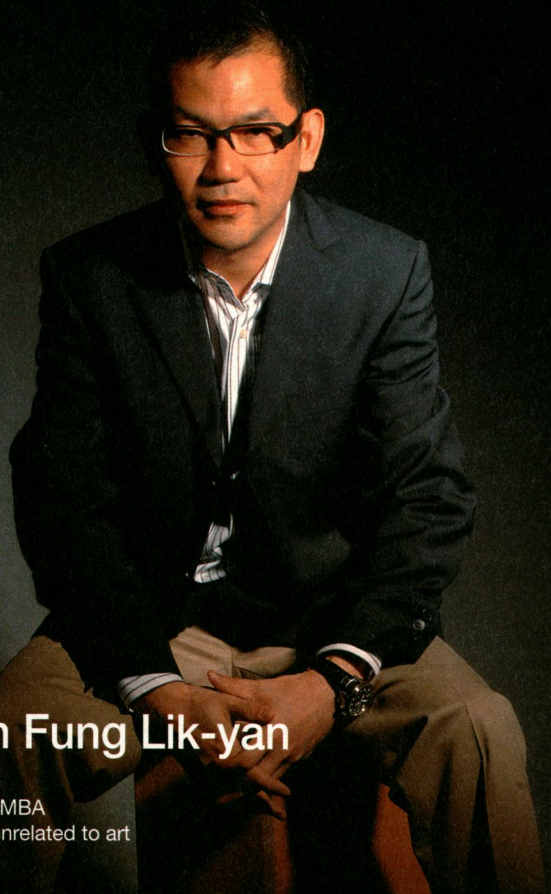
Frog King's motto is: "Art is life, life is art." To him, life and art are an integral entity and an on-going process. Art-making is the ultimate joy of being. Creativity is seeing no boundaries to what can be done. Hence, he keeps doing art by all means with a revolting and experimental spirit. Frog King's own life is a continuous performance piece. His works remind us that "art" is a living subject, not a dead object.



Frog King Mobile Museum  
2007  
Mixed media (Installation and Live Art)



He  
Who  
Asks  
for  
It



Name : **Kevin Fung Lik-yan**  
 Nickname : Kevin  
 Education : BSc, MSc, MBA  
 which are unrelated to art  
 Occupation : Engineer

**Local foods :**

Afternoon tea in a Hong Kong style restaurant (because this happens only on an off day)

**Places/ blogs/ websites I like to linger about :**

Treasure-hunting in Ap Liu Street. Web blogs are engadget and gizmodo, both are new high-tech gadgets.

**Hong Kong brands :** Too numerous to list, particularly small shops and street stalls in old districts and markets. Although they are not multinational brands, the emotional connection is much greater than the brand equity.

**My Favourites**

**Hong Kong brands :** Too numerous to list

**Hong Kong celebrity :** Too numerous to list

**Artists :** Too numerous to list

**Things to do:**

Wandering in Japan or Europe during holidays.

**Creative media:**

Wood, stone.



**Most important exhibitions :**

"Hong Kong Art Biennial Exhibition 2005",  
 "Visage" (Ogilvy Beijing O Gallery, 2007).

**Artworks collected by :**

MTR, Megabox, Ogilvy Beijing, Hong Kong  
 Museum of Art.

**Plans of the next five years :**

*Create work, have holidays,  
 create work, work, work  
 have holidays, create  
 work, work, work,  
 work ...*



**How do you define art / artist?**

Artists are a bunch of fools who seriously and sincerely play the games that they device. These games attract others to take part or appreciate. That gives them spiritual or mental reward.

**Why do you become an artist?**

There is too much stress of living in Hong Kong; artistic creation could bring balance to life.

**How do you feel as being an artist in Hong Kong?**

There are far too many things to distract the creative mind of artists.

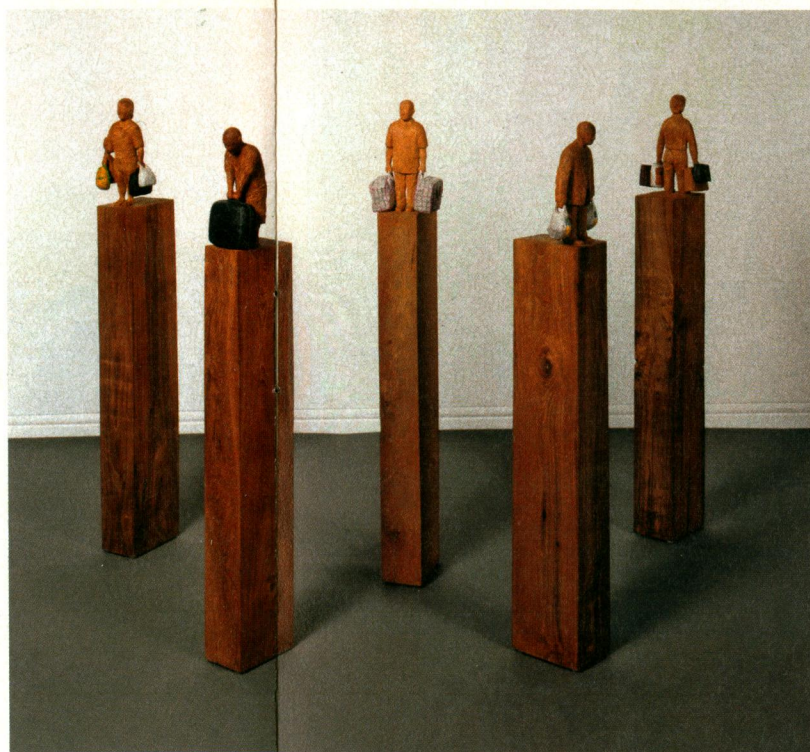
**Advice for people who want to be artists in Hong Kong:**

Making artistic creation a habit that you would do daily, like reading newspapers.

## Kevin Fung Lik-yan - The Art Middleman

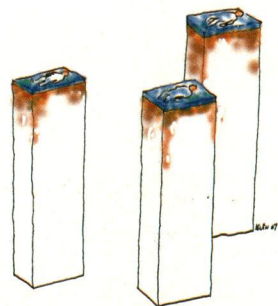
Fung likes sculpting with wood for it is his way to reconnect with nature in a hi-tech world. His subjects are what he sees daily – his living environment, his own existence and that of his fellowmen. The cluster of wood logs in his works reminds one of the concrete jungle cityscape. Figures appearing in groups represent the city human type, a kind of faceless creatures bearing a ghostly existence. Their body language is suggestive of their retreat and melancholic mood, expressing scarcely any interest or interaction with their surroundings.

Flexibility, efficiency and adaptability are typical Hong Kong spirits. The other side of the coin is pressure, tension and empty spiritual life. Fung says he makes art out of an internal need to keep his life in balance. The fact that his art stems from common experience explains why we are easily drawn to his works. While reckoning ourselves as part of the figurine's extended family, we are brought to an exchange of hearts and feelings, thus arriving at a delicate balance point, albeit for a brief moment.



**Baggage** 2005  
Painted teak, a set of 5  
120 x 200 x 200 cm  
Collection of Hong Kong Museum of Art

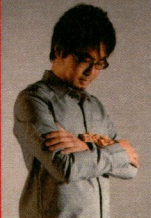
**Drift** 2007  
Painted wood and  
silicon, a set of 5  
70 x 90 x 97 cm



**Up on the Roof** 2007  
Painted wood  
150 x 80 x 160 cm



# Gump, as in Forrest Gump



## My Favourites

**Local foods :** Dried fish and peanut congee

**Places I like to linger about :**

Cattle Depot Artists Village/ Gold Fish Street/ Fa Yuen Street/ Bird Street

**Hong Kong brands :**

Yet to be found

**Hong Kong celebrity :**

Let you know next time

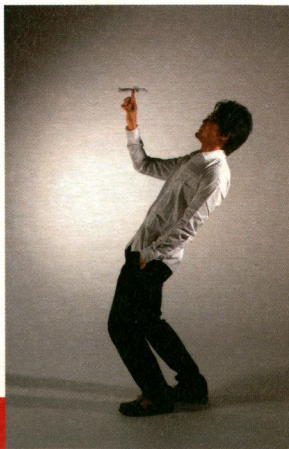
**Artists :** Many

**Local artists :**

Gold Fish Street, Fa Yuen Street, Bird Street (workers)

**Local artworks :**

Gold Fish Street, Fa Yuen Street, Bird Street (workers)



Things to do:

Create a permanent art piece in Bird Street

**Creative media:** Installation art

**Most important exhibitions:**

"Hong Kong Art Biennial Exhibition 1996" (Award Winner), "Sydney International Contemporary Art Biennial Exhibition 1998"

**Artworks collected by :**

Hong Kong Museum of Art, Hong Kong Heritage Museum

**Plans of the next five years :**

Be a full-time artist

**How do you feel as being an artist?**

Some things should be left unsaid.

**How do you define art / artist?**

Publicly convey my life messages and feelings

**Why do you become artist?**

I like the title "Artist" since I was a small boy. Now I put it in front my name as a designation.

**Advice for people who want to be artists in Hong Kong:**

The advice is :

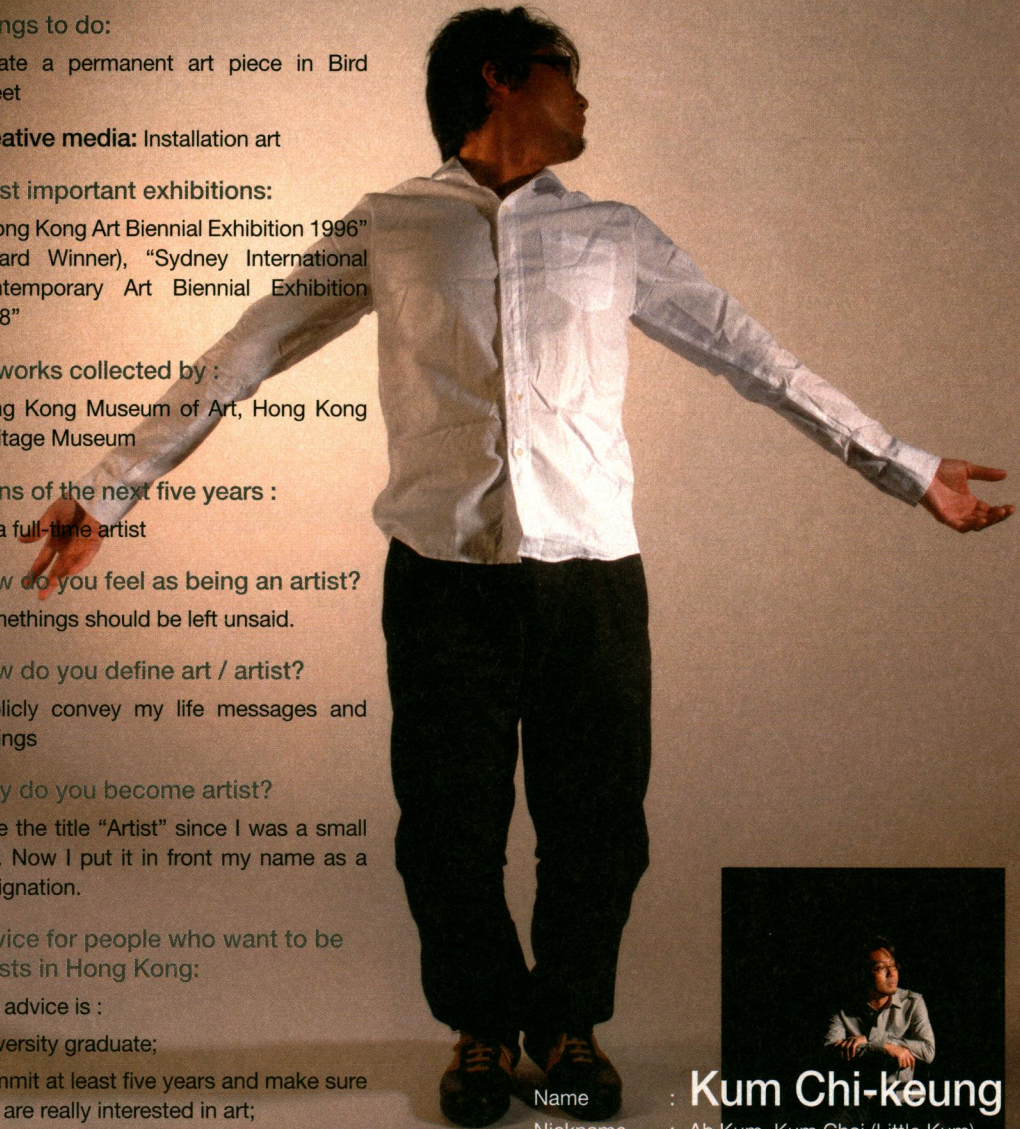
University graduate;

Commit at least five years and make sure you are really interested in art;

Diligence, sense of responsibility, willing to work overtime;

Capable of handling all tasks independently;

Interested parties please join the league.



Name : **Kum Chi-keung**  
 Nickname : Ah Kum, Kum Chai (Little Kum), Ah Keung (any one will do)  
 Place of origin : Shunde, Guangdong Province  
 Education : Community University (Not yet graduated)  
 Occupation : Freelance artist

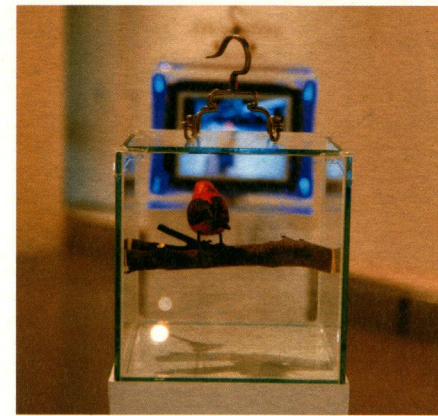
## Kum Chi-keung - The Art Intruder

Kum likes to overtake space, hence his love for installation. His work evolves around boundaries negotiation, spatial invasion and navigation, envisioning the artist's free spirit regardless of his physical confinement. Visual associations of contradictory imageries like cage and flying bird often appear in his installations. They represent an innate dilemma of a city dweller whose highly-compressed life in a jam-packed city erases any space for dream. In altering the spatial constructs of a given site, Kum redefines the spatial character of the city to his own taste and reinforces the possibility of taking flight.

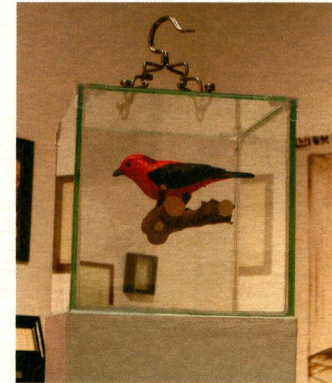
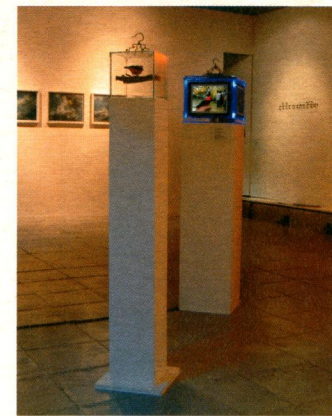
Kum perceives installation as a struggle between an art piece and a space, as well as a battle between the artwork and the artist. Art is a form of physical and intellectual challenge that he embraces with unyielding commitment. He refuses to compromise and readily exploits himself to the fullest in solving any problems he encounters. Kum reckons: "The discovery of oneself is a life-long flight." His love for surpassing human limits reveals his pursuit for rising over the mundane state of being. That, is certainly a life-long project.



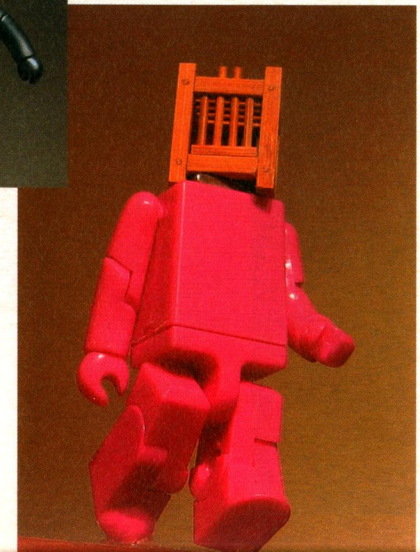
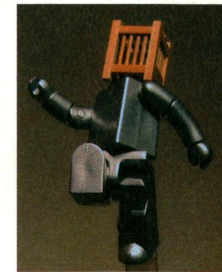
Gene park 2007  
Mixed media



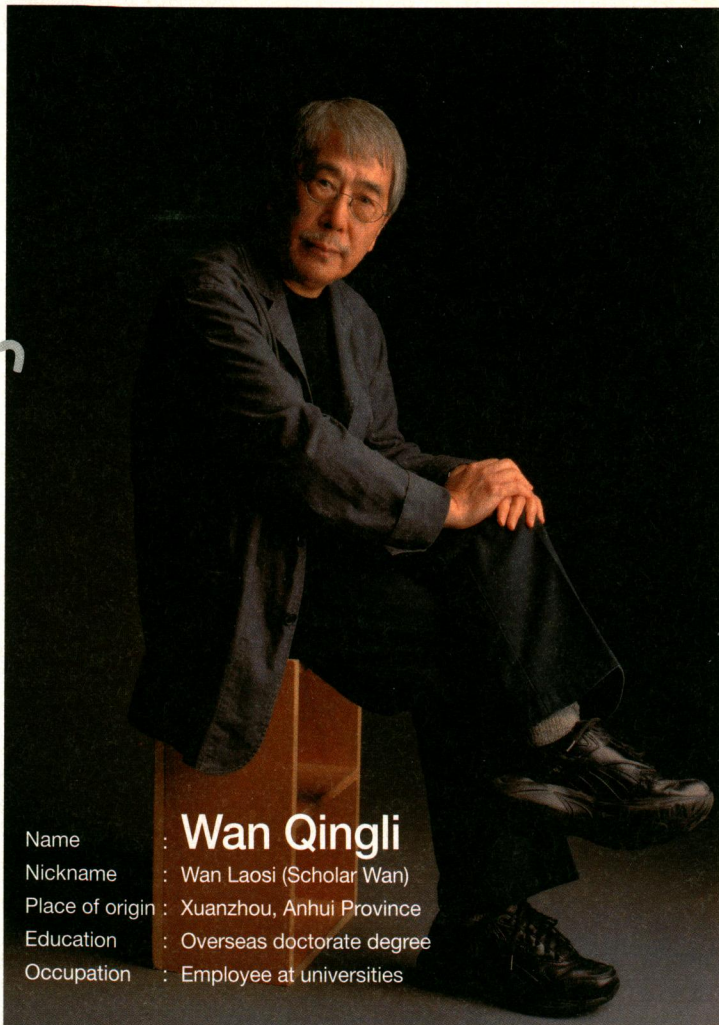
Free, Walking 2007  
Mixed media, a set of 5



Wandering in Space 2007  
Mixed media

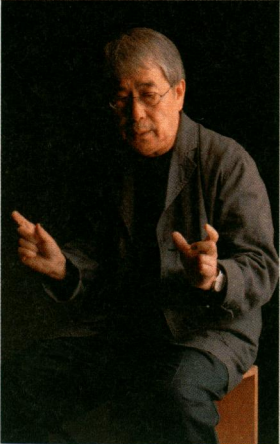


Stubborn  
Old  
Man



Name : **Wan Qingli**  
 Nickname : Wan Laosi (Scholar Wan)  
 Place of origin : Xuanzhou, Anhui Province  
 Education : Overseas doctorate degree  
 Occupation : Employee at universities

My Favourites



**Local foods** : Safe food

**Places I like to linger about** :

Museums – Libraries – Offices – Classrooms – Home

**Hong Kong brands** : Tea and coffee dual sold in street food stalls

**Hong Kong celebrity** : Stephen Chow Sing-chi

**Artists** : Zunzi

**Creative media** : Coarse fiber handmade paper, Chinese brush, ink  
 (No preference of origin. Can be made in Taiwan, Korea or Japan).

**Solo exhibitions held in the last five years :**

“The Writings of My Mind” (E & J Frankel Ltd., New York, 2002); “Wan Qingli Art Exhibition” (Art Gallery, China Central Academy of Fine Arts, 2003); “A Brush with Irony” (University Museum and Art Gallery, HKU, 2006).

**Artworks collected by:**

University Museum and Art Gallery, HKU, Hong Kong Museum of Art, Hong Kong Heritage Museum, Art Gallery, China Central Academy of Fine Arts, National Art Museum of China, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art and Wichita Art Museum of the USA, Ashmolean Art Museum of Oxford University, UK.

**Plans of the next five years :**

Find a place where I can stroll at leisure and breathe. Find a good place for tea and noodles with beef entrails. A place where the Air Pollution Index is not higher than medium everyday, where I won't hear rich overseas returnees yelling at the top of their voices in the name of the people, where the lifts have no urine odour and there is no dog foul on the slope.

**How do you define art / artist?**

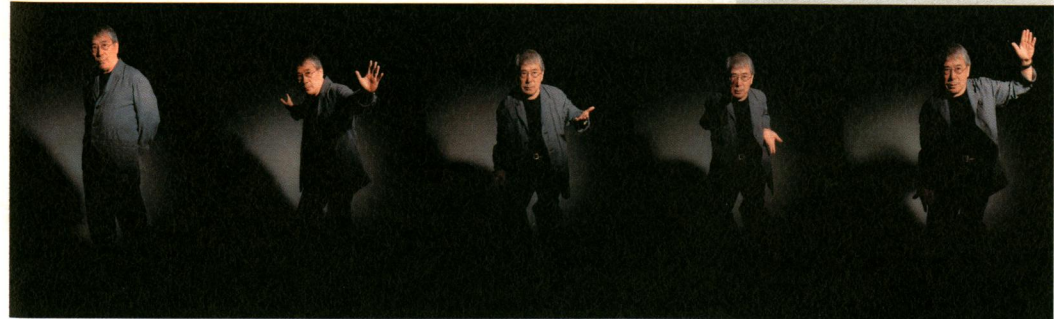
Those who are sillier among the silly.

**Why do you become an artist?**

Because I am silly. I am muddle-headed all the time and hard to understand things.

**How do you feel as being on artist in Hong Kong?**

I never cross paths with high-toned artists who diligently seek personal gains. That's why I have peace and happiness.



**Advice for people who want to be artists in Hong Kong:**

If you are not born silly, don't pretend to be.

Wan Qingli -  
The Art Intellectual

Wan is regarded by some as “the literati painter in the concrete jungle”. Ever since he came to Hong Kong in 1989, he has taken a dual perspective of an inside-outsider in observing the city. He continues to work in the traditional manner of scholar painting in the interpretation of life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Yet he incorporates Cantonese slangs with formal Chinese and mixes contemporary imaginaries with traditional motifs in his depiction, expressing an ironic humour that is always mingled with sadness and empathy.

Wan believes in the power and responsibility of the intellectuals in shaping arts and culture. He himself enacts the kind of qualities required for such an assignment: a critical mind and a loving heart. To say that he is an intellectual is only partially true. In all, he is a humanist who sees the paradoxes of his times, who is always sympathetic to the human condition. In this era of global war and cultural clashes, Wan chooses to speak in sincere and poetic forms with his unpretentious brush. His art is really a petition for world peaceful.

睇真啲八卦新聞有猛料  
 諗乜嘢三級盜版無厘頭

以香港傳媒常用語彙成一聯。

酷暑悶熱書此竟生悲涼之感 廿世紀末年八月 萬青力

1



2

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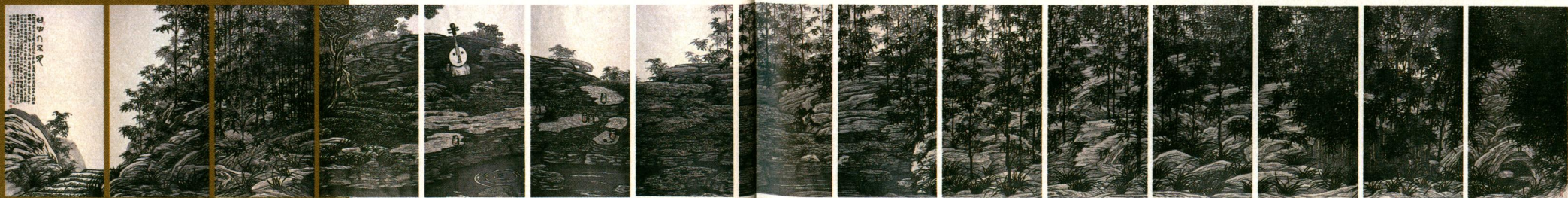
4

5

1. A Couplet in Regular Script 2000  
Ink on paper, hanging scroll  
132 x 30 cm  
Collection of University Museum and Art Gallery, HKU
2. Seen in a Supermarket 2003  
Ink and colour on paper, vertical scroll  
138 x 36 cm
3. Hot Chicks and Cool Dudes 2006  
Ink and colour on paper, vertical scroll  
138 x 36 cm
4. Large Mouth 2006  
Ink and colour on paper, vertical scroll  
138 x 36 cm
5. Rights Infringement 2006  
Ink and colour on paper, vertical scroll  
138 x 36 cm

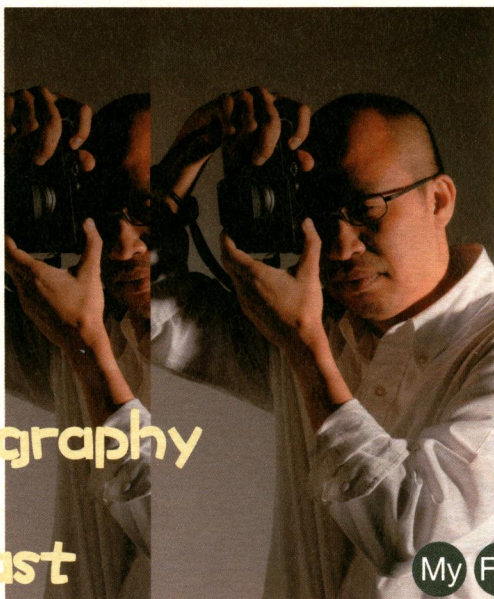
In the Middle of the Song, No One is in Sight 2003

Ink on paper, a set of 15 vertical scrolls  
Each 142 x 74 cm



Courtesy of University Museum and Art Gallery, HKU

# A Photography Enthusiast



## My Favourites

### Local foods :

Beef brisket noodles (Wah Nam Restaurant on Thomson Road)

### Places / blogs / websites I like to linger about :

Home, Ebay, Yahoo

Hong Kong brands : Vitasoy

Hong Kong celebrity : Lam Hang-chi

Artists : Picasso

Local artists : Jim Chim

### Local artworks :

"Chungking Express", "Ashes of Time" (Movies)

### Things to do :

To live and take photographs at different places in the Mainland

### Creative media :

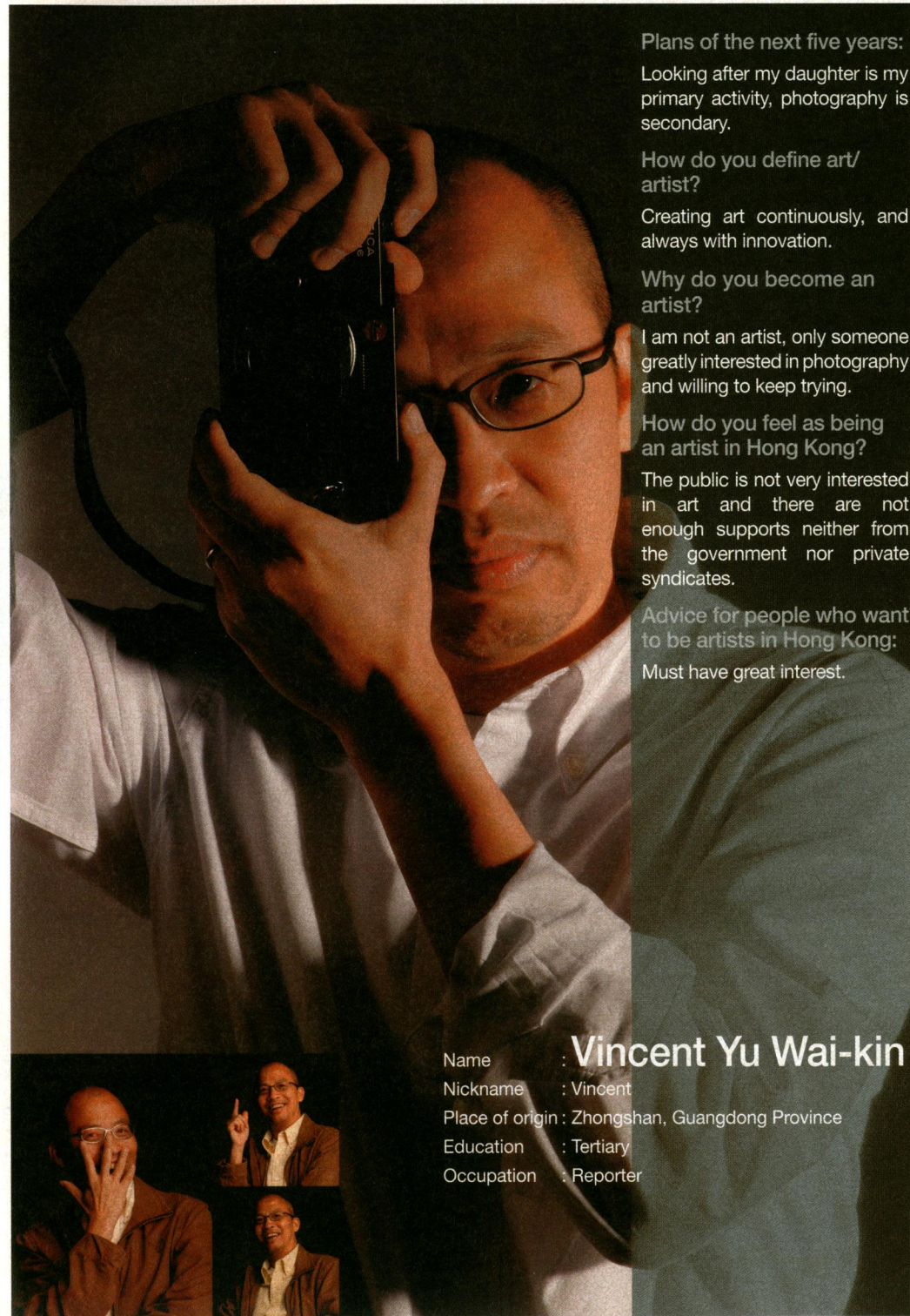
Camera and heart

### Most important solo exhibitions :

"China, Hong Kong and Taiwan Photo Exhibition", "Our Home, Shek Kip Mei" Photo Exhibition

### Artworks collected by :

Waiting for Hong Kong Museum of Art to collect



### Plans of the next five years:

Looking after my daughter is my primary activity, photography is secondary.

### How do you define art/artist?

Creating art continuously, and always with innovation.

### Why do you become an artist?

I am not an artist, only someone greatly interested in photography and willing to keep trying.

### How do you feel as being an artist in Hong Kong?

The public is not very interested in art and there are not enough supports neither from the government nor private syndicates.

### Advice for people who want to be artists in Hong Kong:

Must have great interest.

Name : Vincent Yu Wai-kin  
Nickname : Vincent  
Place of origin : Zhongshan, Guangdong Province  
Education : Tertiary  
Occupation : Reporter



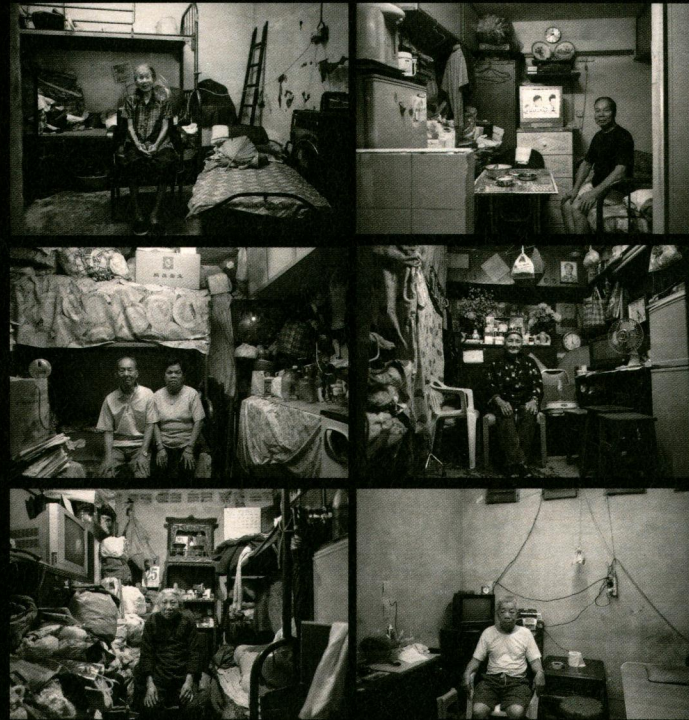
## Vincent Yu Wai-kin - The Art Journalist

Yu is a photo-journalist. He works and creates with his camera. Different from the emotion-seeking and deceptive manner of the paparazzi, Yu opts for straight photography. He makes photos without the least intention to interfere or to make judgments. Pictures are self-evident as he often keeps his own emotion and subjectivity in check. Yu said he wanted to make an objective record of Hong Kong. This project is to document not only the human conditions and the history of the city. It is also to capture the fading collective memories and vanishing spirits of our time.

Photographing is a space-time event. A photo-journalist does not work in a studio. He is always on the spot. There is no such division as an "art world" and a "real world" for Yu. Artistic values cannot be separated from human values in his work. Yu refuses the name of "artist". He says: "I just want to take pictures." Although he does not work with any political or personal agenda, his photos are telling text. Interestingly, the strongest way of seeing is often the simplest way of seeing.



Our Home, Shek Kip Mei 1954-2006  
2005-2006  
Photography



Coming soon .....

## Dating With Art “Hong Kong Art : Open Dialogue” Exhibition Series

“Digit@logue”  
(Guest curator : Ellen Pau)



“New Ink Art: Innovation and Beyond”  
(Guest curator: Alice King)

“Looking for Antonio Mak”  
(Guest curator : Valerie C. Doran)



“Charming Experience”  
(Guest curator: Grace Cheng)

Please browse <http://hk.art.museum> for further details

### Made in Hong Kong – Contemporary Art Exhibition

21.12.2007 - 6.4.2008



Presented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department  
Organized by the Hong Kong Museum of Art

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Closed on Thursdays (except public holidays)  
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Closed at 5pm on Christmas Eve (24.12.2007) and Chinese New Year's Eve (6.2.2008)

Admission Fee:  
\$10 (standard), \$5 (people with disabilities, full-time students and senior citizens aged 60 or above)  
30% discount for group of 20 people or more (standard rate)  
Free admission for Museum Pass holders  
Free admission on Wednesdays

Enquiries : (852) 2721 0116  
Website : <http://hk.art.museum>



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