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「非常藝術家 — 夏碧泉傳奇」是香港藝術館本年的亮點節 目,展示著名前輩藝術家夏碧泉先生傳奇一生和不平凡的藝 術成就。

序言

夏碧泉先生在世時,曾表示是次展覽將讓他在藝術事業上再創 奇蹟,他亦認定他創作上的四個方向,包括自六十年代以降在 版畫和雕塑的探索、八十年代起始的攝影作品和近年的水墨創 作等,是次展覽亦將以四個主題:「自然世界」、「幾何形狀」、「抽 象創意」和「人物熱愛」,表現夏氏從不同創作方向表達他對藝 術與現實世界的連繫和關注。

夏氏是一位自學的藝術家,他對藝術抱着澎湃的感情和擊誠的 追求,從他自創紙花工藝,再轉移到藝術創作的道途,他既承 繼了手工藝的技術和傳統,又廣納了同儕藝術家的創作經驗, 並立足在生活的層面上,採用隨手可拾的物料來創作,使他 的作品產生與現實世界的緊密關連,因此他的作品往往予 人強烈的即臨感及親和感。他在作品中雖沒有直接刻畫生 活的環境—— 土瓜灣,但昔日街市的囂鬧、屠房宰殺生 畜的淒聲嘶叫、龐然矗立的煤氣鼓、車房和五金店的 叮噹敲擊,以及那古老冰室泛起的陣陣来香,盛載着 獨特的生活氣息和濃厚的人情味,而從夏氏作品 中的樹葉、棄鐵、車輪、家人的舊鞋子等載體, 亦憑現着藝術家對生活和社區的誠摯禮讀。

> 夏氏同時也是現代主義的實踐者,他 的作品充滿奇詭的氣魄,著重形 式的超奇和創新,遂使他成

為藝術創作的冒險家。他嘗言他是以竹材創作雕塑的第一人,可謂前無古人,後無來者。這種強調卓越創新的現代精神,一直實連着夏氏一生的創作,造就了多項氣勢凜然、氣魄雄偉的作品系列。其實從另外一個層次看,夏氏的藝術歷程也是一件非凡的「作品」,他的經歷實現了凡人只要付出努力便會成就卓越的理想,並以藝術斑瀾的色彩來點綴平凡的人生。

是次展覽展示夏氏作品八十多件。展覽除展現夏氏的藝術成就之外,也透過夏氏生活的側寫,展示他的創作、工作間、社區環境和題材靈感的互援關係。我們在此特別向夏梁少薇女士及家人致以衷心感謝,他們對夏氏的藝術創作多年來付出了無盡的支持,而夏梁少薇女士亦在夏氏去世後全力支持整理作品及資料的工作。此外,我們亦多謝香港雕塑學會協助整理、攝影和研究展品,在夏氏繁多的創作中精選作品在是次展覽中展出。最後,我們亦特別感謝鄭燕祥教授及香港雕塑學會會長戴尚誠先生惠賜鴻文,對夏氏的創作提供了多層次的解讀。

夏氏的創作不單只成就了他的非常藝術人生,而且亦讓他的家人、朋友、藝術同 價和後學感受到藝術的芳華,他的藝 術早已在眾人的心裏撒下種籽, 他對藝術的影響亦將延續不



'From Common to Uncommon — the Legend of Ha
Bik-chuen' is a highlight of the Hong Kong Museum of Art's
exhibition programme for 2011. The exhibition takes a retrospective
look at the life of the iconic local artist, Mr. Ha Bik-chuen, and showcases his
extraordinary artistic achievements.

Ha had once said that an exhibition like this would constitute another miracle in his artistic career. He had also identified the four directions of his creative paths, namely, the exploratory works in print and sculpture since 1960s, photographic works since 1980s and the recent ink paintings. The four themes that run through this exhibition – 'Nature World,' 'Geometrical Forms,' Abstract Creation' and 'Figures Obsession' reflect how Ha expressed his concern for art and the real world, as well as their connection.

Ha Bik-chuen was a self-taught artist. His passion and dedicated pursuit saw him move from paper flower crafting to the path of creativity in art. He applied techniques gleaned from the handicraft tradition and borrowed the creative experience of his peers, while finding his imagination foothold in everyday life. His use of found objects made his art stay connected with the real world, imbuing them with a strong sense of immediacy and warmth of appeal. Although his works were never straightforward depictions of To Kwa Wan, the area where he lived, the elements of a bygone world are all there. One can almost hear the din from the streets, the shrill cry of animals to be slaughtered in the Cattle Depot and the tinkling and cranking from garages and hardware stores, feel the intimidating towering presence of the gas drums and smell the fragrance of tea wafting from the old café. They are all uniquely local elements representative of everyday living and neighbourly warmth. Through such implements as leaves, metal scraps, discarded auto wheels, family members' old footwear etc., Ha has

made his art a paean to Life and his community.

Ha was also an exponent of modernism. His works have a strikingly bizarre aura, with an emphasis on the originality of form. Such audacity makes him an adventurer in the realm of art. He once said he was the first in the use of bamboo as material for sculpture, which cannot be truer. This modernist approach to creative innovation permeated his works throughout his life, giving rise to many powerful and magnificent artwork series. Yet when seen at another level, Ha Bik-chuen's artistic sojourn is in itself a distinguished 'work of art': his experience shows that with hard work, even ordinary folks can realize lofty ideals and light up a common existence with the exuberant colours of art.

This exhibition will have on display more than eighty works by Ha. Apart from showcasing his artistic achievements, it also traces through a profile of his daily life, the complementary relationship between his creative process, his studio, the surroundings of his community, subject matter and inspiration. We would like to thank especially Mrs. Ha Leung Siu-mei and her family for their unconditional support for Ha's creative career throughout the years. In particular, we would like to thank Mrs. Ha for her immense support in the collation of her late husband's works and related information. We would also like to express our gratitude to the Hong Kong Sculpture Society for their assistance in the collation, photography and research of the exhibits, and in the selection of the best works from Ha's huge collection. Last but not least, we would like to thank Professor Cheng Yin-cheong and Mr. Victor Tai, President of the Hong Kong Sculpture Society, for their inspiring articles and analyses of Ha's art.

Not only have Ha Bik-chuen's works blazed an 'uncommon' trail for the artist himself, they have also touched his family, friends, peers, and young artists with the true essence of art. What he created has long sown the seeds in people's hearts, and his influence on art will persist for a long time to come.





書協會的會員)



藝術家傳略

1925 生於廣東江門,為家中幼子 1932 因戰亂而輟學 1945-1949 於油漆裝飾店當學徒,負責畫字模及填色。其 後創業,提供畫作賣予鏡架店出售 1949 移居澳門。 得神 父鼓勵,開始於望德堂門前售賣自製紙花給信眾作奉獻用,大 受歡迎 1957 定居香港。 開設「時代工藝製品廠」, 親自 設計並生產紙花及花籃,供大型百貨公司售賣 1960 參加 以陳福善為首的華人現代藝術研究會。 開始探索雕塑創作, 創作主要以木及竹為材料 1960 年代初 紙花業式微, 關閉「時代工藝製品廠」,轉營惠為塑膠花廠設計花模, 後再轉為全職藝術家 1964 深受於香港博物美術館舉 辦的張義個展作品所吸引,開始創作版畫 1967 於 華人現代藝術研究會展出作品 1969 為見證登月 創舉,特地購入第一部電視機。並創作了以阿波 羅成功登月為主題的藝術品以作紀念 1970 第二十八屆工展會中獲插花比賽冠軍 1974 成為美國版畫協會會員

1975 於當代香港藝術展覽獲香港市政局藝術獎 (雕塑及版畫) 1978 作品《日出》獲香港仔中心雕塑設計比賽冠軍獎 1979 獲邀到北美多個城市參展,開始為當地藝壇認識 1982 購入第一台半自動相機,開始恆常以攝影探索及創作。加入香港雕塑家協會,為創會會員之一 1987 加入香港視覺藝術協會 1991 獲香港藝術家聯盟香港藝術家 (版畫家) 年獎 1993 獲中國陝西美術家畫廊首屆版畫大展銅獎 1990 年代中 多次旅遊歐洲及美國,得到西方藝術的啟發,並創作了多幅受西方藝術影響的作品,如《靜居圖》1996 獲中國版畫家協會魯迅版畫獎 1997 獲香港藝術發展局視藝發展獎助。 以香港主權回歸中國為題完成了畫作《步伐》 2003 獲香港藝術發展局藝術成就獎 (視覺藝術) 2007 為推動雕塑創作,創辦香港雕塑學會,並任創會會長

ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHY

1925 Born in Jiangmen, Guangdong, The youngest 1932 Stopped schooling due to war in the family **1945-1949** Being an apprentice at a paint decoration shop, responsible for making text model and colouring. Later on selling his own paintings to a mirror frame shop for a living 1949 Moved to Macau. Encouraged by the Priest of the St Lazarus Parish to sell Ha's handmade paper flowers at the church as offerings of the church-goers and the flowers were widely popular among them 1957 Settled in Hong Kong. Established 'Style Handicrafts Factory', design and produce handmade paper flowers and basketry to well-known department stores for sale 1960 Joined The Chinese Contemporary Artists' Guild led by Luis Chan. Began exploring the creation of sculptures, mainly made of wood and bamboo Early 1960s Paper flower industry was diminishing. Closed the 'Style Handicrafts Factory' and began to design plastic flower model for a factory. Later, turned to artistic creation as career from amateur 1964 Inspired by Chueng Yee's artworks at his solo exhibition at the Hong Kong City Museum and Art Gallery, then started to create prints 1967 Ha's artworks were on public display at The Chinese Contemporary Artists' Guild's exhibition 1969 Owned his first television in order to witness Apollo11's moon landing mission and created artworks to celebrate the event 1970 Awarded as the champion of the Flower Arrangement Competition at The 28th Hong Kong Brands and Products Expo 1974 Became a member of the Graphics Society, U.S.A.

1975 Received the Urban Council Fine Arts Awards (Sculpture & Print) at the Exhibition of Contemporary Hong Kong Art, Hong Kong 1978 Ha's artwork Rising Sun was awarded as winner at the Aberdeen Centre Sculpture Design Competition, Hong Kong 1979 Ha's artworks were being introduced to cities in North America and toured across the continent 1982 Owned his first semi-automatic camera and began to use photography as his main approach to explore and create artworks. Joined the Hong Kong Sculptors Association, as one of the founding members 1987 Joined the Hong Kong Visual Arts Society 1991 Received the Artist of the Year Awards 1991 (Printmaker of the Year), Hong Kong Artist's Guild, Hong Kong 1993 Received the bronze award, The 1st Chinese Printmaking Exhibition, Shanxi Artier Gallery, China Mid-1990s Traveled to Europe and U.S.A. and was inspired by Western Art. Produced artworks that carried influence of the West, such as Recluse 1996 Received the Lu Xun Prize of Print, Chinese Print-makers Association 1997 Received the Fellowship for Artistic Development, Hong Kong Arts Development Council. Created My Way, based on the event of The Handover of Hong Kong's Sovereignty to China 2003 Received the award for Arts Achievement (Visual Arts), Hong Kong Arts Development Council 2007 To promote sculpture-making, founded the Hong Kong Sculpture Society and served as the Founding President of the Society

(Ha was also a member of the Hong Kong Graphics Society and The Hong Kong Modern Art Society of Watercolours)



獨角獸 Unicorn 2008 木及牛角 Wood and ox horn 92 x 45 x 34 cm





無題 Untitled

2005 水墨設色紙本直幅 Vertical scroll, ink and colour on paper

97 x 66 cm





日出 Sunrise

2003 水墨設色紙本立軸 Hanging scroll,

Hanging scroll, ink and colour on paper

40.4 x 80.3 cm

白了少年頭 Time Flies 1967 混合素材 Mixed media 103 x 91 x 12 cm



何形狀



機械人Robot

1999 混合素材 Mixed media 76 x 100 cm

香港藝術館藏 Collection of Hong Kong Museum of Art

狀 Geometrical Forms



守護者 Sentry 1992 混合素材 Mixed media 121.6 x 121.6 cm



何形狀

扰 Geemetrical Ferms



組合的韻律 Rhythmic Combination 1992 混合素材 Mixed media 122.1 x 122.1 cm



群像 Figures

1971

竹及木 Bamboo and wood 136.4 x 136.6 x 9 cm

Abstract Creation

餘慶 Joy Renewed

1979 版畫母版

Master board for print

78.6 x 60.5 cm

餘慶 Joy Renewed

1979 版畫 Print

79 x 61 cm

香港藝術館藏 Collection of Hong Kong Museum of Art

抽象 Abstract Creation



訊息 Message 1992 混合素材 Mixed media 122 x 91.2 cm



壯志凌雲 Soaring Aspiration 1989 混合素材 Mixed media 122.6 x 91.6 cm



音韻悠揚 Melodious Rhythm 2008 混合素材 Mixed media 190.5 x 72.5 x 12 cm



Master Magician 1999 混合素材 Mixed media 126 x 30 x 22 cm 世紀名模 Model of the Century

2004 混合素材 Mixed media

171 x 37 x 50 cm

香港藝術館藏 Collection of Hong Kong Museum of Art

