

1 December 2021

Press Release

CHAT acknowledged in Special Mentions for Outstanding Museum Practices Award 2021



(Hong Kong, 1 December, 2021) CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile) has been given a Special Mention for Outstanding Museum Practices Award 2021 by CIMAM, the International Committee for Museums and Collections of Modern Art. Selected as one of three, and the only Asia Pacific one of its kind, from a nomination of 16 international institutions including Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum and MUSAC - Contemporary art Museum of Castilla y León, CHAT's collaborative initiative Textile Culture Net was lauded for forging new transnational collaboration models in response to the current global situation and ecological urgency.

Spearheaded by CHAT, the initiative titled Textile Culture Net brought together three other institutions, namely Central Museum of Textiles in Łódź, Lottozero in Prato and TextielMuseum in Tilburg, to curate a series of online exhibitions via digital platforms. Paying homage to the cooperative nature of textile practices as well as the application of new technologies, the 4 institutions joined forces to share

their unique content, collection objects, and even manpower, not only to offer a fresh textile lens for wider audiences to enjoy art and design, but also to introduce a new chapter in curatorship and programme direction for textile institutions today.

The ongoing online exhibition, which first launched in December 2020, showcases artworks under a common theme once every two months. Textile Culture Net has recently been renewed for a second season in early November 2021. Conducted entirely online, from project initiation, discussion to development, the initiative is a testament to CHAT's commitment to weave creative experiences for all, poignantly transcending geographical boundaries particularly in the context of the current global crisis.

Vanessa Cheung, the founder of The Mills, a project of which CHAT is one of the main pillars, remarks: 'It's such an honour for CHAT to receive Special Mentions by CIMAM's Outstanding Museum Practice Award. I can't be more proud and grateful for CHAT's ability to constantly embrace our heritage, challenge the norms, and bridging different social and environmental issues through creative and innovative expressions and practices. Look forward to co-creating, co-curating and co-learning with all of you!'

Takahashi Mizuki, CHAT's Executive Director and Chief Curator, says: 'I am pleased that our long-term collective effort with three textile institutions was acknowledged by CIMAM. The project was conceived to search for innovative curatorial approaches by CHAT as a young art and cultural institution in Hong Kong, responding to the COVID-19 situation. Textile Culture Net (TCN) has entered a new phase this season, inviting young curators with various regional backgrounds to take part. I hope TCN could continue as a pioneering project to explore a new curatorship in the art of textiles.'

Please visit this [link](#) to download high resolution photos and refer to this [link](#) for the announcement from CIMAM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

About CHAT

CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile) is an art centre located at The Mills, the former cotton-spinning mills of Nan Fung Textiles in Tsuen Wan. Through its multifaceted curated programmes, which include exhibitions and co-learning programmes, CHAT aims to be an art centre that weaves creative experiences for all, inviting visitors to experience the spirit of the innovative legacy of Hong Kong's textile industry and engage in new dialogues and inspirational journeys that interweave contemporary art, design and heritage.

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APPENDIX 1: About CIMAM

CIMAM, or the International Committee for Museums and Collections of Modern Art, is an affiliated organisation of the International Council of Museums. Founded in 1962, CIMAM is a global network of modern and contemporary art museum practitioners and professionals, with the goal to promote knowledge and exchange, raise awareness and respond to contemporary concerns in the context of museums.

In 2020, CIMAM opened nomination for institutions with Outstanding Museum Practices in order to recognise the efforts of museums in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The selection criteria of the museum practices included boldness, creativity, specificity and responsiveness to context. The Winner and Special Mentions of the Outstanding Museum Practices Award were announced on the occasion of the 53rd edition of the CIMAM Annual Conference.



APPENDIX 2: About the Institutions

Central Museum of Textiles in Łódź, Poland

The Central Museum of Textiles in Łódź presents textiles in a broad spectrum of meanings and ideas. It combines the rich history of Łódź textile industry with the artistic vision of twentieth-century artists who propagated textile art in the world.

The museum runs exhibitions, educational activities and interdisciplinary research projects. It has an impressive collections of textile art, fashion, and objects related to the history of textile industry. Since 1972, CMT has been organizing the International Triennial of Tapestry.

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CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile) in Hong Kong, China

CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile) is a part of the heritage conservation project of The Mills, the former cotton-spinning mills of Nan Fung Textiles in Tsuen Wan. Through its multifaceted curated programmes, which include exhibitions and co-learning programmes, CHAT aims to be an art centre that weaves creative experiences for all, inviting visitors to experience the spirit of the innovative legacy of Hong Kong's textile industry and engage in new dialogues and inspirational journeys that interweave contemporary art, design and heritage.

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Lottozero in Prato, Italy

Lottozero is a centre for textile design, art and culture, with an open laboratory for textile experimentation, a shared studio space and an exhibition area.

Based in Prato (Italy), one of the most important textile districts in Europe, Lottozero operates both as a creative hub and design studio. Its mission is to create a fertile environment for textile research and experimentation in design and art, and an international base for networking in the textile sector.

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TextielMuseum in Tilburg, The Netherlands

In the TextielMuseum in the Netherlands you will get to know everything about textiles in the field of design, art, fashion, industrial heritage and innovation. The museum is located in a former textile factory and offers an unique combination of inspiring exhibitions, educational programmes and the TextielLab, which is specialised in textile research and production. In the TextielLab internationally renowned artist, designers and architects develop innovative textile projects that find their ways in exhibitions, public buildings and catwalks worldwide.

Web: www.textielmuseum.nl

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