9 March 2022 (Updated)

Press Release

CHAT launches Spring Programme 2022
Spinning East Asia Series II: A Net (Dis)entangled
Explore the Social Development of East Asia Through Contemporary Art

(Hong Kong 9 March, 2022) Following the success of last year’s Spinning East Asia Series I: A Compass in Hand exhibition, CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile) presents the second chapter of the series Spinning East Asia Series II: A Net (Dis)entangled on 2 April 2022 (online opening). The exhibition will invite the public to experience the diverse spectrum of history and culture of East Asia through collections of contemporary art produced by 16 prominent artists and artist groups from the East Asia region.

More than 90% of artworks are newly commissioned for this exhibition. Participating artists and artist groups include Cha Seungean (Seoul), Chen Yiyun (Shanghai), Chu Chun-Teng (Taipei), Ho Rui An (Singapore), Kamata Yusuke (Fukuoka), Suki Seokyeong Kang (Seoul), Kato Tsubasa (Tokyo), Lee Kai Chung (Hong Kong) and Isaji Yugo (Tokyo), Li Qingyue (Shanghai), Man Mei To (Hong Kong), Park Jeehee (Seoul), Wang Bo (Amsterdam), Wang Ya-Hui (Taipei), Wang Yiquan (Shanghai), Yamauchi Terue (Fukuoka) and Jeon Gisun/Matsuda Motoyoshi (Fukuoka and Tsushima) and Luka Yuanyuan Yang (Beijing).
Textile as Metaphor in Examining East Asian History

**A Net (Dis)entangled** uses textile as a unifying thread that runs through every work, highlighting its cultural significance that informed artists' ways of thinking and forms of presentation. Curator Wang Weiwei adopts the simultaneous actions of entangling and disentangling yarns as a metaphor to explore and reimagine the notion of East Asia.

At its core, East Asia is a fluid structure influenced by and dependent on a multiplicity of unique individual existences. The exhibition casts a creatively critical eye on East Asian history, with works like Lee Kai Chung and Isaji Yugo's research-based work *The Shadow Lands Yonder* on 'Manchuria' at the start of the twentieth century; and the video installation *Eel* by Chu Chun-Teng, which examines Shezi Island in Taipei.

Collectively, the artists scrutinise the geographical spaces, industries and social phenomena that have shaped the political, economic and cultural outlooks of the region. Acting as 'weavers' of a complex and intricate web, the participating artists engage in varying levels of individual or collective practice-led research, creative collaborations, or dialogue through the display of their works to consider the region's shared influences and struggles.

**Individual vs Collective Forces: The Transformation of the Self and Integration**

For many artists, the dynamics of individual and collective forces has long been a topic of interest. This season, CHAT will be a platform for cross-disciplinary collaborations to take place.

Performance artist Kato Tsubasa will collaborate with the local band The Interzone Collective to deliver *The Day to Break the Silence*, a special musical presentation to interpret the relationships between self-identity, power and collective action. Inspired by traditional Korean musical notation system *jeongganbo*, Suki Seokyeong Kang codesigned 13 textiles pieces titled *Mat Black Mat — Acts — cccktps* with students from C. C. C. Kei Tsun Primary School through a series of workshops. Ho Rui An, CHAT's 2021 Artist-in-Residence, interweaves interviews with former factory workers for his video work *Lining*. In the process, he delves into the history of Hong Kong's textile industry and records the interplay between individuals and a 'collective' history.

To expand on the various themes of this ambitious exhibition, an online Discussion Forum will be held in mid-May 2022, inviting academics from various fields to add to the conversations surrounding the exhibited works. CHAT invites Dr Pan Lu from Hong Kong Polytechnic University to host a series of keynote seminars and panel discussions on the history, geographical boundaries and research of, as well as interdisciplinary collaborations across, East Asia. The forum will be conduct via Zoom and more details will be released in March.

Throughout the season, a range of programmes, from performances, artist talks and workshops responding to the exhibition’s thematic concerns will be conducted on-site and online. Arrangements are subject to social distancing regulations and will be updated via CHAT’s various channels.
Curator Wang Weiwei says, ‘I hope that art’s intervention and interpretations of complexities presented in this exhibition will enable us to approach humanised individual experiences and grand perspectives to consider: When pre-existing theories and concepts can no longer help us effectively comprehend the contradictions, differences and uncertainties experienced amidst rapid changes, how can we establish a model of interaction with others to displace our fears and anxieties?’

Takahashi Mizuki, Executive Director and Chief Curator of CHAT, says, ‘We are thrilled to arrive at the second chapter of the Spinning East Asia series. The featured artists have devoted themselves with enthusiasm while maintaining critical thinking and a truth-seeking spirit to deconstruct the complex and diverse region of East Asia. We sincerely hope that the public can find inspiration while experiencing these profound works, and ponder upon the questions that may arise.’
Exhibition Details:

Title: Spinning East Asia Series II: A Net (Dis)entangled
Date: 2 April – 7 August 2022
Opens Online: 2 April
Onsite Exhibition*: 23 April – 7 August 2022 (Tentative)
Opening Hours: 11:00am-7:00pm (Closed on Tuesdays)
Venue: CHAT, The Mills, 45 Pak Tin Par Street, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong

*The opening of the onsite exhibition is subject to the latest social distancing measures. Please visit CHAT’s website for further notice.

Media Preview Details:

Date: 22 April 2022 (Friday)
Time: 2:30-4:00pm (Registration at 2:15pm)
Venue: CHAT, The Mills, 45 Pak Tin Par Street, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong
RSVP: Mandy Chan | mandy@chancecomm.com
      +852 2509 3389

Please visit this link to download high resolution photos.

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.

General Enquiries:
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#APPENDIX 1: CHAT Spring Programme 2022 Schedule

**EVENT DETAILS**

Please refer to CHAT’s website and social media for latest arrangements

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Workshop</strong></td>
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| 10, 24 March, 7, 21 April 2022 | 5:00-7:00pm | Event: Mending and Sashiko Lab  
Venue: Zoom                        
Language: Cantonese and English  
Admission: HK$180, RSVP via mill6chat.org  
Description: Workshop for participants to learn mending with sashiko techniques |
| 12 June 2022 (Sunday) | 3:00-4:15pm | Event: A Sea (Dis)placed: Family Creative Reading Workshop  
Venue: CHAT Lounge  
Language: Cantonese  
Collaborator: Rolling Books  
Admission: HK$120, RSVP via mill6chat.org  
Description: Family workshop combining storytelling with drawing exercises |
| 21 May & 18 June 2022 (Saturday) | 2:00-6:00pm | Event: BUILD_CMYK: Upcycling Workshop  
Venue: CHAT Lab  
Language: Cantonese with informal translation into English  
Admission: HK$680, RSVP via mill6chat.org  
Description: Sewing workshop that upcycles Nagashima Rikako’s artwork SCRAP_CMYK into textile objects of daily use |
| 27 May 2022 (Friday)  | 7:00-8:00pm | Event: Flowers of the Motherland  
Venue: CHAT Lounge  
Language: Cantonese and Putonghua  
Admission: Free, RSVP via mill6chat.org  
Description: Live performance and cross-disciplinary collaboration between artist Wang Yiquan and Hong Kong dance artist Yang Hao. |
| 5 June 2022 (Sunday)  | 3:00-4:30pm | Event: Art Beyond Sight: Audio Description Experience  
Venue: CHAT  
Language: Cantonese  
Collaborator: Audio Description Association (Hong Kong)  
Admission: HK$120, RSVP via mill6chat.org  
Description: Participants to appreciate art with alternative experience through audio description |
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<tr>
<td>Talk</td>
<td>15 June 2022 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>5:30-7:00pm</td>
<td>CHAT with Artist: Ho Rui An&lt;br&gt;Venue: Zoom (Online)&lt;br&gt;Artist: Ho Rui An&lt;br&gt;Collaborator: Zian Chen&lt;br&gt;Language: English with interpretation into Cantonese&lt;br&gt;Admission: Free, RSVP via mill6chat.org&lt;br&gt;Description: Sharing by the artist on his latest commissioned work, <em>Lining</em>, on display</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>3 July 2022 (Sunday)</td>
<td>3:00-4:30pm</td>
<td>Make Your Own Object Puppet: Family Storytelling Workshop&lt;br&gt;Venue: CHAT Lounge&lt;br&gt;Language: Cantonese&lt;br&gt;Collaborator: Free-To-Play&lt;br&gt;Admission: HK$120, RSVP via mill6chat.org&lt;br&gt;Description: Family workshop to create object puppet combined with storytelling</td>
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APPENDIX 2: Featured and Reference Artworks

Luka Yuanyuan Yang, *Squares* (from the *Dalian Mirage* series), 2017-19
Image courtesy: Luka Yuanyuan Yang and AIKE, Shanghai

Li Qingyue, *Aura ○ 1*, 2021
Image courtesy: Li Qingyue

(Reference artwork only)
Cha Seungean, *TwillStainH-1,2,3 and TwillStainH-5,7,6,9*, 2019
Image courtesy: Cha Seungean
(Reference artwork only)
Image courtesy: Kato Tsubasa

Lee Kai Chung and Isaji Yugo, *The Shadow Lands Yonder*, 2021 (Video still)
Image courtesy: Lee Kai Chung and Isaji Yugo