



October 20, 2017
Hong Kong
For immediate release

Spring Workshop announces final cycle of activities for *A Collective Present*
(October–November 2017)

October

Spring Workshop is delighted to announce from October 14 onwards a special exhibition called *Sailing Through the Ha Bik Chuen Archive* created by art critic and curator John Batten.

The background of this exhibition at Spring starts in 2014 when we hosted a digitizing station for Asia Art Archive as they were making intensive efforts to care for Ha Bik Chuen (1925-2009)'s important archive. People visiting Spring found the items in Ha's archive to be a wonder: they came in and leafed through the various articles, magazines, documents for hours, marvelling at the insights Ha's collection revealed. Now AAA has placed the vast archive in a temporary home in Fo Tan that is open to the public for research.

Taking the opportunity to engage once again with Ha's archive, Spring asked Batten to dive into the archive and find treasures to display, including Ha's designs for Christmas cards (accompanied by the journal Ha kept of his thoughts on responses received), blueprints and the marquette for his large public sculpture that still stands in nearby Aberdeen, and Ha's now-infamous collage scrapbooks, all shown alongside memories of Wong Chuk Hang's printing factories.

November

Spring's final exhibition, *A Collective Present*, will assemble the ongoing research of Tiffany Chung and Koki Tanaka, an outcome of their residencies at Spring. Curated by Curator-at-Large Christina Li, the pair of works concentrate on unpacking Hong Kong's recent history from the '60s to the present. As an extension of her ongoing research for the first part of *The Vietnam Exodus Project*, Chung will exhibit archival materials from local and international agencies that excavate personal histories and remap the now-erased spatial narratives of the local Vietnamese refugee community.

Continuing his research on the potential of temporary communities that arise in times of adversity, Tanaka's new work *Precarious Tasks #9: 24hrs Gathering (Timeline)* invited eight participants to Spring to jointly compose a possible

Spring Workshop
3/F Remex Centre
42 Wong Chuk Hang Rd
Aberdeen, Hong Kong

info@springworkshop.org
www.springworkshop.org
t + 852 21104370
f + 852 21104372

Spring 工作室
香港香港仔黃竹坑道42號
利美中心3樓

timeline of Hong Kong's social movements starting from the '60s in a 24-hour session in August. The resulting documentation interweaves their personal stories with a timeline of significant events in Hong Kong history. On show will be threads extracted by Tanaka from the session which (re)imagines a collective memory and narrative of the city.

As a moment of reflection and transformation, *A Collective Present* puts on public view two overlapping temporalities to give an account of Hong Kong's otherwise disappearing and overlooked past. As Spring moves toward its planned hiatus that begins at the end of this year, Chung and Tanaka's manifestations on humanity offer insights on how we might be able to situate ourselves as individuals and as a society in these tumultuous times.

PROGRAM DATES

Saturday, November 4, 2017

2.30pm to 3.30pm

Artist sharing with Tiffany Chung and Koki Tanaka

2.30pm to 6pm

A Collective Present

Opening

5pm to 5.30pm*

Music performance by anarchs-musician Lenny Guo

Sunday, November 5, 2017

11am to 1pm*

Roundtable discussion with human rights lawyers and former refugees Moderated by Tiffany Chung

Exhibition visiting hours

John Batten: *Sailing Through the Ha Bik Chuen Archive**

Tiffany Chung and Koki Tanaka: *A Collective Present*

November 4 – December 10, 2017

Tuesday to Sunday 12pm – 6pm

*special opening hours of John Batten: *Sailing Through the Ha Bik Chuen Archive*

Now – November 2, 2017

Tuesday to Friday 12pm – 6pm

Please RSVP at rsvp@springworkshop.org listing the event title in the subject line.

Spring Workshop
3/F Remex Centre
42 Wong Chuk Hang Rd
Aberdeen, Hong Kong

info@springworkshop.org
www.springworkshop.org
t + 852 21104370
f + 852 21104372

Spring 工作室
香港香港仔黃竹坑道42號
利美中心3樓

*All program dates and time are subject to change. Check our website www.springworkshop.org for updates. Please note the adjusted visiting hours for this presentation.

PRESS LUNCHEON

with artists Tiffany Chung and Koki Tanaka and curator John Batten

Friday, November 3, 2017

12.30pm – 2.00pm

Please kindly RSVP to jessica.kong@springworkshop.org

Spring Workshop

3/F Remex Centre

42 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Aberdeen

Hong Kong

Media Enquiries

Jessica Kong, Programs and Communications Manager

T +852 2110 4370

M +852 9703 8689

E jessica.kong@springworkshop.org

Mimi Brown (Founder and Director of Spring Workshop), Christina Li (Curator-at-Large), artists Tiffany Chung, Koki Tanaka and curator John Batten are available for interviews by request. Please contact us for more information.

ABOUT JOHN BATTEN

John Batten is an active member of Hong Kong's art community as an art critic, curator and public commentator on art, culture, heritage and urban planning issues. He is a regular contributor to the South China Morning Post, Ming Pao Weekly and on television and radio. He is Organiser of the annual charity art event, Hong Kong ArtWalk, Convenor of the Heritage and Urban Planning Advocacy Group, the Central & Western Concern Group and President of the International Association of Art Critics-Hong Kong.

ABOUT TIFFANY CHUNG

Tiffany Chung is internationally noted for her exquisite cartographic drawings and installations that examine conflict, migration, displacement, urban progress and transformation in relation to history and cultural memory. Her ongoing comparative study of forced migration through the current Syrian humanitarian crisis and the post-1975 Vietnamese mass exodus unpacks asylum policies and refugee experiences, providing insights into the constant shifts in international asylum policy making.

Selected museum exhibitions and biennials

include: *Insecurities: Tracing Displacement and Shelter*, MoMA, New York, USA; *IMPERMANENCIA Mutable Art in a*

Spring Workshop
3/F Remex Centre
42 Wong Chuk Hang Rd
Aberdeen, Hong Kong

info@springworkshop.org
www.springworkshop.org
t + 852 21104370
f + 852 21104372

Spring 工作室
香港香港仔黃竹坑道42號
利美中心3樓

Materialist Society, XIII Bienal de Cuenca, Ecuador; *10th Taipei Biennial*, Taiwan; *Still (The) Barbarians*, EVA International – Ireland’s Biennial; *Illumination*, Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Denmark; *Sonsbeek*, Museum Arnhem, Netherlands; *All The World’s Futures*, 56th Venice Biennale, Italy; *Our Land/Alien Territory*, Museum & Exhibition Center ‘Manege’, Moscow, Russia; *My Voice Would Reach You*, Rice University & Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA; *Residual: Disrupted Choreographies*, Carré d’Art – Musée d’Art Contemporain, Nîmes, France; Sharjah Biennial, UAE; California Pacific Triennial, Newport Beach, USA; 7th Asia Pacific Triennial, Brisbane, Australia; and *Six Lines of Flight*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, USA.

ABOUT KOKI TANAKA

Koki Tanaka (b. 1975) born in Tochigi, lives and works in Kyoto, Japan. His works have been exhibited worldwide at venues including the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven; ICA, London; Skulpturen Projekte Münster 2017; Liverpool Biennale 2016, Taipei Biennale 2006, the Gwangju Biennale 2008. He achieved greater prominence in Europe following his exhibition at the Japanese pavilion and its special mention at the 55th Venice Biennale. In 2015 he was named Artist of the Year by Deutsche Bank.

ABOUT SPRING WORKSHOP

Spring Workshop is a 5-year cultural initiative that brings people together to experiment with the way we relate to art. Committed to an international cross-disciplinary program of artist and curatorial residencies, exhibitions, music, film and talks, Spring serves as a platform and laboratory for exchange between the vibrant artists, organizations and audiences that define Hong Kong’s rich cultural landscape and the emerging and established artists, organizations and audiences around the world that seek to engage far-reaching dialogue. Since opening its space in Wong Chuk Hang in 2011, Spring has welcomed over 19,000 audience members to its 185 programs and events featuring close to 200 artists, residents and collaborators. In 2016, Spring Workshop received the Prudential Eye Award for Best Asian Contemporary Art Organization.

Spring Workshop
3/F Remex Centre
42 Wong Chuk Hang Rd
Aberdeen, Hong Kong

info@springworkshop.org
www.springworkshop.org
t + 852 21104370
f + 852 21104372

Spring 工作室
香港香港仔黃竹坑道42號
利美中心3樓