



Hong Kong's Spring Workshop Appoints Christina Li as Director

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For immediate release

Spring Workshop is pleased to announce Christina Li as new Director/Curator. She begins her role in August 2015 after ten years as an independent curator and writer in Hong Kong and the Netherlands.

Mimi Brown, Founder of Spring Workshop, says: "I am delighted to welcome Christina Li back to our city this year to experiment with the possibilities of what Spring's arts initiative can be. She is a wonderful curatorial talent who is not only internationally engaged, but also deeply rooted in her hometown of Hong Kong."

During her one-year tenure at Spring Workshop, Christina will present a program based on an exploration of the boundaries of support and hospitality, ideas that comprise a key part of Spring's vision.

"Since its inception, I have been impressed with Spring's program, open character, and willingness to take risks with the possibilities of what an arts organization can be," says Li. "I aim to build on Spring's commitment to supporting and creating spaces for artistic process and new conversations. Spring's extraordinary vision and pluralistic program have been terrific examples of how an art space and residency can take shape within an intimate setting, and I am excited to experiment further."

Her upcoming fall program *Des hôtes: a foreigner, a human, an unexpected visitor* draws attention to the roles of host and guest. Over a three-month period, Spring will present artist-devised tours, chocolate-readings, hypnosis sessions, and zoological lectures within the exhibition space. The exhibition and events feature international artists Milena Bonilla, Kasper Bosmans, Toshie Takeuchi, Luisa Ungar and others, and will create a web of relations that magnify the nuances and politics mired in hospitality.

In the past two years at Spring Workshop, Christina Li initiated and launched with co-editor Heman Chong the annual publication project *Stationary*; co-curated with Lee Ambrozy, Amira Gad, and Xiaoyu Weng the *Stories and Situations* conference (2013) in the two-year *Moderation(s)* project in partnership with the Witte de With; wrote for *Moderation(s)* both as Witness and as a contributor

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

to *A Fictional Residency* (2013); and curated the group exhibition *Days push off into nights* (2015) featuring artists including Moyra Davey, Elmgreen & Dragset, Cevdet Ereke, Lee Kit, Job Koelewijn, Jewyo Rhii, and Magdalen Wong.

Li says: "Spring has been pushing the boundaries of how art and culture can be nurtured, while presenting a way for the public to interact with this process. I look forward to joining Spring's wonderful team."

Brown says: "We want to bring people together to experiment with the way we relate to art. As the Spring family grows into a global network of artists, art lovers, curators, art newbies, writers, dancers, musicians, theatre makers, farmers, film makers, and architects coming through our doors, I can imagine no one more ideal than Christina Li to lead the ongoing adventure at Spring."

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MEDIA ENQUIRES

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

Jessica Kong
T +852 2110 4370
M +852 9703 8689
E Jessica.kong@springworkshop.org

ABOUT SPRING WORKSHOP (www.springworkshop.org)

Spring Workshop is a 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 in far-reaching dialogue. Since opening its space in Wong Chuk Hang in 2011, Spring has welcomed over 8,000 audience members to its 184 programs and events featuring 160 artists, residents and collaborators.

ABOUT CHRISTINA LI

Christina Li graduated from the University of Hong Kong with a degree in Fine Arts (Art History) and Comparative Literature, and completed de Appel Curatorial Programme in 2009. She was involved with the research and project management of the international contemporary art and

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research project *FORMER WEST* between 2011-2012 and was the co-curator for the *3rd FORMER WEST Research Congress, Part One: Beyond What Was Contemporary Art* in Vienna (2012). Li was part of the editorial team of SKOR's debut public program: *Actors, Agents and Attendants: Speculations on the Cultural Organisation of Civility* (2010) and curating the accompanying artist projects and film program. At Spring Workshop, Li has been involved as Witness for *Moderation(s)* (2012-2014) and co-curator of its symposium *Stories and Situations* organized in partnership with Witte de With. Also at Spring, she launched *Stationary*, an annual collection of short stories, with Heman Chong, and curated *Days push off into nights* (2015). Her other curatorial projects include: *The Goethe-Institut's Pyongyang Reading Room: Between Object and Shadow*, Goethe-Institut Amsterdam, 2013; *A Map of Misreading*, TENT, Rotterdam, 2012; *Icarus 13: Cinematic Narratives from Elsewhere*, BAK, Utrecht, 2011; *Prologue – Speculations on the Cultural Organisation of Civility*, SKOR and various locations, Amsterdam, 2010; *Not Yesterday, Not Tomorrow*, Cable Factory, Helsinki, 2009; and *Weak Signals, Wild Cards*, De Appel, Amsterdam, 2009. As a writer, she has contributed to catalogues and publications such as *Yishu Journal of Contemporary Art*, *LEAP*, and *Art Forum*.

She previously worked as a curator of Para/Site Art Space (Hong Kong) between 2005-2008, and was the assistant curator of *Making (Perfect) World: Harbour, Hong Kong, Alienated Cities and Dreams*, the Hong Kong Participation of the 53rd Venice Biennale.

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