

Contemporary by Angela Li
Cheung Tsz Hin Solo Exhibition:
spinelessly planting

Preview: 5-8 pm, Thur 12 May 2022

G/F, 248 Hollywood Road, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong



[Hong Kong, May 2022] Contemporary by Angela Li is proud to present *spinelessly planting*, the solo exhibition of the young Hong Kong artist Cheung Tsz Hin, bringing forth his latest works after moving his studio from Yuen Long to Fo Tan. Such traces of transition are evidenced in his ways of composition and depicting light and shadow. **The intuitive and spontaneous painting process is distilled into a prism of sentiments and uncovered in Cheung's oeuvre, unfolding his fond remembrance of specific occasions of time, space, people and scent.** What remains unchanged is his observation and depiction of the blossoming and withering of plants. Their transient lives remind the artist of the passage of time and the significance of being and how he comprehends the life spinelessly. The exhibition opening will be held **on 12th May 2022 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.** and will remain on view till **25th June 2022**. The artist will be present at the opening.

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“Time slips away in a blink of an eye. At times, I take breaks and reflect on my life. Looking back over these days when I indulged painstakingly in painting, I found the process of painting and planting very alike.”

Cheung Tsz Hin



too heavy to fall, oil on canvas, 120 x 150 cm, 2022

The stone, trees, spaces, wild animals, to the pulse of all life, entail the peculiar beauty of northern peripheral New Territories where artist Cheung Tsz Hin grew up. From his childhood home in Sandy Ridge, granny’s home in Ta Kwu Ling and the village studio in Yuen Long, the lush greeneries, bustling with abundant lives, nourished Cheung’s growth and bore witness to his happenings, hence becoming the subject that he relentlessly studies and draws inspiration from. Studying the vegetation around him in detail and taking care of the potted plants in his studio, are moments of respite for Cheung from his daily life. The blossoming and withering of plants and their transient lives remind the artist of the passage of time and the significance of being. The planting process also made Cheung realise the endeavour and the harvest may not be proportionate. Whether the meticulous care and painstaking nourishment will bear fruit or not, depends on if there is sufficient sunlight and air. Similarly, the light and space also play an important role in Cheung’s painting process. The tremendous effort once paid weaves into heavy emotional ties then Cheung fails to visualise his mindscape, a challenge that Cheung can only spinelessly accept.

The flickers of dusk, the cool tones in the garden and the untraced, vast convergence of light invade blatantly into Cheung’s canvases, all inextricable with the relocation of his studio from Yuen Long to Fo Tan. The departure from where he resided for six years did not alter his way of perception that much. However, traces of transition from the countryside to the urban are evident in his works, his depiction of light is also becoming steadier and more explicit. The natural sunlight embracing the dilapidated room on the rooftop is replaced with solemn staged lights; in addition, thin layers of pale pigments transformed into compact and relatively vivid colour patches. The enlargement of personal space in the new studio also changed his way of composition from balancing different elements into planning the entire canvas as a single element. Hence, an intuitive spontaneity, which is eventually distilled into a prism of sentiments, is uncovered in Cheung’s compositions. The bedazzling radiance reminds him of the definite relationship between light and shadow – in the darkest shades, Cheung connects with the black void deep within him. His anxiety towards humanity and the quotidian, lurks within the light in his works.

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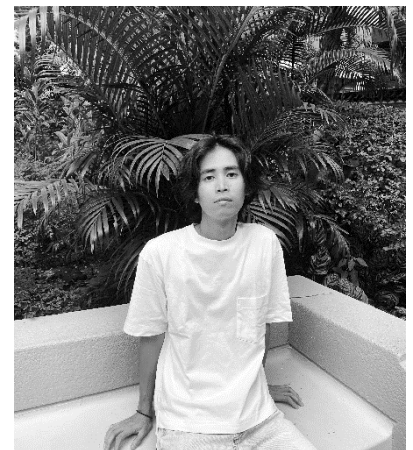
Vegetation and light set the tone and temperature of Cheung Tsz Hin's art. The artist sources his subject matter from everyday life, but he is not confined or limited by the physical environment. By intrinsic improvisation, Cheung outpours the fragments of old memories from his mind onto his canvases – the vibrant representations in his oeuvre reflect his fond remembrance of specific occasions of time, space, people and scent. His seemingly endless irregular lines and repeatedly painted colour patches witness his indignation towards a claimed “spinelessness”, but also cure his vexation and restore peace within his heart. Though painting might not be able to provide solutions to the challenges of life, one could choose to paint incessantly - by sowing seeds that enfold hope on the canvases, life is perhaps, ploughed in goodwill.

Chloe Chow

April 2022

About the artist

Cheung Tsz Hin (b. 1987, Hong Kong) obtained a Bachelor of Integrated BBA (minor in Fine Arts) from the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2010, and a Master of Fine Arts in Taipei in 2014. He has held solo and group exhibitions in Hong Kong, Taiwan and Iceland. He participated in the artist residency program organised by Listhus SES in Iceland in 2018.



NOTES TO EDITORS:

Exhibition: *spinelessly planting*

Artist: Cheung Tsz Hin

Preview: 5 – 8 pm, Thur 12th May 2022

Duration: 12th May – 25th June 2022

Contemporary by Angela Li

Contemporary by Angela Li is dedicated to the promotion of contemporary and avant-garde artists from China, Hong Kong and worldwide. Since its establishment in 2008, the gallery has gained considerable attention and has become one of Hong Kong's top galleries for contemporary art.

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Opening Hours : Mon – Sat 10:00 am – 6:30 pm
Sun & Public Holidays Closed

