K11 Art Foundation Presents

Enfant

A Solo Exhibition of Hong Kong Artist Cheng Ting Ting
Exploring the Expectations Placed on Children in Contemporary Society

HONG KONG - 26 May 2017 – The K11 Art Foundation (KAF) is proud to present Enfant, a solo exhibition of local artist Cheng Ting Ting, which continues the artist’s ongoing exploration of quotidian life in the city. Derived from her experiences as a children’s art instructor, she reflects on the prevalent attitudes towards education and creativity in Hong Kong. One of the few female local artists who uses paint as her primary medium, the exhibition also showcases a new body of work, including projections, intaglio prints, and an art book, alongside her celebrated oil on canvas works. Concurrently, a performative element will be presented, where the artist will create a set of paintings on-site. Curated by André Chan, Enfant will be presented at chi art space, Central from 28 June – 4 August 2017.
Enfante is anchored in Cheng’s reactions and responses to her experience as a youth art instructor in Hong Kong. Her dynamic canvases depict brightly coloured scenes of children creating, learning and playing. Rendered in neon and pastel greens, pinks, magentas and cheery blues, her subjects appear engaged and excited in the learning process. However the bright colours belie an ongoing social debate, about attitudes towards learning, and the expectations placed on children from a young age.

In her dual role as an art educator and artist, Cheng has observed in her students a willingness to learn and experiment. It fascinated her that, even when her pupils were presented with the same set of learning objectives, the outcomes were visually diverse. Some children would fulfill the instructions and excel with ease, whilst others required further guidance or chose to completely disregard instruction. This very disparity was a vantage point for society to scrutinise and compare each child. Embracing this diversity, Cheng seeks to find the beauty and wonderment in the naiveté as well as differences that set each of her students apart.

Primarily a painter, Cheng has made a breakthrough, and is presenting works across mediums, including projections and prints. In her art book, Cheng amasses and collects rare works created by her young self, referencing a stamp collection book format, the assemblage is a reflection of her own artistic journey. Concurrently, during the exhibition, Cheng will create a work in-situ, over a three week period she will paint on-site, allowing audiences to view her practice, whilst closing the distance between the artist’s studio practice and exhibition framework.

Extending from her classroom observations, Cheng reflects on her personal experiences growing up in the urban context, where memories of hazy fun are lost in a narrative of a hurried childhood. Enfante invites the audience to stop and reflect on their own values, beliefs and aspirations for the next generation.

Enfante
Media Preview: Tuesday, 27 June, 2017 at 4:30PM
Exhibition Dates: 28 June – 4 August, 2017
Opening hours: 10am-7pm Monday to Sunday; opens daily
Venue: chi art space, 8/F, New World Tower 2, 18 Queen’s Road Central, Central, Hong Kong

Cheng Ting Ting will paint on-site for the first 3 weeks of the exhibition period. In partnership with Duddell’s, a series of public programmes will be organized including artist talk and a joint exhibition guided tour by curators André Chan and Leo Chen. Further details to be announced in June.

*Cheng Ting Ting and André Chan are available for interviews by request.*

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About Cheng Ting Ting
Cheng Ting Ting lives and works in Hong Kong. Recognised for her painting and drawing works, she is fascinated by the unique ambience rooted in daily scenery. She recreates narratives from the everyday and brings the insignificant and the mundane to the fore in her works.

Cheng received the AVA Award from Hong Kong Baptist University and won the Red Elation Award in 2013. Her past exhibitions include Fall In Fall Out (Gallery EXIT), The Imaginary Order (Gallery EXIT), The Pendulant Mass (Galerie OVO), → (Blindspot Gallery), Imagine There’s No Country, Above Us Only Our Cities (Para Site), and Open Close Quotation (Wan Fung Art Gallery).

About André CHAN
André Chan got his qualifications in Curatorial Studies in London and East Asian Studies in Toronto. He worked at a number of international galleries and produced exhibitions around the world before becoming an independent curator and writer. Chan has curated exhibitions and performances in Vancouver and various cities across the Asia-Pacific region, including the solo exhibition of Doreen Chan, I Like Blue When There is More White in Kigoja, Korea, 2017, At Wit's End in Asia Art Center, Gwanju, Korea, 2016, Microwave International New Media Arts Festival 2016, These Shores in Rossi & Rossi, Hong Kong, China 2013 and The World of Luis Chan in Shanghai Art Museum, China, 2012.

About the K11 Art Foundation
Founded by Adrian Cheng in 2010, the K11 Art Foundation (KAF) is a registered not-for-profit organisation that promotes the development of the contemporary art scene in Greater China by providing support for emerging Chinese artists and taking them to the international stage. Not only does KAF nurture artistic talents, but it also serves as an incubator for professional practices of promising young curators.

KAF has forged partnerships with many prestigious art institutions for regional and international art projects. It has collaborated with, for example, Fundació Gala-Salvador Dalí in Spain; Serpentine Galleries and Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA) in London; Centre Pompidou, Palais de Tokyo, and Musée Marmottan Monet in Paris; and The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Armory Show, New Museum, The Museum of Modern Art, and MoMA PS1 in New York. Works of Chinese talents are showcased at exhibitions and on other occasions in Asia and other parts of the world.

The artist-in-residence programme held at the K11 art village in Wuhan, China – which has proven itself a dedicated platform for studio practices, exchanges, and connections since its establishment in 2011 – is another important undertaking of the Foundation that fulfils its mission. In order to provide guest artists from Greater China and around the globe with more resources and facilities, the village will be relocated to the first K11 Art Mall in the city in November 2017. Equipped with eight studios, exhibition spaces, and multifunction rooms for activities, it promises to, as always, spare no effort to encourage creative practices and popularise contemporary art.

Through researches, initiatives, and partnerships, KAF offers the general public a wide range of programmes, fostering the appreciation of art and culture. www.K11artfoundation.org