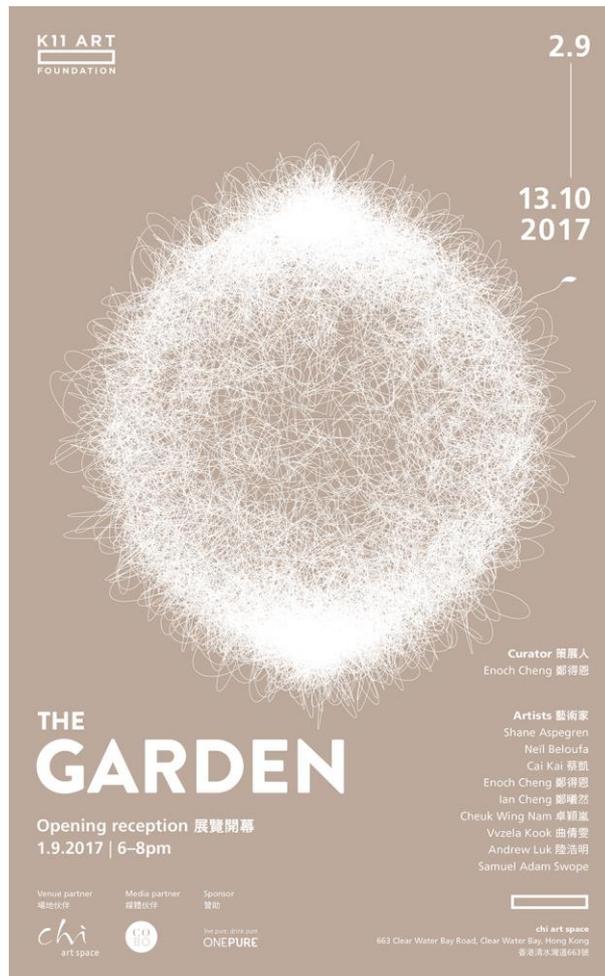




K11 Art Foundation presents

*The Garden*

A group exhibition curated by Enoch Cheng  
Creating a conceptual garden with a dynamic gathering of contemporary art



**HONG KONG - 9 August 2017** – The K11 Art Foundation (KAF) is proud to present *The Garden*, a group exhibition curated by Enoch Cheng. A garden is commonly conceived of as a space to display, cultivate, study and enjoy nature. Expanding upon this concept, the exhibition replaces flora and fauna found in the natural world with contemporary art pieces to create a multisensory ‘art garden’. *The Garden* features works by 9 artists, including new, commissioned pieces by 6 Hong Kong-based artists, namely Shane Aspegren, Enoch Cheng, Cheuk Wing Nam, Vvzela Kook, Andrew Luk and Samuel Adam Swope, alongside works by Neil Beloufa, Cai Kai and Ian Cheng. Presented at chi art space in Clear Water Bay, the exhibition runs from 2 September to 13 October 2017.

A glasshouse is an attempt by man to re-create and examine nature under controlled conditions, allowing man to view nature as if it is frozen in time. An exhibition in a gallery concerns a similar modality – the viewer can see artworks in a specific environment, as if time stands still. *The Garden* is an exhibition like a garden in a glasshouse, but without plants; it encompasses installations and other time-based works of art made up of sound, video, performances and sculptures. These works reimagine contingencies that form the essence of natural life, such as air currents, temperature changes and our physical sensations. Strolling around the exhibition space, the audience will observe a space in celebration of motions in an environment that meets our anticipation.

Employing new art-making techniques and technologies, the featured artworks take their inspirations from various aspects of nature and provide a multi-sensory exhibition experience. KAF has commissioned 6 Hong Kong-based artists to create new works that examine the concept of nature. Samuel Adam Swope employs 'aerial art' to set the stage, almost like accidental scenery, where paper maple seeds fly and settle with the wind and the change of light. Vvzela Kook continues her computer-generated-image (CGI) practice to contour future plants in formation. Andrew Luk takes found objects, including post-typhoon discarded debris, such as air-con covers, to build an environment in which one can scrutinise details of growth in nature. Cheuk Wing Nam animates her sound-infused installation with stones to enhance the sensation of life and death in the universe. Shane Aspegren responds to the specific condition of chi art space by merging the sounds of dehumidifiers with the rhythmic beats that occur in nature. Enoch Cheng choreographs a durational performance piece with an actor who, stationed at the site, shifts between roles as a security guard, a gardener and organisms of nature. *The Garden* also features a sculpture from Neïl Beloufa's *Scaffolding Series* as well as an augmented reality simulation from Ian Cheng's *Emissary Forks for You* to emphasise human's relationship with nature in the contemporary context. Cai Kai, a former resident artist of the K11 art village in Wuhan, presents a video examining the eternity of the sun and embodying the vitality of life on earth.

*The Garden* transforms chi art space into a glasshouse. Lingering in the 'garden' and experiencing the artworks against the idyllic backdrop of Clear Water Bay, the audience is invited to momentarily forget about the secular world and to re-discover nature.

### ***The Garden***

**Media Preview:** Friday, 1 September 2017 at 3PM

**Exhibition Dates:** 2 September – 13 October 2017

**Opening Hours:** 10:00 – 18:00 daily

**Venue:** chi art space, 663 Clear Water Bay Road, Clear Water Bay, Hong Kong

*\*Curator Enoch Cheng and some of the participating artists are available for interviews by request.*

For high-resolution images and more information please contact: **CdD**

Daphne Lo: [+852 9266 7039](tel:+85292667039) | [daphne@cdd.com.hk](mailto:daphne@cdd.com.hk)

Johanna Lou: [+852 5421 1361](tel:+85254211361) | [johanna@cdd.com.hk](mailto:johanna@cdd.com.hk)

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **About Enoch Cheng**

Enoch Cheng is an artist, independent curator, director, performer, writer, and founder of art collective Interlocutor. His practice spans moving image, installation,

curating, dance, events, theatre and performance. Concerned with the everyday subtleties in contemporary urban lives, his works explore recurrent themes of place, travel, fiction, memory, time and destination. He received his MA in Creative Writing at Goldsmiths, London, and BA in English Literature and Art History at the University of Hong Kong; he has also lectured at Hong Kong Art School. He is the recipient of Award for Young Artist at Hong Kong Arts Development Awards. He is currently an artist fellow at Akademie Schloss Solitude in Stuttgart, Germany.

### **About Shane Aspegren**

Shane Aspegren is Hong Kong-based artist, musician, and producer. His projects span music, video, performance, and installation, often exploring ideas through a dichotomous approach, using both obsessively-fixed and improvised or temporal elements. Apart from engaging in soundtrack production and sound design for film, art, ad and theatre, he has made dozens of studio records and toured the world with his own projects and with other artists. His current music projects include the psychedelic pop band Blood Wine or Honey, the solo project Pando's People, the Berg-reincarnated Ça Va Chéri, electronic duo Plot Points and a free-improv duo with dj sniff.

### **About Neïl Beloufa**

French-Algerian artist Neïl Beloufa received his Visual Arts National Diploma at École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Paris, in 2007; he later studied at Cooper Union, New York, and California Institute of the Arts, Valencia. Beloufa's work has been featured in numerous international solo and group exhibitions at art places including Pejman Foundation, Tehran (2017); MoMA, New York (2016); and Institute of Contemporary Arts, London (2014). His upcoming solo show *Part of the Problem* will be held at Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2018), and there will be another solo at Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt, Frankfurt. His installations reveal complex architectural structures, handcrafted with cheap and easily available materials; everyday objects such as fans, plants, and speakers are carefully assembled into larger forms that seem to be haphazardly presented or arbitrarily constructed. Beloufa is also a keen filmmaker. Often combined with video projection, his sculptures constitute, with moving images and sounds, viewing spaces that evoke cinematic experiences.

### **About Cai Kai**

Wuhan-based artist Cai Kai received his bachelor's degree from Hubei Institute of Fine Arts. His earlier works focus on surveying urban public spaces with his body and actions, forcibly restricting his intent to what he perceives as 'normal rationality'. His recent creations, usually executed indoors, tend to have an abstract touch and seek to find the essence of everyday experience through the seemingly unmanageable materials used. Cai was a resident artist of the K11 art village in Wuhan from 2015 to 2016. He founded the independent group 'network-party' in 2016.

### **About Ian Cheng**

Ian Cheng was born in Los Angeles and now lives and works in New York. Recent solo exhibitions include: *EMISSARY FORKS featuring THOUSAND ISLANDS* at Espace Louis Vuitton München (2017); *EMISSARIES* at MoMA PS1, New York (2017); and *Forking at Perfection* at Migros Museum, Zurich (2016). Recent group exhibitions include: *Yokohama Triennale 2017* at Yokohama Museum of Art, Yokohama (2017); *Suspended Animation: Headlong into Digital Space* at Les Abattoirs, Musée FRAC Occitanie, Toulouse (2017); *Generation Loss: 10 Years Julia Stoschek Collection* at Julia Stoschek Collection, Düsseldorf (2017); Shanghai Project Chapter 2 Exhibition *Seeds of Time* at Shanghai Himalayas Museum, Shanghai (2017); *BMW Tate Live Exhibition: Ten Days Six Nights* at Tate Modern,

London (2017); *Dreamlands: Immersive Cinema and Art 1905–2016* at Whitney Museum, New York (2016); *Take Me (I'm Yours)* at Jewish Museum, New York (2016); *Overpop* at Yuz Museum, Shanghai (2016); Liverpool Biennial (2016); *WELT AM DRAHT* at Julia Stoschek Collection, Berlin (2016); *Stranger* at MOCA, Cleveland (2016); and *Suspended Animation* at Hirshhorn Museum, Washington (2016).

### **About Cheuk Wing Nam**

Cheuk Wing Nam is a Hong Kong interdisciplinary artist whose practice involves the mixing of sounds and the use of computer technology and new media. She received her Master's Degree in Visual Arts (Studio Art and Extended Media) from Hong Kong Baptist University, specialising in new media installation and sound sculpture. She is interested in exploring the relationships between light and shadow as well as between sound and space through her artworks and performances. Cheuk is also a member of Floating Projects collective.

### **About Vvzela Kook**

Vvzela Kook is a Hong Kong-based new media artist who mainly works in audio and visual mediums, including performance, theatre, generative video, and drawing. Her audiovisual works combine media with performance; they explore the possibility of coexistence between contemporary performance practices, such as dance and choreography, and computer-generated new media art. Kook's video works reproduce urban cityscapes and convert them into an integrated virtual experience through the use of technologies, guiding viewers through a cybernetic journey. The condensed textures in her works connect with our senses of perception and reintroduce the unexplored potential of video as a medium.

### **About Andrew Luk**

Andrew Luk is a Hong Kong artist whose material-based works of art – including installations, sculptures, and images – investigate how the human civilisation regards itself in relation to nature as they examine human projects and study naturally occurring systems such as entropy, anti-entropy, and preservation. Time, which relates to history, memory, and experience, is utilised as a medium. The values of fictional and factual material histories can be selectively enhanced or reduced through reconfiguration; the difference between the man-made and the natural is therefore eliminated. The aim is to draw connections between entities and discover new narratives. Luk obtained a dual degree in Fine Art and European History from the New England School of Art & Design at Suffolk University in Boston.

### **About Samuel Adam Swope**

Born in Missouri in 1984 and currently based in Hong Kong, Samuel Adam Swope is an artist known for his 'aerial art', through which he invents novel situations. For him, aerial art is a practice that integrates flight or levitation as a means of visual expression and air or gas as a physical medium. He believes that, with innovative techniques and increasing accessibility of contemporary flight technologies, a more radical and spectacular form of aerial art is possible. Swope received his BA in Fine Arts with an emphasis in sculpture from Missouri State University in 2007, and his MFA from School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2014. He is currently a guest lecturer at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

### **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](http://www.K11artfoundation.org)