



Hong Kong Art: Unlikely Friendships

Joyce Hei-ting Wong, Representative, The Ink Society



Art tends to be understood in genres, mediums, movements, and time periods, and the history of Hong Kong art has also been told with the help of such categorizations. Yet, artists did not socialize and exchange ideas in rigid circles. This talk will discuss the artistic networks in 1960s–1990s Hong Kong that crossed genres and mediums with a particular focus on the connection between New Ink painter Irene Chou (1924–2011) and the late “Master of Acrylic” Gaylord Chan (1925–2020). Despite their different backgrounds, upbringing, and varying art practices, these “unlikely friends” learnt from each other, organized exhibitions together, and shared a fruitful bond that sheds new light on how we may understand the development of art in Hong Kong.

Joyce Hei-ting Wong is an independent researcher and curator of East Asian modern and contemporary art. She has most recently curated the retrospective *All the World's a Stage: The Art of Luis Chan* (2022, Hong Kong Arts Centre), and was formerly Curator at Asia Society Hong Kong Center organizing exhibitions including *A World Within: The Art and Inspiration of Irene Chou* (2019); *A Story of Light: Hon Chi-fun* (2019); *Song of Spring: Pan Yu-Lin in Paris* (2018); and *Painting Her Way: The Ink Art of Fang Zhaoling* (2017). She holds a BA in Art History and English Literature from the University of Hong Kong (2015), and an MA in Contemporary Literature, Culture and Theory from King's College London (2021).

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**6:15 pm Talk, in English
followed by Dinner at the Aberdeen Marina Club**

Venue: A private art space in Wong Chuk Hang