

Project Report

Hongkong-Asia Exchange Project – Thailand

Prepared for: Research Committee, HKAS

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A. Project Implementation

With the support of Asian Cultural Council, Hong Kong Art School (HKAS) invited Thai artist – Kamol Phaosavasdi who is renowned as one of the forerunners of Thai media art accompanied with local artist, Olive Leung, who is being a Lecturer / Programme Coordinator (Foundation Diploma in Visual Art) of HKAS, to be the leading artists of the captioned project.

Emotional Metropolis is part of the HKAS Artist-in-Residence Programme 2009 – 2010 supported by Asian Cultural Council. In August 2009; Kamol, Olive and 2 student researchers had visited Guangzhou for researching the people's living of the biggest city in Pearl River Delta and kicked off the project. Kamol had revisited Hong Kong in October 2009 and resided at the School for 6 six weeks to continue the research project with Olive. The whole project consisted of 3 workshops, 1 artist talk and 15-day exhibition. While workshops and other events were open to media arts interested publics aiming at experience sharing of research-based artistic production. Under the framework of researching, making, evaluating & archiving, the events were structured as follows:

Session	Date and Time	No. of People enrolled	Venue
Workshop	2:00pm – 6:00pm 10 / 10 / 2009(Sat)	12	Mac Lab, 2/F., Hong Kong Art School Shau Kei Wan Campus (8 Tam Kung Temple Road, Shau Kei Wan, Hong Kong)
	2:00pm – 6:00pm 17 / 10 / 2009(Sat)	17	
	2:00pm – 6:00pm 24 / 10 / 2009 (Sat)	21	
Artist Talk	3:00pm – 5:00pm 31 / 10 / 2009 (Sat)	28	Room 1501A, Hong Kong Art School Main Campus (15/F., Hong Arts Centre, 2 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong)
Exhibition	10:00am – 9:00pm (daily) 1-15 /11 / 2009	Nil	2/F., Hong Kong Arts Centre, (2 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong)

Workshop

In the workshops, Olive and Kamol shared thoughts and discussed with participants on the theme of the project and then collected images and sounds with the participants in order to observe and understand the community that we are in. At the same time, the gathered materials are base for the final presentation.

Artists Talk

Towards the end of Kamol's residency, Olive and Kamol shared their views and experience gained throughout the research and creative process, from the initial stage of their attempt to bridge gaps between concepts, social issues and art, to their new understanding and thoughts on our ever-changing surroundings, Southeast Asia.

Exhibition

The opening of the exhibition was held after the Artists Talk, as a conclusion of the Project. The artists created a fictional character Bryan as a reflection of what they had discovered. The installation was consisted of a large number of paper boxes containing sounds, screen-based media and other found objects. Which included works workshop participants as well.

Extension

This project was proposed and implemented together with another Artist-in-Residence project. The artist, Tad Ermitano, also visited Hong Kong and met with his local collaborator in August 2009. It let the project kick started and artists brainstormed about their creation from visiting venues that they may use.

Project Team

- Curator Jamsen Law
- Coordinator Chris Cheng
- Concept Olive Leung, Kamol Phaosavasdi
- Researcher Wu Po Yee Phoebe , Lo Hiu Fung Gorbriel

Publicity

Hong Kong Art School promoted the project through a wide range of publicity channels, which included: promoted the project via the internet (e.g. make use of email and facebook); distributed the leaflet and poster to different parties (e.g. galleries, bookshops etc); sent out the press release to media (e.g. newspaper, radio, magazines etc.);

For details, please refer the chart below:

Date	Item	Outcome
Early September 2009	Kick started publicity for recruitment	

Date	Item	Outcome
Mid September 2009	Stated workshop information via internet (e.g. HKAS website, facebook etc) Sent out e-mailer to HKAS FANS	Started the enrollment of workshop at HKAS website
End September 2009	Distributed leaflet for recruitment Send out press release for promotion	Send out leaflet to different parties (e.g. HKAC, bookshop, galleries, Universities, etc.) Send press release to media

B. Artistic Evaluation

Artist-in-Residence project is very important for artists to learn, observe and interact in an unfamiliar foreign environment. Seeing new things, talking to new friends, making new works are ways leading artists to new inspirations and directions.

Through this collaborative project, both artists can interact with a direction and discuss with a focus. The theme, Emotional Metropolis, was decided by the artists. It is an interesting theme helping the artists to reexamine the living and also creative environment, at the same time, let participants draw another artistic angle to study our community.

The project was designed to be experimental. With sufficient time, the result could be better. It's now more the first stage of a big project. It already allowed participants and artists themselves to reflect in the process.

C. Difficulties

There was no particular difficulty in implementing the project. The collaboration and events were held smoothly. The only misfortune could be the lack of free time of the local artist, as most of her peers, on her working days.