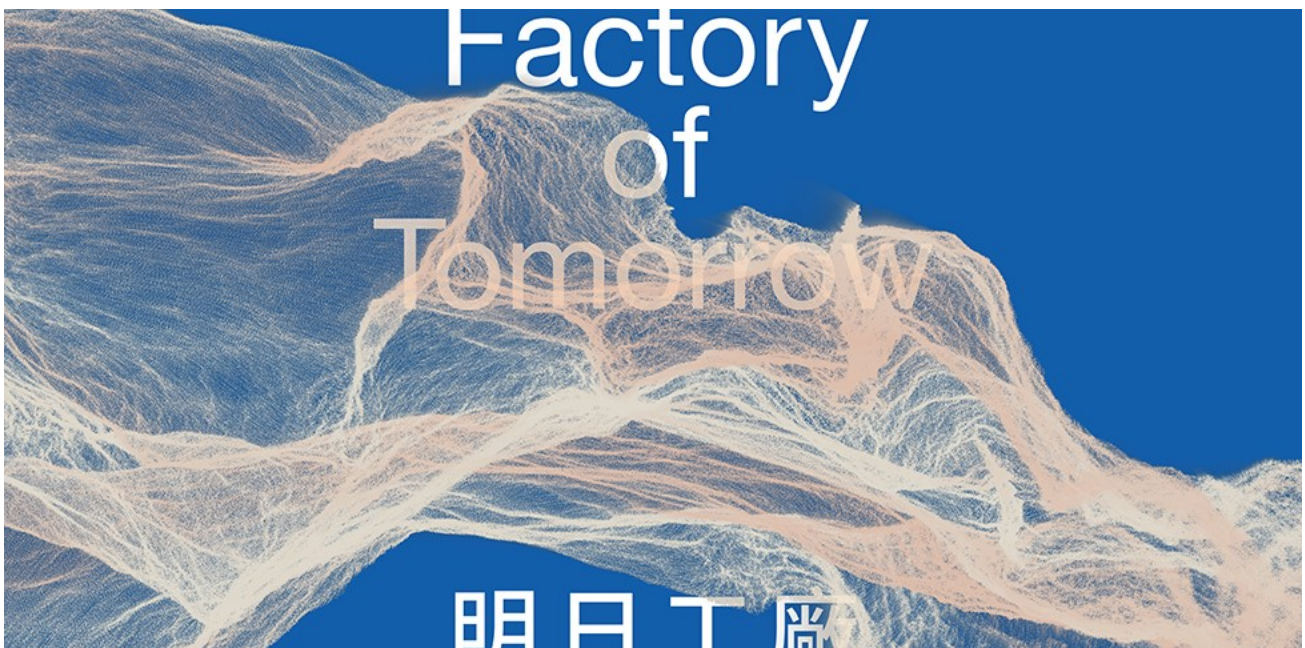


5 February 2024

Press Release

CHAT celebrates 5th anniversary with Spring Programme 2024 *Factory of Tomorrow*

From Hong Kong's urban development to global climate change, 19 artists interpret the past, present and future through unique lenses and textile



(Hong Kong, 5 February 2024) CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile) proudly announces its Spring Programme 2024, *Factory of Tomorrow*, as it gets ready for its 5th anniversary. The group exhibition, curated by CHAT's curatorial team, will open to the public from 16 March to 14 July 2024 and feature CHAT's contemporary art collection as well as newly commissioned works.

Marking 5 incredible years since the textile heritage museum opened in 2019, *Factory of Tomorrow* ambitions to articulate the unique artistic character and vision of CHAT, which is housed in a prime example of Hong Kong's industrial heritage – a former cotton spinning factory. CHAT has also lined up an exciting series of events to provide visitors of all ages with a rich and engaging cultural experience.

Envisioning the future through heritage

Since its establishment, CHAT has always striven to breathe life into heritage. *Factory of Tomorrow* is in the genealogy of CHAT's curatorial journey over the last 5 years. Through heritage, it endeavours to critically examine the past and evoke imagination for the future.

The exhibition brings together contemporary art creations by 19 artists of Asian backgrounds. Roughly divided into two parts, *Factory of Tomorrow* first reflects on the role textile played in Hong Kong's industrial past before shifting the focus to the present and the future. Ranging from textile works and sculptures to immersive installations and videos, the artworks reflect the artists' perspectives on textile technology and materials, diversity, climate change and our future. While shedding light on various problems, CHAT does not intend to glorify the past or foster pessimistic outlooks; but rather, it calls on visitors, artists and designers to collectively learn and build a better path forward.

In addition, CHAT is thrilled to welcome several new elements as it embarks on the next chapter. The D. H. Chen Foundation Gallery will feature the new special display *Misfitted: Unspoken Stories of Tailoring*, curated by Bruce Li and introducing local textiles tailor-made for different purposes. A new interactive experience, *Illumin-Loom*, will invite visitors to operate a virtual loom and create their own illuminated textile patterns. The CHAT Lounge will also reopen with big curtains designed based on artworks by local students, the interactive art piece *DEMOS*, and the display *Artefacts of Labour* contextualising art through heritage, textile and CHAT's collection.

Opening performance, art photo booth and more exciting celebrations

As in previous seasons, CHAT's offerings in spring 2024 extend beyond the exhibition space. Complementing the thematic show are a range of captivating performances as well as artist and curator-led tours, workshops and talks. On 15 March, the audience can participate in the opening performance by **Frog King Kwok**, a pioneering performance artist from Hong Kong, at The Hall at The Mills using musical instruments made from recycled materials. On 15–17 March, visitors can take pictures embellished with the artist's designs for free at a special photo booth by presenting their CHAT entry tickets. To celebrate CHAT's 5th anniversary, we will be launching the Birthday Bash giveaway campaign, during which the 5th, 55th, 555th, and 5555th visitors of CHAT will each receive a surprise gift.

Special events in Hong Kong Arts Month

This year, CHAT will once again make an appearance in Hong Kong Arts Month, starting with Hong Kong's first showcase of **Norico Sunayama's** live performance, which questions our desire and sense of ethics by letting the audience venture under her enormous red dress, at Art Central on 27–31 March and a talk on 29 March. During the Art Basel week, CHAT will run a booth to engage with visitors at the HKCEC on 28–30 March. Performance artist **Ei Arakawa-Nash** will also perform with his collaborators in Hong Kong for the first time in The D. H. Chen Foundation Gallery of CHAT on 30 March.

Takahashi Mizuki, Executive Director and Chief Curator of CHAT, says, 'I am delighted that CHAT will soon mark its 5th anniversary. As Hong Kong's unique textile heritage museum, CHAT is a "factory of tomorrow" which will continue to incubate new ideas and talent,

bridging the past, present, and future for the community. Through our various spring programmes with distinctive artists with Asian connections, you will see that CHAT is entering a new phase and constantly evolving.'

Participating artists in CHAT's Spring Programme 2024 include **Ei Arakawa-Nash** (Los Angeles), **Movana Chen** (Hong Kong and Lisbon), **Kimberly Chong** (Hong Kong), **Maggie Chu** (Hong Kong), **Fyerool Darma** (Singapore), **Ade Darmawan** (Jakarta), **Ho Rui An** (Singapore), **Hou I-Ting** (Taiwan), **Iwasaki Takahiro** (Hiroshima), **Jung Yeondoo** (Seoul), **Kato Izumi** (Tokyo), **Yuki Kihara** (Sāmoa), **Kobayashi Yuki** (Tokyo), **Frog King Kwok** (Hong Kong), **Park Jeehee** (Seoul), **Shao Chun** (Hangzhou), **Scarlett Yang** (London), **Yee I-Lann** (Kota Kinabalu), and **Yin Xiuzhen and Song Dong** (Beijing)*.

*Yin Xiuzhen and Song Dong's video work will be shown in a screening programme.

Exhibitions Details:

Title: ***Factory of Tomorrow***
Date: 16 March – 14 July 2024
Opening Hours: 11:00am–7:00pm (Closed on Tuesdays)
Venue: CHAT, 2/F, The Mills, 45 Pak Tin Par Street, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong

Title: ***Misfitted: Unspoken Stories of Tailoring***
Date: 2 March 2024 onwards
Opening Hours: 11:00am–7:00pm (Closed on Tuesdays)
Venue: CHAT, 2/F, The Mills, 45 Pak Tin Par Street, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong

Special Display: CHAT at The Mills Details

Title: ***Frog Carnival 2024***
Date: 16 March – 19 May 2024
Opening Hours: 10:00am–10:00pm
Venue: The Hall, The Mills, 45 Pak Tin Par Street, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong

Media Preview Details:

Date: 15 March 2024 (Friday)
Time: 2:30pm-4:30pm
Venue: CHAT, 2/F, The Mills, 45 Pak Tin Par Street, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong
RSVP: Mandy Chan | mandy@chancecomm.com
+852 2509 3389

Please visit [this link](#) to download high resolution photos.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

About CHAT

CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile) is Hong Kong's textile heritage museum located on 2/F of The Mills, the former cotton-spinning mills of Nan Fung Textiles in Tsuen Wan. Opened in March 2019, CHAT offers new knowledge while nurturing ideas and talents through exhibitions, workshops and community programmes. Committed to preserving local tangible and intangible textile heritage, CHAT invites everyone to experience the innovative spirit of Hong Kong's textile industry and engage in new dialogues and inspirational journeys that interweave heritage, arts and textile.

General Enquiries:

CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile) | media@mill6chat.org |

+852 3979 2301

RSVP for events at rsvp@mill6chat.org

Media Enquiries:

Chance Communications

Mandy Chan | mandy@chancecomm.com | +852 2509 3389

APPENDIX 1: CHAT Spring Programme 2024 Event Highlights

Category	Date	Time	Event Details
Workshop	15 March 2024 (Friday)	6:30-7:30pm	<p>Event: Frog Carnival Frog Fun Lum 2024</p> <p>Venue: The Hall, The Mills</p> <p>Language: Cantonese</p> <p>Artist: Frog King Kwok</p> <p>Admission: Free, walk-in</p> <p>Description: Creative workshop experience led by Frog King Kwok for visitors to interact with his art by using sounding devices and percussive instruments made with recycled materials and pre-loved textiles</p>
Workshop	16 March 2024 (Saturday)	2:00-4:00pm	<p>Event: Out of the Box: Rethinking Chinese Garments</p> <p>Venue: CHAT Lounge</p> <p>Language: Cantonese with simple English interpretation</p> <p>Collaborators: Edith Cheung, Toby Crispy, Hong Kong Film Archives</p> <p>Admission: HK\$150, RSVP via mill6chat.org</p> <p>Description: Salon-style workshop to give new life to old Chinese garments under the guidance of film costume designer Edith Cheung and upcycling fashion designer Toby Crispy</p>
Tour	16 & 17 March 2024 (Saturday & Sunday)	4:00-5:30pm	<p>Event: Artist and Curator-Led Tours: CHAT 5th Anniversary – Factory of Tomorrow</p> <p>Venue: CHAT</p> <p>Language: English and Cantonese</p> <p>Artists: (16/3) Maggie Chu, Kobayashi Yuki, Shao Chun (17/3) Kimberly Chong, Fyerool Darma, Scarlett Yang</p> <p>Curators: (16/3) Wang Weiwei, (17/3) Takahashi Mizuki</p> <p>Admission: HK\$50, RSVP via mill6chat.org</p> <p>Description: Intimate and interactive exhibition tours led by artists and curators</p>
Workshop	15*, 16, 17, 23, 24, 29 March 2024	2:30-5:30pm (*5:00-8:30pm for 15 March)	<p>Event: 'Factory of Tomorrow' Walk-in Digital Embroidery</p> <p>Venue: The D. H. Chen Foundation Gallery</p> <p>Language: N/A</p> <p>Technical: Tajima Embroidery Machines Limited</p> <p>Sponsor: HK\$230, walk-in</p> <p>Admission: Pop-up embroidery station for a digital embroidery on a tote bag or baseball cap, designed by primary school students under the theme of 'Factory of Tomorrow'</p>

Performance Experience and Talk	30 March 2024 (Saturday)	4:30-6:00pm	<p>Event: <i>Plush Subjectivity</i> and Post-Performance Talk</p> <p>Venue: The D. H. Chen Foundation Gallery</p> <p>Language: English</p> <p>Artists & Collaborators: Ei Arakawa-Nash, Kenny X. Li, Nakayama Izumi, Sara Tse and Shirley Tse</p> <p>Moderator: Free, walk-in</p> <p>Admission: Performance co-created by Arakawa-Nash with his Asian colleagues based in Los Angeles and new acquaintances in Hong Kong</p>
Workshop	6 April 2024 (Saturday)	1:00-3:00pm 3:30-5:30pm	<p>Event: Hong Kong Natural Dyes Outdoor Workshop</p> <p>Venue: The Park, The Mills</p> <p>Language: English and Cantonese</p> <p>Admission: RSVP via NF Touch App</p> <p>Description: Natural dyeing workshop using fully organic Chinese indigo and cape jasmine vats made from locally sourced materials</p>
Workshop	11 May 2024 (Saturday)	3:00-5:00pm	<p>Event: Make Your Own Textile Envelope Clutch with SOU • SOU Fabrics</p> <p>Venue: CHAT Lab</p> <p>Language: English and Cantonese</p> <p>Admission: HK\$250, RSVP via mill6chat.org</p> <p>Description: Workshop experience to create a versatile textile envelope clutch with SOU • SOU fabrics</p>

For more events occurring during the exhibition period, please refer to CHAT's [website](#).

APPENDIX 2: Reference Images



Kobayashi Yuki, *Factory of Universe*, 2024;
Image courtesy: Kobayashi Yuki



Ade Darmawan, *Patchwork Regulation*,
2019



Shao Chun, *Forgotten Moon*, 2024; Image
courtesy: Shao Chun



Hou I-Ting, *Sewing Field: CHAT Living
Room No.3*, 2021-2022



Park Jeehee, *Drawing Elliptical Orbit (when
the half-moon sets in late summer)*, 2022



Frog King Kwok and his 'Frogtopia'; Image
courtesy: Frog King Kwok



Yuki Kihara, サモアのうた (*Sāmoa no Uta*) *A Song About Sāmoa - Fanua (Land)*, 2021;
Image courtesy: Yuki Kihara and Milford Galleries, Aotearoa New Zealand