

CHAT presents Kingsley Ng's solo exhibition and BOLOHO's open studio

From a symphony of sound and light to various chances to co-create a multimedia production, CHAT's Summer Programme 2024 will have something for everyone



Kingsley Ng, *33.8 Hz*, 2024 (Video still)

(Hong Kong, 4 July 2024) CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts, and Textile) is thrilled to announce its Summer Programme 2024, featuring the solo exhibition by the renowned Hong Kong media artist **Kingsley Ng** and a series of community participatory activities in Seed to Textile led by CHAT's artist-in-residence for 2024, the Guangzhou-based artist collective **BOLOHO**.

In celebration of the 5th Anniversary of CHAT, this summer showcase continues CHAT's vision of interweaving heritage, contemporary art and community engagement to provide visitors with a unique and reflective experience.

Immersive media art exhibition by Kingsley Ng

At the heart of CHAT's seasonal programme lies the immersive solo exhibition *Listen to the Sound of the Earth Spinning* by Kingsley Ng, a media artist specialising in conceptual, interdisciplinary, site-specific and participatory projects. This marks the first time CHAT has featured a local artist for solo exhibition. The exhibition includes both new renditions of earlier projects and new commissioned works of Ng. Centred on textile production, sound and light, visitors are invited to a unique artistic experience where the senses intertwine through tactile engagement, sound creation and meditative contemplation.

Ng taps into the heritage of textile and the site-specific character of The Mills. Once a bustling factory, The Mills is now a pet-friendly cultural landmark. In his work *Globes*, Ng uses fur gently combed from the furry companions of about 100 pet owners. The piece harnesses the power of textiles and the presence of animals to highlight the precious encounters of life across species.

In Gallery 1, visitors are greeted by *Musical Loom*, which transforms a 270-year-old loom into an interactive visual and musical instrument, utilising light sensors and a coded interface. This piece was initially conceived as a graduation project at Le Fresnoy – National Studio of Contemporary Arts in France, honouring the rich history and memories of textile production in northern France. When it was first exhibited, locals weaved music on the static threads with their seasoned hands. Further in, the artist engages visitors with the installation *Moirai*, named after the Greek goddesses of fate, prompting a contemplative journey through the intricate threads of life. Visitors can navigate through nearly 200 draping ropes while immersed in the light projection on them.

Visitors can also attune their senses to the resonances of the world on different scales. Works like *33.8 Hz*, *Songs of the Weavers* and *Listening Time* bring them to the forefront and reinterpret stories about space and time.

In addition to his art installations, Ng also involves visitors in personal conversations through delicately written narratives and a selection of excerpts from related texts, sharing his musings on each creative process while gently inviting visitors to rethink the world surrounding them.

Daily walk-in workshops at *Seed to Textile 2024: BOLOHO's Open Studio*



BOLOHO and Seeders from local schools grow natural dye plants and edible plants

This year, CHAT's annual flagship community programme *Seed to Textile* showcases the collaborative efforts of BOLOHO, the CHAT artist-in-residence, and members of the public. Delving into the intertwined narratives of overseas Chinese farms and Hong Kong's rich migration history, the artist collective shares their artistic realisation through landscape sculptures, collective planting and art making, and the resulting multimedia work.

BOLOHO has designed site-specific landscape sculptures for four locations in Guangzhou and Hong Kong: The Deck at The Mills, Hong Kong Design Institute, Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden and BOLOHO's studio in Guangzhou. Together with 'Seeders' from a local tertiary institution and primary schools, they cultivate a range of natural dye plants and edible plants at the installations, which are then harvested for the subsequent phase.

During the summer exhibition, audiences of all ages are invited to participate in free walk-in co-creative activities in the open studio at CHAT, including dye making, fabric dyeing, sewing, collective painting, collage, performances and video production:

Textile backdrop making	3–18 August
Props and costume making	21 August – 22 September
Video shooting	25–30 September (The studio setup will remain in place for public viewing until the end of the exhibition)

The final product of the project – a soap-opera-style video featuring the collective artworks of BOLOHO and the community – will be showcased in CHAT’s winter programme. This multifaceted programme will offer a closer look at the issues of identity, cultural inheritance and emotional connection faced by various ethnic groups in their movements, encounters and coexistence.

Recalling select moments in the development of textile technology



Image courtesy: CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile), Hong Kong

From spinning wheels to weaving looms, textile technology has long driven human activities. The thematic display *Artefacts of Machinery* highlights several machines and materials from the CHAT Collection, supplemented by audio-visual elements, to recount select moments in the evolution of textile technology while providing historical context to the works on view in the media art exhibition by Kingsley Ng.

Mizuki Takahashi, CHAT’s Executive Director and Chief Curator, said, ‘We are always delighted to encourage new and ongoing endeavours that address pressing contemporary issues through art and community outreach. CHAT’s Summer Programme 2024 explores art’s role in helping us understand the spinning of the threads of life. As for Seed to Textile, we welcome BOLOHO’s community participatory open studio. By putting various artistic models and holistic approaches into practice, we invite participants to envision and work towards a more sustainable future.’

Kingsley Ng remarked, ‘This solo exhibition weaves through the past two decades of my career, revisiting works that were pivotal to my practice and also furthering it with new works. I warmly invite visitors of all ages to come and interact with the pieces. To make this exhibition truly complete, I’m grateful to the animal companions and pet owners who have contributed to the work *Globes*, which was created with this space in mind.’

BOLOHO highlighted, 'More than 160 students participated in the planting and dyeing stages of the project. This is our first and biggest community project in Hong Kong. We hope to reignite the joy of making and to raise awareness of sustainability through the co-creation of backdrops and props.'

Apart from CHAT's summer programme, The Mills will also be hosting a vibrant Kids Festival from 2 August to 1 September. This year's festival, themed around 'Summer Internship in Textile', will feature a range of engaging activities. These include a signature treasure hunt with the adorable characters Totowai and Pineapple Cat, a mega board game highlighting the work and lives of textile factory workers, immersive factory-inspired installations perfect for Instagram photos, a nostalgic time clock for clocking in and out, weekend weaving workshops in collaboration with CHAT and more.

Exhibitions:

Title: ***Kingsley Ng: Listen to the Sound of the Earth Spinning***
Date: 3 August – 10 November 2024
Opening Hours: 11:00am–7:00pm (Closed on Tuesdays)
Venue: Gallery 1 and CHAT Arcade, CHAT, 2/F, The Mills, 45 Pak Tin Par Street, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong

Title: ***Seed to Textile 2024: BOLOHO Open Studio***
Date: 3 August – 10 November 2024
Opening Hours: 11:00am–7:00pm (Closed on Tuesdays)
Venue: Galley 2 and CHAT Arcade, CHAT, 2/F, The Mills, 45 Pak Tin Par Street, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong

Thematic Display:

Title: ***Artefacts of Machinery***
Date: 3 August – 10 November 2024
Opening Hours: 11:00am–7:00pm (Closed on Tuesdays)
Venue: CHAT Lounge, CHAT, 2/F, The Mills, 45 Pak Tin Par Street, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong

Media Preview:

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

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APPENDIX 1: CHAT Summer Programme 2024 Event Highlights

Category	Date	Time	Event Details
Workshop	3 August 2024 (Saturday)	3:00– 5:00pm	<p>Event: BOLOHO Open Studio: Natural Dyeing Workshop</p> <p>Venue: CHAT Studio</p> <p>Language: Cantonese</p> <p>Artist: BOLOHO</p> <p>Admission: Free, RSVP via mill6chat.org</p> <p>Description: Artist-led natural dyeing workshop using locally grown dye plants and resist-dye techniques</p>
Workshop	11 August 2024 (Sunday)	3:00– 5:00pm	<p>Event: BOLOHO Open Studio: Textile Backdrop Making Workshop</p> <p>Venue: Gallery 2, CHAT</p> <p>Language: Cantonese</p> <p>Artist: BOLOHO</p> <p>Admission: Free, RSVP via mill6chat.org</p> <p>Description: Create a textile backdrop for a cinematic project with the artists through fabric collage, machine sewing, hand sewing and collective painting</p>
Tour	31 August 2024 (Saturday)	4:30– 5:30pm	<p>Event: Artist and Curator-Led Tour</p> <p>Venue: CHAT</p> <p>Language: English and Cantonese</p> <p>Artist: Kingsley NG</p> <p>Curator: TAKAHASHI Mizuki</p> <p>Admission: HK\$50, RSVP via mill6chat.org</p> <p>Description: Intimate and interactive tour of CHAT's special exhibition led by the artist and the curator</p>
Workshop	7 September 2024 (Saturday)	3:00– 5:00pm	<p>Event: BOLOHO Open Studio: Props and Costume Making Workshop</p> <p>Venue: Gallery 2, CHAT</p> <p>Language: Cantonese</p> <p>Artist: BOLOHO</p> <p>Admission: Free, RSVP via mill6chat.org</p> <p>Description: Create props and costumes with the artists through fabric collage, sewing and collective painting</p>
Talk	19 October 2024 (Saturday)	3:00pm– 4:30pm	<p>Event: Quick Change: Contemporary Dance Costume Show-and-Tell</p> <p>Venue: The D. H. Chen Foundation Gallery, CHAT Lab</p> <p>Language: Cantonese with simple English interpretation</p> <p>Speakers: Linda LEE, DONG Yan</p> <p>Admission: Free, RSVP via mill6chat.org</p> <p>Description: A former wardrobe mistress and an independent dance researcher share insights into dance costumes</p>

Talk	26 October 2024 (Saturday)	4:30– 5:30pm	<p>Event: CHAT with Artist: Kingsley Ng</p> <p>Venue: CHAT Lounge</p> <p>Language: Cantonese</p> <p>Speakers: Agnes LIN, Kingsley NG, TAKAHASHI Mizuki</p> <p>Admission: Free, RSVP via mill6chat.org</p> <p>Description: Insightful conversation where Kingsley Ng shares about his artistic practice and development</p>
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For more events occurring during the exhibition period, please refer to CHAT's [website](#).

APPENDIX 2: Artists' Profile

Kingsley Ng

Kingsley Ng is a media artist and designer with a focus on conceptual projects for specific locations. He believes that art helps us to mediate our environment, whether as a viewer or participator. His past projects include *Twenty-Five Minutes Older*, a site-specific commission by Art Basel in 2017 and *After the Deluge*, presented in an underground stormwater tank in Hong Kong in 2018.



Image courtesy: Kingsley Ng and ArtAsiaPacific

BOLOHO

Founded in 2019, BOLOHO is a transdisciplinary artist collective based in Guangzhou. Rather than targeting exhibitions and art institutions, their work addresses the undervalued art of everyday practices, such as cooking, gardening, sewing, housework and child-rearing. The name of the collective comes from a Cantonese romanisation of the Chinese word for 'jackfruit core'. People often discard the core when eating jackfruit, unaware that it can be a delicacy in its own right.



Image courtesy: BOLOHO

APPENDIX 3: Reference Images

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

Kingsley Ng, *33.8 Hz*, 2024 (Video still)



Kingsley Ng, *Musical Loom*, 2005;
Image courtesy: Kingsley Ng and Le Fresnoy



The artist's cat Whisky looks at two felted fur balls for the artwork *Globes*



Participants make felted balls with their animal companions' fur for Kingsley Ng's artwork *Globes*

