

PRESS RELEASE

CEEKAYELLO PRESENTS:

classic craft, modern meaning

CRAFTSMEN: CHAN LOK-CHOI, CHEUNG SHUN-KING
ARTISTS: AMANDA TONG, FREDERIC BUSSIERE, GOHUNG, JUN MATSUMURA

Organiser and curator: Ka Lun Karen Chan @CeeKayEllo (CKL)

Co-presented with: First Initiative Foundation

Tradition meets Contemporary Art

Hong Kong, Apr 2020 — Organised and curated by *CeeKayEllo (CKL)* and co-presented with First Initiative Foundation, **Classic Craft, Modern Meaning**, a non-profit local arts and crafts programme that seeks to explore potential modern adaptations of the gradually fading traditional crafts in Hong Kong. By teaming up old masters with contemporary artists, we seek to offer new meanings to our cultural artisanal heritage and, pass on such treasured skills to younger generations both locally and internationally.

Hong Kong's last birdcage maker, **Chan Lok-choi**, and mahjong tile maker, **Cheung Shun-king**, shall each partner up with local artists **Amanda Tong** and **Gohung**, as well as international artists **Frederic Bussiere** and **Jun Matsumura**. Together in our "Artist in Residence Programme" last year, they have explored, reshaped and created four art pieces that cater towards the modern behaviour of our society — ones that will offer the younger generation new insights into our traditional crafts. These resulting art pieces shall be exhibited on a moving public tram from April to June, 2020.

Making Art Accessible to Everyone, Everywhere

At *CeeKayEllo (CKL)*, we believe that art should be accessible to anyone, anywhere. From April to June 2020, four site-specific artworks created by the above artists will each be displayed on a moving public tram. **This will mark as the very first time sculptural craftworks and installations are displayed on a Hong Kong tram for public consumption instead of private use.**

All the trams in Hong Kong are designed and made using fading crafts and techniques in our local tram depots, making them the perfect fit for this tribute project. By hosting the exhibition at a public transportation that is unique and significant to Hong Kong culturally and historically, we also hope to demonstrate how art could be publicly accessible, and a contribution to our society.

With help from our artists, we will also be conducting outreach programmes on these crafts at Hotel sàv and Tung Nam Lou Art Hotel. Sharing the similar belief with our sponsors, these programmes are closing the circle by giving back to the community.

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Why Are We Doing This?

“There used to have more than 1,000 craftsmen in Hong Kong. It was the peak of the industry, but now of the four craftsmen remaining here, only Mr Tam knows all the techniques.”

—**Tso Chi-chung, manager and fourth generation of Hong Kong’s first hand-painted porcelain factory**

Due to our modern behaviour and industrialisation, many industries that rely on local traditional craftsmanship are losing relevance and gradually disappearing from the modern society. With the success of our previous non-profit art exhibitions, *CeeKayEllo (CKL)* wish to continue our study on different ways to create new meanings for local crafts using contemporary art. Through our programmes, we aim to evolve and transform these fading crafts into ones that will continue to sustain into the future.

Exhibition Details

Exhibition period: April 17 - June 10, 2020

Venue: Public moving tram #61 plying in between Shek Tong Tsui Terminus and North Point Terminus

Press and media preview: April 16, 2020, 11:30am-12:30pm. Tram departs at 12:30pm from Whitty Street Tram Depot to Causeway Bay Terminus with mid-way stops.

VIP reception: April 16, 2020, 5:45pm-8pm

Our Partners and Sponsors

First Initiative Foundation

Hong Kong Tramways

Hotel sàv

Tung Nam Lou Art Hotel

FabCafe Hong Kong

About CeeKayEllo (CKL)

CeeKayEllo (CKL) is an art-design studio focused on exhibition and art-related projects, specialised in light art installations. We are storytellers that collaborate with local artists and designers in our design projects.

Our site-specific works have been seen in *Wonderfruit Festival* in Thailand, *Grand Hyatt, EAST Hotel, Tai Kwun* and *KONG Art Space* in Hong Kong.

We redefine and repurposes technology to provide alternative creative solutions in our projects, particularly on local traditional crafts. In the future, we are organising more programmes and workshops related to fading traditional crafts, to allow them to be preserved with new meanings.

About Our Co-presenter, First Initiative Foundation

Established in 2010, First Initiative Foundation is a registered charity that supports and organises local initiatives to benefit the arts, education, community welfare and promotion of Hong Kong’s unique culture on the world stage.

FIF is committed to the value of giving, social co-operation and uplifting the best of Hong Kong. FIF’s current initiatives include: music scholarships for outstanding Hong Kong students both

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locally and abroad, mentorship-based projects for Hong Kong students of all ages and educational outreach programmes.

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