CULS 5401A Contemporary Arts & Cultural Interactivity

Tango Jive

ARTIST IN RESIDENCY CURATORIAL PROPOSAL

Urban Fabric Initiative (UFI) is an NGO supporting artist residency programs (ARP) in Hong Kong SAR. The ARP includes providing financial subsidies to aspiring artists, organising exhibitions, public events, workshops, and brings connection between International artists to local Hong Kong talents.

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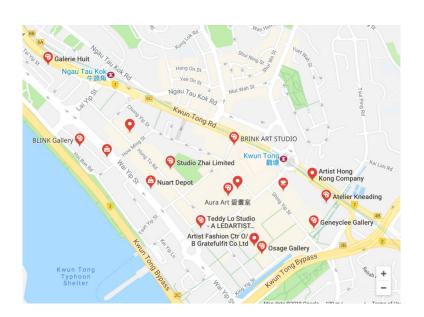


engines of Hong Kong, had been slaving away tirelessly in the background since the colonial days. Glamorous it wasn't, the dichotomy from their cousin on the opposite side of the Victoria Harbour, the Central, goes beyond their physicality. With its curtainwall gleaming high-rises that's synonymous with Hong Kong's financial prowess, Central is the embodiments of all things great in Hong Kong. On the other hand, those greasy-cog-like old industrial districts have seen its function as fully operational industrial role faltering over the years. With ever increasing presence of factories on another side of the Pearl River, mainland China, old industrial districts are left with the task of redefining and reinventing its purpose in Hong Kong. What's more, with major transnational financial institutions scoping up prime locations for their axillary offices, old industrial districts are falling into the trap of vicious and unbalanced development progress as witnessed with so many parts of Hong Kong where social class differentiation is only one street away.

Kwun Tong, Fo Tan, Sham Shui Po...the once industrial

KWUN TONG

In order to maximize the outcome of our residency project, to shed light on one particular district is better than a sweeping plan. Kwun Tong, besides sharing similar predicaments with other old industrial districts, has drawn less attention from artistic domain than Sham Shui Po and To Kwa Wan, yet obtains much better art soil than others with a handful of its galleries and artistic gatherings. Hence, with the idea of revitalizing old industrial districts under the urban renewal through art, Kwun Tong is the most suitable location to initiate our residency. Similar residency shall be expected to be carried out in other old industrial districts afterwards.



BACKGROUND



This art residency proposal is about revitalising Kwun Tong from its core, giving Kwun Tong's heritage as Hong Kong's furnace a proper attention. Elements from these factories will be used and formed part of the exhibition. Artists will take inspiration in situ, responding contextually to Kwun Tong and its given sites of exhibition. Revitalising from its core, and extent its reinvigorating new breath of hope outwards to the whole building, the whole of Kwun Tong should we be optimistic.

As said by Joseph Beuys, "life is a **social sculpture*** that everyone helps to shape, and for everyone", so especially when our project means to call people's attention to Kwun Tong, there is no way we do it solely on our owns. This will be a community based exhibition, where collective neighbourhood effort will be seen as unity of its people, awakening its residents' sense and understanding of Kwun Tong, giving Kwun Tong a fair go and respect it deserves, a proper redemption from its past. We are here in Kwun Tong, not just because its affordability, but for what Kwun Tong represents and stands for, unpretentious honest hardworking people.

Through this residency project, we wish to convey to the relevant authorities that urban renewal is not about white washing histories, and to totally neglect the emotional attachment of people who live there is just another repetition of the **modality of indifference***. But rather, urban renovation can always begin with remedy on its unique piece of heritage, and to include and interact with the locals in the sense of **Dialogical Aesthetics*** instead of erasing them out, can always maximize the social outcome of art practices. In the case of Kwun Tong, is to celebrate its unapologetically blue collar scars.





To cheer up the local Kwun Tongers

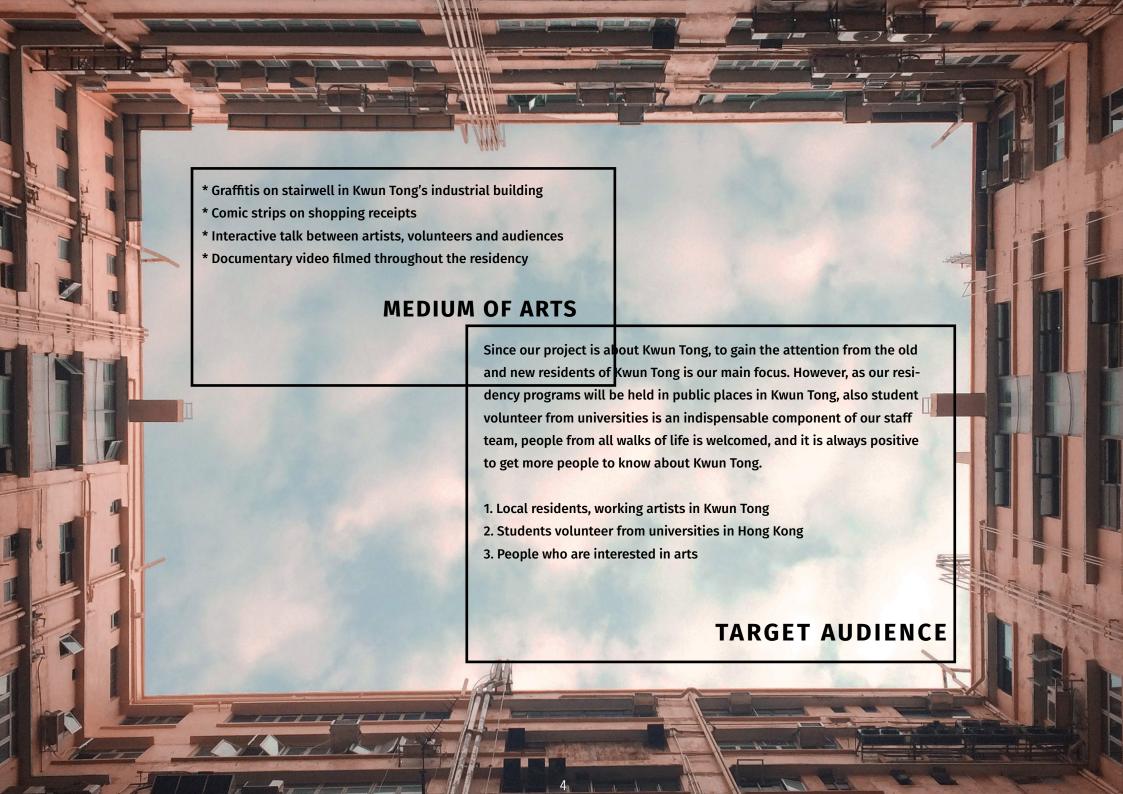
Since the official renovation project launched in 2009, the cultural ecosystem was destructively damaging. Kwun Tong has not only lost many of its popular snack bars and handicraft stores, but the deep bonds between neighborhood has also been unfortunately broken. Therefore, we want our artworks to become a subtle medium to remedy, to heal the emotional loss of the locals, and to reinstall their precious history, so that they can feel better under the current blazing bulldozing urban renewal. Through our artworks, the old Kwun Tong spirit lingers and remains visibly strong. It has always being about be proud of your heritage.

• To build connection with the new Kwun Tongers

Many of the new tenants in Kwun Tong nowadays knew every little about its past, they were drawn to this area because it is the cheap rent. Furthermore, with the dilapidated conditions of Kwun Tong, there isn't much initiative for them to learn more and build any emotional attachment to this place. Such indifference is lethal to the revitalization of Kwun Tong. Hence, through the installation of works of art, we hope to reveal the charm and the peculiarity of Kwun Tong, so that new Kwun Tongers can begin to build their sense of belonging of this place.

• To unite people in Kwun Tong

The last contribution of our project can be seen as the result of the previous two. One of the causes of the unsatisfied developmental plan in Kwun Tong was government's neglect of local voices, and with all honesty, a second Central was never a feasible future for Kwun Tong. But what is it then? No one has the answer yet, but by building bridges between the people in Kwun Tong through our residency, there will be more opportunities for the people in Kwun Tong to think a bit more deeply about the future of this place, and it is never too late to change the fate of Kwun Tong.



Tango Gao is an advertising creative director based in Shanghai, most people know him as an illustration artist through social media. His works are mainly in small-sized comic strips style on any mediums that's available to him whenever he has an eureka moment. And much like Bansky, he is no stranger to graffiti arts.

Tango has a profound concern about the loneliness of urbanites, and he is devoting himself into finding ways to release people's sense of loneliness. Said by Tango himself, it is much more difficult to convey a big idea or to accomplish a grand goal than to start with something tiny and ordinary. When people get touched and connected through those small works, the bigger idea behind is naturally sent out.

By using imaginative associations between an ordinary moment in life and a crazy little irrelevance, Tango has been producing strips of reflective art on a daily basis. Tango's works have form a stream of warm current flowing in the bleak context of urban life. In the world created by Tango, ordinary life can still be filled with tiny magics that makes heart warming smiles. Tango's work is then, about striking a chord with the ordinaries.

Tango has enjoyed an accession to fame, partly with the help social media, but it was his lighter view on serious topics that warrants his popularity. In addition to publishing two collections of his works, Tango has also done several exhibitions globally in places such as Shanghai, Brussels, Paris, New York, etc.

- * Born and based in Shanghai, China
- * Trained professionally in sculpture and painting

PUBLICATIONS & EXHIBITIONS

- * No Wi-Fi, Chongqing University Press, 2018
- * Sleepless, Zhongxin Press, 2014
- * I Have a Dream, Chongqing University Press, 2015
- * I Have a Dream Solo Art Exhibition, 2015
- * Face to Face, 2015
- * 12th Street Ave. C NYC, 2016
- * Doors, 2018

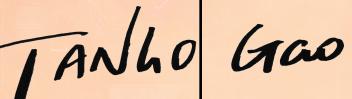
AWARDS

- * Awarded at United Nation Art Exhibition
- * Numerous international awards in advertising design

ARTIST CV













* Inspiration **Versatility Playfulness**

Why Tango?

Throughout his works, Tango has shown his deep fondness of ordinary moments in his otherwise routine life, and this is exactly what is needed for our residency. By making original works in Kwun Tong, Tango's appreciation of this place and his passion of life will be smoothly delivered to the people there.

The art mediums in our residency could vary from stairwells to shopping receipts, which means we have a relatively high requirements on artist's ability to work on various mediums, and Tango falls perfectly into this criteria judging from his previous works.

People is the quintessential in urban development. To prevent Kwun Tong from losing its history any further, raising residents' awareness toward this issue is the first step, and playfulness could be an effective leverage when compared to crude sensationalism. A too avant-garde or experimental art form is difficult for people with less accumulation in art to understand, like the target audience of our project. Hence, subtlety will help to convey our ideas more effectively, and with Tango's playful artworks, the decadent environment of Kwun Tong will once again become interesting and attractive to its residents.



Pak Sheung Chun is a Hong Kong illustrator who shares many similarities with Tango, as his practices, too, deals with and reflects upon the contradicting absurdness and ordinariness of everyday life in a poetic and humorous nature, and with his works he intends to create a critical yet poignant sentiment for its viewers.





PUBLICATIONS & EXHIBITIONS

- * Taipei Biennial (2010, 2012)
- * Biennale Cuvee 10 (2010)
- * Represented Hong Kong inthe 53rd Venice Biennale (2009)
- * Solo exhibition Page 22 is permanently installed in New York's 58th Street
 Branch

LIBRARY

- * Artworks published in a Hong Kong newspaper Ming Pao weekly (2003-2007)
- * Artworks were collected by the Tate Modern Museum, Astrup Fearnley
 Museum of Modern Art, etc.

AWARDS

- * Best Artist Award in Hong Kong by the HKADC (2013)
- * Exhibition Left & Right, Blue & Sky awarded as Best Stand Prize in Frieze London (2012)
- * Best Artist Award in the Chinese Contemporary Art Awards (2012)

ARTIST CV

Why Tango x Pak?

* Local involvement

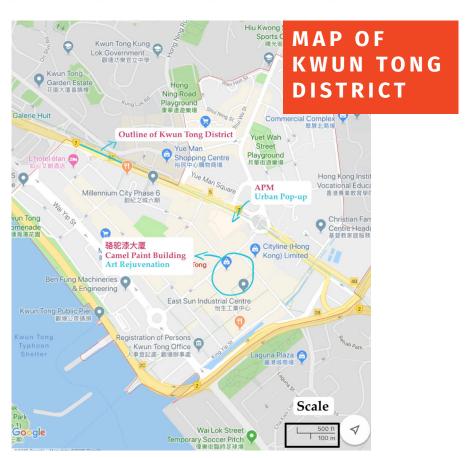
- * Avoid acting blindly
- * Make an feastible activity agenda
- * Help Tango comprehend the status quo of Kwun Tong within a short time
- * Make some unexpected sparks happen with these two artists from different background yet similar concepts of life and art

* High level of attention globalwide

- * Draw a lot attention from both Kwun Tongers and people outsides of Kwun Tong
- * The more exposure brings about the greater the influence our residency

AGENDA

Date	Day 13/4 Wed	Day 23/5 Thu	Day 33/6 Fri	Day 43/7 Sat	Day 53/8 Sun	Day 63/9 Mon	Day 73/10 Tue	
Main event	Artist Arrival	UFI Workshop	Tango X Pak Field Trip	Improvisation Section	Art Rejuvenation	Urban Pop-up	Artist Departure	
	_	Tango	Tango	Tango	Tango	Tango	Tango	
	Tango	Local Artists	Pak	Pak	Pak	Pak	Pak	
Participants	Local Artists	UFI Crew	Local Artists	Local Artists	Local Artists	Local Artists	Local Artists	
		Volunteer UFI Crew		UFI Crew	UFI Crew	UFI Crew	UFI Crew	
	UFI crew		Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer		



SPECIFICATION

Two Major Events

There will be two main events in this 7 days Artist Residency Program. One of which is Art Rejuvenation Exhibition. To plainly put, factory buildings in Kwun Tong, whether functional or disused, desperately needed a fresh makeover, a new breath of life. The purpose of this exhibition is in response to this calling. It's not an exhibition about multibillion renovations, rather, its an exhibition that rediscover the everyday spirit and struggle of the people working and living in Kwun Tong.



Art Rejuvenation Exhibition will be held in a factory building's stairwell, the core of a building structure. Such selection of exhibition space demonstrates our intention in raising people's awareness to the hidden, forgotten, neglected part of society. Out of sight doesn't not necessarily means unimportant. What's unpleasant in sight doesn't necessarily mean veil. Much like Kwun Tong itself, the stairwell is a place that few people pay attention to, but it's an important and guintessential part of a building. You will know where to turn to for escape route when a fire breaks out, that's when people realise and appreciate its life saving purpose in a building. Such is a metaphor for Kwun Tong and our tribute to its contributions to Hong Kong's development, the unsung hero of the State.

Tango and Pak, as creative directors in designing the feature spots of this building, will be setting the tones of the design and the style for the entire field and lead their fellow Kwun Tong resident artists in producing the first ever industrial vertical exhibition in Hong Kong.

In a format of art treasure hunt, the experience of this exhibition surpasses the traditional gallery visiting routine. It's an exhibition that enacts both body and soul. It's about a clash of familiar and new, providing new perspective, new understanding and new interpretations to daily mundane activities. It too, is a physical exhibition, a format that's in sync with Kwun Tong's labour class, livelihood made with manual toiling. It's a space dotted with traces of memories and current uses that Tango and Pak could draw their inspirations from.

As Kwun Tong moves away from traditional industrial uses such as manufacturing and secondary processing, an increasing number from creative industry finds Kwun Tong home. They too, are invited to participate in this exhibition. According to our research and interviews, people working in Kwun Tong expressed their willingness to be part of this social sculpture. Most people are interested in and keen to improve their working environments. This is an exhibition that welcomes all walks of life. Camel Paint Industrial Building should be the meeting point where social class is rendered irrelevant, where one doesn't not need art theories as prerequisite to appreciate the works of art, it's the melting pot of the new and progressive Hong Kong.

URBAN POP-UP

The other major event is Urban Pop-up, which is based on the form similar to one of Pak's previous work. This exhibition will be held in APM Shopping Complex, while we treasure the heritage and the memory of the old Kwun Tong, new development that answers to local context is welcomed. Urban renewal has always been about striking a balance between old and new, it's about preserving the culture heritage while maintaining a progressive front, finding ways that history can co-exist with modernity.













* Conceptual visual outcomes of project works, sample images designed accordingly to previous artworks of Tango and Pak.

Shopping receipts will collected around Kwun Tong in advance of the exhibition. Making use of these receipts, that would have otherwise ended up in landfills or incinerated, Tango and Pak will work on them and present their works of art in a Haute Couture fashion with elaborated framing. The purpose and meaning of an object, or life, is never one dimensional, it's as diverse as your imagination would go.

An important part of the exhibition will be audience's involvement with the exhibits. Apart from a small series of framed receipt artworks by Tango and Pak, the remainder of the exhibits are open to the audiences for re-creation and new interpretation. We will also provide the audiences with untapped receipts so anyone with appropriate skills can create their unique Urban Pop-up exhibits.

All the receipt artworks will be offered as souvenirs at the end of the exhibition. If someone has helped contribute to the collection, they can take another one from the exhibition that they like. Anyone can take home a piece of artwork by paying a insignificant amount of money for it.

@ APM SHOPPING COMPLEX



Apart from the two major events, some dialogical workshops and culturally enriched field trips will be held in between.

WHO

Tango, Pak, a limited number of local artists are welcomed

WHY

The local artist, Pak Sheung Chuen, will lead a field trip for Tango, in order to generate a more dynamic and richer exchange of ideas, experience, culture and heritage of Hong Kong, so to ensure an insightful art expression based on culture understanding and empathy.

WHEN

14:00-20:00 of 03.06

WHERE

Oil Street, Causeway Bay (Location of a recent event hosted by Pak), Kwun Tong Industrial Area.

TANGO X PAK FIELD TRIP

WHO

Tango, local artists, art major volunteers, visitor from online registration.

WHY

Tango is an outsider to this place, and most of the participants are not familiar with his works, therefore, a conversation involved voices from both sides is in need. Tango and Pak will give a talk of their thought on art and this project. This is also a time to let the local artists express their feelings about Kwun Tong, to familiarize Tango with the environment that he is about to create in and with, more importantly, it is an opportunity to form a firm solidarity among this strike team.

WHEN

9:30 - 12:30 of 03.05

WHERE

@Esther Lee Building Lecture Theatre 3 of Chinese University of Hong Kong

LOGISTICS

- * Event posters and signs of directions will be posted a week ahead
- * Open online registration
- * Volunteers will set up reception ww

UFI WORKSHOP

PEOPLE & ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY

People from all walks of life are welcomed and facilitated, with special care for pregnant women, children, elders and disabled. In the case of potential visitors who have troubles climbing stairs, there will be designated volunteers waiting at each entrances to escort them to elevators. Emergency Medical Kit is available for all the exhibitions and events.

Since all the drawings make the building a living art piece, this project will cooperate with the building's property management office, so most of the artworks will remain intact and become part of the property. Besides, we will provide assistance in **removal** of the other unnecessaries. Because the exhibition will continue for several days including working hours, this project will also co-organize with the property management team to maintain the **safety** of the office area **undisturbed**. So that visitors will not interfere with people who works there.

After each event, volunteers and staff members will stay to clean up the venue and dispose of any waste generated by the event.

As the residency program sets in motion, we will arrange a documentary filming crew to film the majority of the events in this program, revolving mainly around Tango.

Instagram Live Stories and Weibo Live will be two main sites for live stream videos. This serves as the focal part and key online advertisement plan for this whole residency project. Since the majority of the people stay online nowadays, we'd like to provide the access for them. Also, live streaming experience is so popular that we want utilize this platform to gain people's attention to this socially responsible project. All the videos will be archived, and an edited version will be sent to the artist and helpers. We will also edit a boutique version to put online as a collective memory. For those who can't participate in all of the events or non-locals who miss out on the whole program, this documentary will provide a fuller and better retrospection of the entire program.

DOCUMENTING & LIVE STREAMING

PROJECT TIMELINE

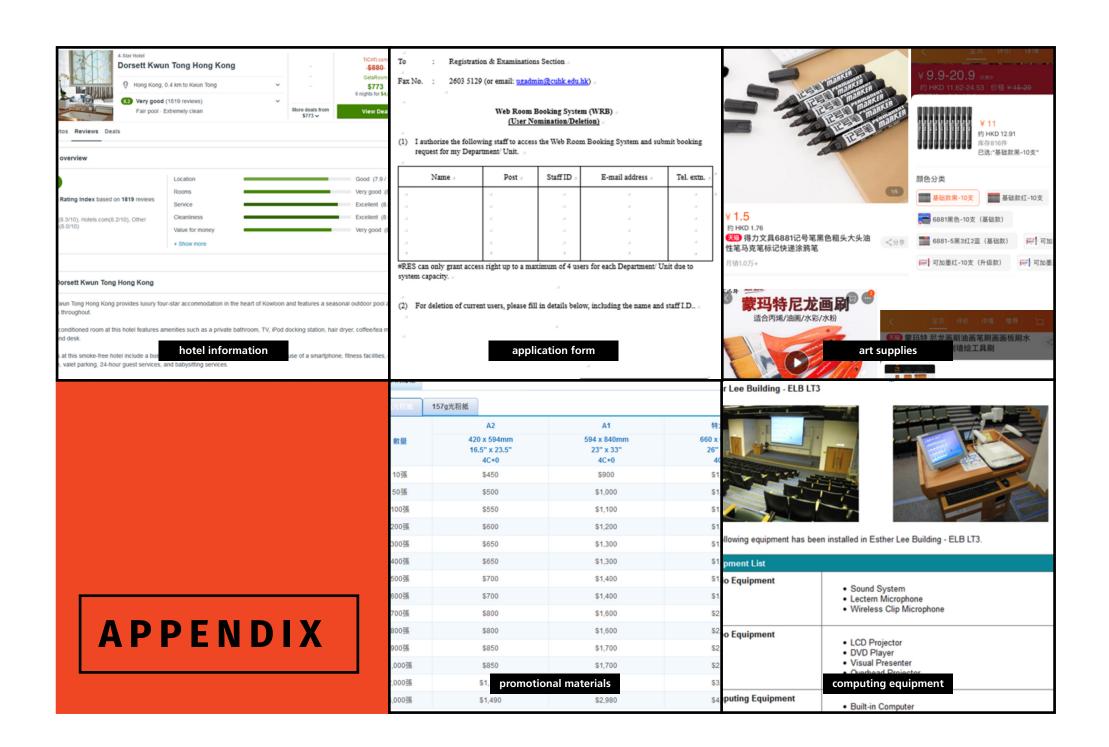
2/1 2/2 2/3 2	/4 2/5 2/	/6 2/7	2/8	2/9	2/10	2/11	2/12	2/13	2/14	2/15	2/16	-	2/28	2/29	3/1	3/2	3/3
Artists Finalization	n																
	Accom	adation F	inaliza	ation													
	APM &	t Camel F	inaliza	tion													
	CUHK	Lecture R	Room A	pply													
			Ven	ue De	co Plan	Finaliz	zation										
	Publicity Materials Desgin, Printout, Publicity Plan Finalization																
									Aı	rt Materials Purchase							
										Residency Publicity							
									Volun	nteer Recruitment							
														Vol	untee	r Train	ing
Kwun Tong Peciepts Collection																	

PROJECT WORKING SCHEDULE

	Day 13/4 Wed		Day 23/5 Thu			Day 33/6 Fri			Day 43/7 Sat				Day 53/8	Sun	Day 63/9 Mon			
Tasks	People	Remarks	Tasks	People	Remarks	Tasks	People	Remarks	Tasks	People	Remarks	Tasks	People	Remarks	Tasks	People	Remarks	
Arrival	Tango	Shanghai > Hong Kong		Tango, Local Artists	Tango sets the keynote and arrange the tasks for local artists	Tango X Pak Dialogue and Fieldtrip (@ Oil Street,	Tango, Pak, Few Local Artists	In-depth comprehension of HK&KT	Art Rejuvenati on Creation	Tango, Park, Local Artists	Create Masterstroke of Exhibition	_ Art Rejuvenat ion Exhibition	Tango, Pak, Local Artists	Meet the participants in situ for interactive conversations	Urban Pop- up (2:30-5:30p m@ APM Complex)	Tango, Pak	Share thoughts with the audience	
Priviate Visit of KT	Tango, Local Artists, UFI Crew	Show Tango around the Neighborhood	UFI Workshop (9:30am-12 :30pm @ CUHK ELB	Volunteers	Set up reception desk; filming; stay to clean up the venue	Causeway Bay where a recent event hosted by Pak, Kwun Tong Industrial Area)	Volunteers	Filming; put up posters and signs of direction; two shifts take turn		Volunteers	Filming; put up posters and signs of direction; two shifts take turn		Volunteers	Filming; stay to clean up the venue		Volunteers	venue setup at 12pm; put up posters and signs of direction; organize interactive activities with the audiences; stay to	
				Art Rejuven	ation Creation will b	ation will be carried out by local artists since Day 2 as a warm-up of the following events, voluneers will be filming the whole process							clean up the venue					
Welcome Dinner	Tango, Local Artists, UFI Crew	Warm-up		UFI Crew	Put up posters and distribute online registration beforehand; host the event	UFI Crew Will Escort Throughout the Events in Case of Contigency												
	The drawing on receipts for Urban Pop-up initiated by Tango and Pak will be carried out through the whole residency																	

EXPENDITURE

Item	Expenditure	Institution	Remarks						
Invitation fee	HKD 8,000		HKD 5,000 for Tango,						
ilivitation lee	1 0,000	-	HKD 3,000 for Pak Sheung Chuen						
Hataldan	LIVE 4 4 20	Dorsett Kwun Tong Hong	6 nights						
Hotel fee	HKD 4,639	Kong	four-star hotel						
			SHA to HKG						
Atomio o Atologa	LIVE 2 / E4	Catherin Danier	4th Mar 13:35-16:15						
Airplane tickets	HKD 3,651	Cathay Dragon	HKG to SHA						
			10th Mar 13:00- 15:20						
			200 pieces of posters						
Promotional materials	HKD 2,465	E-print	1000 pieces of flyers						
			500 brochures						
Design fee	0	UFI Crew	Posters, flyers, brochures						
Transportation	HKD 3 400	MTR	Octopus card HKD 200 per day, HKD 1,400 in total,						
Transportation	HKD 3,400	MTR	HKD 2,000 in case of other expenditure						
			Black acrylic paints x 20						
			Red acrylic paints x 5						
			Blue acrylic paints x 5						
			25mm paintbrush x 20						
			50mm paintbrush x 20						
Painting and drawing materials	HKD 3411.62	Taobao	75mm paintbrush x 20						
			Water bucket x 20						
			Palette x 20						
			Black Permanent Marker Pen x 10						
			Red Basic Marker Pen: 1 pack						
			Blue Basic Marker Pen: 1 pack						
Venue fee	HKD 5,000 (Art Rejuvenation Exhibition);	Camel Paints Industrial Building	We will apply for the lecture hall in the university so the lecture						
(Art Rejuvenation Exhibition+	HKD 9,000 (Urban Pop-up)	APM Shopping Complex	venue is free						
Lecture+ Urban Pop-up)	0 (lecture)	CUHK							
Venue decoration fee	Yenue decoration fee HKD 5,000		Exhibition set-up						
Total	HKD 44,566.62	Remain	HKD 5,433.38						



APPENDIX



CURATORIAL STATEMEN

Tango Jive is a community based art exhibition.

It is about revitalizing the faltering Kwun Tong
from its core, giving Kwun Tong's heritage as
Hong Kong's furnace a proper attention.

Kwun Tong, the industrial engine of Hong Kong, has been slaving away tirelessly in the background since the colonial days, and its heritage as Hong Kong's furnace needs a proper attention.

This art exhibition is about revitalising Kwur Tong from its core, extenting its reinvigorating new breath of hope outwards to the whole building, the whole of Kwun Tong should we be optimistic. The exhibition located along the stariwells of industrial buildings is in response to this calling, artists will take inspiration in situ, make elements from these factories par of the final exhibition.

This is a community based exhibition, where collective neighbourhood effort will be seen as unity of its people, awakening its residents's understanding of Kwun Tong, giving Kwun Tong a fair go and respect it deserves, a proper redemption from its past.

Through this exhibition, we wish to convey to the relevant authorities that urban renewal is .not about white washing histories, but rather, .it begins with remedy on its unique piece of heritage. And in the case of Kwun Tong, to celebrate its unapologetically blue collar scars. TANLO Gao

in Shanghai, famous for his reflection upon

the contradicting absurdness and ordinari-

ness of everyday life in a poetic and hu-

Local guest - Pak Sheung Chuen, one of

Hong Kong's most promising and creative conceptual artists who upturns daily life into playful and thoughtful artworks with

Together they will present a series of pubic programs including Art Exhibitions, Workshops, and

morous nature.

his illustrations.

Artists Improvisations

Art Rejuvenation Exhibition

@An Camel Paint Industrial Building's stairwell, the core and unsung hero of a building structure

HIGHLIGHT ACTIVITIES

Tango and Palk, as creative directors in designing the feature spots of this building, will help to rediscover the everyday spirit and struggle of the people working and living in Kwun Tong, to reinvigorate new breath of hope outwards to the whole building.

Urban Pop-up

@APM Shopping Complex

Urban renewal has always been about finding ways that history can co-exist with modernity. Exhibition of *Tango's* and *Pak's* works on collected shopping receipts, calling for a cohesion of the old and new Kwun Tong.









KT, HK

NA SE EL EL EL M DAY 1 The **UFI** Workshop DAY 2 Art Reiuvenation Exhibition Volunteer Initiation DAY 3 Art Rejuvenation Exhibition Artist Improvisation DAY 4 Art Rejuvenation Exhibition Public Opening TANGO GAO DAY 5 **Urban Pop-up Exhibition** CHUEN

