

PORIN TAIDEMUSEO | PORI ART MUSEUM



EAST ASIAN VIDEO FRAMES: HONG KONG 27 September 2013 – 19 January 2014



Curator: Minna Valjakka

In Hong Kong, Tokyo and Seoul new art forms from around the globe come together and interact. What is happening in these contemporary art scenes today and how do the local actors see themselves in relation to the global art world? The three-year video project, started in January 2013, explores these questions through varying perspectives. In 2013 the focus lies on Hong Kong.

Hong Kong artists have not yet achieved the level of acknowledgement they would deserve in the global art scene. In order to improve the situation, varying actors of the art scene are continuously searching for new ways to collaborate and engage with the local and global audience. This autumn the video project continues to explore these current challenges. First, starting from 27 September, video art work "12 Days" by Pmfk (aka Phil Kan), will take us to the margins of the contemporary art scene, namely to the sites of the urban art in Hong Kong today. Through the interviews of twelve creators of graffiti and street art, Pmfk introduces the great variety of actors, perceptions and formats.

The second set of the autumn, starting from 26 November, will provide an institutional approach to the Hong Kong art scene through two very different art organizations. The West Kowloon Cultural District is a major development project in terms of arts and culture. It will include the new museum for visual culture, M+, which focuses on 20th and 21st century visual art, design, architecture and moving image from Hong Kong, China and other regions of Asia as well as the rest of the world. In spring and summer 2013, M+ curated the fourth pre-opening nomadic exhibition, "Mobile M+: Inflation!", at the future site of the district. The exhibition aimed to question the nature of public art and how audience could engage with it through six large-scale inflatable sculptures accompanied by a performance piece by local and international artists. The video documentary provided by M+ introduces the art works and artists of the exhibition as well as the perceptions from the audience.

A local non-profit art organization, Woofer Ten, was formed by like-minded art practitioners in 2009 and funded by Hong Kong Art Development Council. Their aim is to explore and enliven the contemporary art scene engaging directly with the local community through various creative projects at grassroots level. In spring 2013, Elaine W. Ho and Fotini Lazaridou-Hatzigoga, two artists supported by the Art/Activist-in-Residence (AAIR) program of Woofer Ten, created a video work "Precipitations". The video introduces the thoughts and work of the people involved to varying degrees with art and social activism in Yaumatei, a neighborhood known for its vestiges of old. For this series, the artists have re-edited a version focusing on the activities of Woofer Ten in the area.

In co-operation with Pmfk (aka Phil Kan), M+ of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority, Woofer Ten, Elaine W. Ho and Fotini Lazaridou-Hatzigoga.



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