

Press release

51.International Art Exhibition - La Biennale di Venezia THE EXPERIENCE OF ART; ALWAYS A LITTLE FURTHER



HONG KONG ARTS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

"investigation of a journey to the west by micro+polo", artists from hong kong, china

June 12 - November 6, 2005 Opening hours 10.00 am - 6.00 pm, closed on Mondays

Fondaco Marcello (Sant'Angelo/Accademia boat station, line n. 1-82), San Marco 3415 - 30124 Venice

Commissioner: MA Fung-Kwok
Vice-Commissioners: Peter K. K. WONG, LEE Kam-Yin
Curator: Sabrina M.Y. FUNG
Artists: CHAN Yuk-keung, anothermountainman
Co-ordinator: Arte Communications

The Hong Kong Arts Development Council will present the artwork of two important Hong Kong artists in the 51st Venice Biennale in the coming June. This is the third time for Hong Kong to introduce the work of its visual artists to the international art arena.

The theme of this year's exhibition is "investigation of a journey to the west by micro + polo". Curated by Ms Sabrina M Y Fung, the exhibition is a marvellous and imaginative investigation of travel west in the computer age by two local visual artists: anothermountainman (micro) and Mr Chan Yuk-keung (polo).

The work of anothermountainman is a Hong Kong style teahouse made of red-white-blue plastic fabric. It is a statement on the importance of face-to-face communication in society, which is becoming a lost art in the micro-technological age. It also reflects the transitory and unsettled nature of Hong Kong. Reestablishing human contact over a cup of tea can help society resolve issues and regain its focus.

Contrary to the bright red-white-blue colour, the work of Chan Yuk-keung is the muted tones of natural wood and steel. His cityscape installation, in the shape of Venice, reveals his experiences as a traveller both metaphysically and psychologically. The cityscape is elevated and inverted to provide the viewer a thorough investigation into an imaginary, reinvented world.

The exhibition investigates and explores the blending and divergence of the societies through the microcosmic vision of artists. It reflects parallels and differences between Hong Kong and Venice. Both great cities are surrounded by water, but one lives on its history while the other is continually striding into the future.

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INFORMATION

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