

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT







[HONG KONG](#) | [NEWS](#) | [BUSINESS](#) | [TECH](#) | [LIFESTYLE](#) | [COMMENT](#) | [SPORT](#) | [PROPERTY](#) | [VIDEO](#) | [MAGAZINES](#) | [ALL](#)

LIFESTYLE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT VISUAL ARTS

Hong Kong exhibit at Venice Biennale a sanctuary of calm

Tsang Kin-wah's video installation represents city at global contemporary art show in Italian city, and another Hong Kong artist, Morgan Wong, features in a large group show

Kevin Kwong, Arts Editor, in Venice
kevin.kwong@scmp.com (mailto:kevin.kwong@scmp.com)

PUBLISHED : Saturday, 09 May, 2015, 7:41am
UPDATED : Tuesday, 12 May, 2015, 12:20pm



(#slide-0-field_images-1789144) (#slide-1-field_images-1789144) (#slide-4-field_images-1789144) (#slide-5-field_images-1789144) (#slide-6-field_images-1789144) (#slide-8-0-field_images-1789144) (#slide-9-field_images-1789144) (#slide-10-field_images-1789144)

The first thing that strikes visitors to the Hong Kong exhibit at this year's Venice Biennale is how the courtyard venue has been turned into a sanctuary of calm by Tsang Kin-wah, the artist whose work it features, and curators Dr Yun Chong and Stella Fong.

Tsang's solo show, "The Infinite Nothing", comprises four stand-alone video installations. Upon entering the now enclosed and dark space, you hear the sound of a running river; a video of water is projected on, and covers, the floor. The next gallery features another video and sound installation showing an image of an arched window being slowly engulfed by Tsang's signature text projection.

The installations form "a narrative of transformative journeys through stages in life, exploring a perpetual cycle of self-inquiry and discovery", according to the curators. A closer look at the show reveals references to Nietzsche's philosophy of existentialism; those who have been following Tsang's artistic development over the past decade will be excited by his new language and methodology. The swirling strips previously plastered on the walls and ceilings of galleries have become moving digital images manipulated by computers.

The show, presented by the Arts Development Council and curated by M+, the future visual arts museum of the West Kowloon Cultural District, is not the only Venice exhibit with a Hong Kong connection. Morgan Wong, a Hong Kong artist, features in a group show called "Frontiers Reimagined" co-presented by the Tagore Foundation International and the Polo Museale de Veneto. Sundaram Tagore, who is behind the foundation, has run an art gallery on Hollywood Road, Central, since 2007.

An exhibition on a much bigger scale than Tsang's, "Frontiers Reimagined" is endorsed by the Italian Ministry of Culture. Held at the 16th century Venetian state museum Palazzo Grimani, the show features more than 60 works by 44 artists. Wong's video *The Remnant of My Volition (Force Majeure)* sits alongside photographs, prints, installations and canvases from established names such as Edward Burtynsky, Christo, Jane Lee, Vik Muniz, Sebastiao Salgado, Robert Rauschenberg and Hiroshi Senju.

SHARE

Like
 Share

Tweet
 reddit

Share

0

Print

n://www.scmp.com/nr/print/lifestyle/arts-
MORE ON THIS STORY



(/news/hong-kong/education-community/article/1793767/endless-possibilities-await-hong-kong-artist) **Endless possibilities await Hong Kong artist at Venice showpiece** (/news/hong-kong/education-community/article/1793767/endless-possibilities-await-hong-kong-artist) 12 May 2015 - 2:57am



(/news/hong-kong/education-community/article/1784467/umbrella-filmmaker-shannon-walsh-gets-starring)

Safari Power Saver
Click to share on Facebook



VIEW DETAILS
SOTHEBY'S, INC. LICENSE NO. 121605 SOTHEBY'S, INC. 2015

FOLLOW SCMP

Like

MOST POPULAR (MOST-POPULAR)

VIEWED (#QT-MOST POPULAR-UI-TABS1)

SHARED (#QT-MOST POPULAR-UI-TABS2)

COMMENTED (#QT-MOST POPULAR-UI-TABS3)

The Hong Kong parents opting out of the kindergarten rat race
(/lifestyle/families/article/1792789/hong-kong-parents-opting-out-kindergarten-rat-race)

Chatty approach to teaching Hongkongers English can work wonders
(/lifestyle/families/article/1789425/chatty-approach-teaching-hongkongers-english-can-work-wonders)

Philosopher Peter Singer on why all men are not created equal
(/magazines/post-magazine/article/1787493/philosopher-peter-singer-why-all-men-are-not-created-equal)

How Headspace app made one sceptical Hongkonger a convert to meditation
(/lifestyle/health/article/1789381/how-headspace-app-made-one-sceptical-hongkonger-convert-meditation)

Why Malaysian Muslim singer Shila Amzah had to move to China
(/lifestyle/arts-entertainment/article/1785778/why-malaysian-muslim-singer-shila-amzah-had-move-china)

We recommend

NEWS



An Edward Burtynsky work in the "Frontiers Reimagined" exhibition.



A work by Christo.

Many of them are from Tagore's stable of artists, but placing their works together in this particular venue offers new context and meanings.

According to Tagore, who co-curated the exhibition with Marius Kwint, the

'Umbrella' filmmaker Shannon Walsh gets starring role at Venice festival

(/news/hong-kong/education-community/article/1784467/umbrella-filmmaker-shannon-walsh-gets-starring)

3 May 2015 - 5:27am



(/news/hong-kong/article/1557269/artist-t-chosen-represent-hong-kong-venice-biennale-backs-m-museum-team)

Artist chosen to represent Hong Kong at Venice Biennale backs M+ museum team

(/news/hong-kong/article/1557269/artist-t-chosen-represent-hong-kong-venice-biennale-backs-m-museum-team)

23 Jul 2014 - 3:59am



Cathay Pacific offers pilots 8 per cent pay deal in bid to end...

11 May 2015

(<http://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/economy/article/1792318/cathay-pacific-offers-pilots-8pc-pay-deal-bid-end-industrial>)



LIFESTYLE Four Japanese restaurants where you can eat for under HK\$100 in Hong...

11 May 2015

(<http://www.scmp.com/lifestyle/food-drink/article/1792691/four-japanese-restaurants-where-you-can-eat-under-hk100-hong>)



NEWS Free speech has its limits in criminal cases, so watch the language...

05 May 2015

(<http://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-crime/article/1786122/free-speech-has-its-limits-criminal-cases-so-watch-language>)



LIFESTYLE How a two-minute walk every hour could save your life

05 May 2015

(<http://www.scmp.com/lifestyle/health-beauty/article/1785750/how-two-minute-walk-every-hour-could-save-your-life>)



LIFESTYLE Top 5 most promising Hong Kong start-ups

13 Apr 2015

(<http://www.scmp.com/lifestyle/technology/start-ups/article/1765406/top-5-most-promising-hong-kong-start-ups>)



NEWS Hong Kong tutor molested girl on pretence of explaining English words...

06 May 2015

(<http://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-crime/article/1787081/hong-kong-tutor-molested-girl-pretence-explaining-english>)



NEWS Hong Kong should keep an eye on the Shenzhen party boss

20 Apr 2015

(<http://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/politics/article/1771361/hong-kong-should-keep-eye-new-shenzhen-party-boss>)



LIFESTYLE Nepal earthquake documentary maker can't believe it's happened again

09 May 2015

(<http://www.scmp.com/lifestyle/arts-entertainment/article/1789317/nepal-earthquake-documentary-maker-cant-believe-its>)

BUSINESS Wall Street dips on weak energy shares, Greece worries weigh

show sets out to explore "the artistic entanglements that have manifested with the forces of globalisation and dissolution of cultural boundaries". Works by artists of different nationalities are, therefore, positioned next to one another to give new perspectives and invite fresh interpretation. So Christo's sketches of cityscapes stand opposite Robert Polidori's triptych of a sprawling favela, or slum, in Rio de Janeiro, for example.



A work by Kamolpan Chotvichai.

The curators also make use of the venue to showcase large-scale works such as Eddi Prabandono's multi-looped *Vespa (After Party/ Living the High Life)* and Chun Kwang Young's durian-like installation *Aggregation 15*. The scale of some of these works somewhat overshadows Wong's.

By including Aaron Taylor Kuffner's Balinese gamelan installations in both the courtyard and second floor exhibition space, Tagore reminds us that art is not only to be seen but also heard, and that simple sounds can soothe the soul.

The Venice Biennale, the world's oldest and most prestigious international contemporary art show, which celebrates its 120th anniversary this year, opens to the public on Saturday May 9. This year, 136 artists from 53 countries are taking part in the main exhibition at the biennale's central pavilion and in Venice's Arsenale district.

Subscribe today from just HK\$20 a week

For unlimited access to:

SCMP.com
SCMP Tablet Edition



12 May 2015

<http://www.scmp.com/business/markets/article/1794083/wall-street-dips-weak-energy-shares-greece-worries-weigh>

COMMENT
District council very reluctant to provide information in English



11 May 2015

<http://www.scmp.com/comment/letters/article/1792885/district-council-very-reluctant-provide-information-english>



SPORT
Floyd Mayweather happy to walk away from boxing – once the cheque has...

04 May 2015

<http://www.scmp.com/sport/article/1785500/floyd-mayweather-happy-walk-away-boxing-once-cheque-has-been-cashed-course>



BUSINESS
Picking a winning money manager is a losing game

09 May 2015

<http://www.scmp.com/business/markets/article/1790164/picking-winning-money-manager-losing-game>



BUSINESS
Forget fundamentals when buying stocks in China, just follow the...

09 May 2015

<http://www.scmp.com/business/markets/article/1790273/forget-fundamentals-when-buying-stocks-china-just-follow-algorithm>



PROPERTY
New World venture with Abu Dhabi fund may prompt HK hotel industry...

06 May 2015

<http://www.scmp.com/property/hong-kong-china/article/1786945/new-world-venture-abu-dhabi-fund-may-prompt-hk-hotel>



PROPERTY
Hong Kong developer Asia Standard to upgrade office portfolio

06 May 2015

<http://www.scmp.com/property/hong-kong-china/article/1786949/hong-kong-developer-asia-standard-upgrade-office-portfolio>



COMMENT
How the ideal of a thin body harms Hong Kong women and girls

23 Apr 2015

<http://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/article/1774159/how-ideal-thin-body-harms-hong-kong-women-and-girls>



NEWS
Chinese-speaking women 'punch, spit at' Singaporean man in fight that...

07 May 2015

<http://www.scmp.com/news/asia/southeast-asia/article/1788238/chinese-speaking-women-punch-spit>