

*Inquiry: In Search of Home*

Joyce Ho, Wu Sibó, Luka Yuanyuan Yang

27 July - 9 September 2023

49 Tung Street, Sheung Wan

Preview: Thursday 27 July, 6-8pm

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Flowers Gallery is pleased to announce the summer group exhibition *Inquiry: In Search of Home*, presenting artworks by artists Joyce Ho, Wu Sibó and Luka Yuanyuan Yang.

This exhibition explores the concept of "home" through imagination and inquiry. The observation into the home has been a classic creative impulse for artists throughout history and across cultures, with many variations in its meaning. Sometimes it represents the aspirations of the diaspora to establish an identity in a new land, while at other times, it reflects the artist's own family. The pandemic has given home and domestic space new dimensions, as the dilemma of physical distancing has amplified its significance. Those on the move find new temporary or permanent homes, while those who remain in the same place face the challenge of blurring boundaries between daily life and work. Home has become a place of quarantine, and quarantine has become home. This exhibition presents works by artists from diverse backgrounds, each exploring the meaning of home through the perspectives of landscape, space, and diaspora. These works highlight the complexities around the concept of home, as well as the contemporary power structures that shape our perception of it.



Wu Sibó, *Balloon Vendor*, 2022  
100 x 80 cm, oil on canvas

Wu Sibó has been depicting the "Open Mine Park" and its surrounding scenery in his hometown since 2005. In Wu's mysterious landscapes, the open-pit mining area in western Guangdong and its mining history, local corruption, and environmental pollution problems are comprehensible in the images. However, his works are dedicated to breaking the shackles of subject-oriented realism and making them narrative landscapes that wander between text and image. The four works in the exhibition were created in the mid and late periods of the pandemic in mainland China, and the landscape is involved in constructing private and public history.

In Joyce Ho's piece, *Balancing Act*, the installation resembles a modified object detached from its original location. Despite its stiff material, the artwork creates a sense of movement within the space, adding visual and spatial tension. Its semantic misalignment in the artwork reinforces the uneasiness of the space. *Vera X Diary Index*, features the actor integrating herself into different spaces in homes, blurring the lines between humans and furniture-the visuals of both pieces serve to balance and correct the perception of the space.

Luka Yuanyuan Yang's film *Tales of Chinatown* begins with a walking tour of San Francisco's Chinatown: following Orson Welles' 1940s film *The Lady from Shanghai* into the last surviving theater in San Francisco's Chinatown, and then strolling from the "Shanghai Low" to the "Forbidden City Nightclub," the camera follows Chinese dancer Cynthia Yee, historian Wylie Wong, and David Lei on a journey through time and space. Since 2018, Yang has investigated Chinese women in the 20th-century performing arts industry overseas. By reenacting characters from these plays, Yang brings to life the memories and trauma of Chinese immigrants who experienced the Chinese Exclusion Act (1882-1943) and subsequent generations in the 20th century. (Text by Wu Jianru)



(Left to right)

Joyce Ho, *Vera X Diary Index*, 2022,  
single channel video, 8'22", dimensions variable

Joyce Ho, *Balancing Act*, 2018,  
painted stainless steel,  
204 x 154 x 84 cm

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

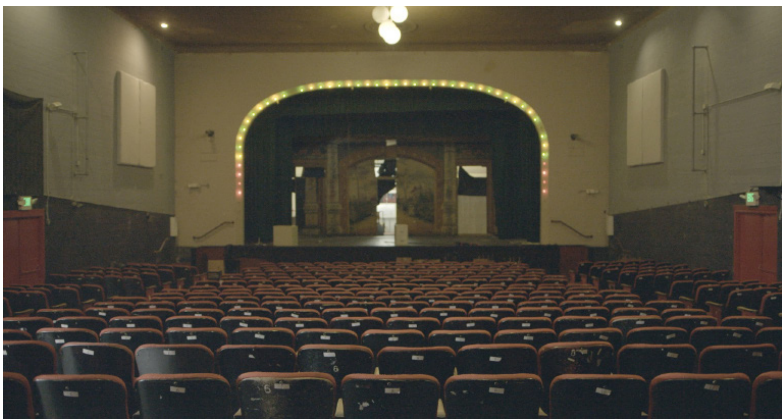
Joyce Ho (b.1983, Taiwan) lives and works in Taipei. Ho received her M.A. in studio arts from the University of Iowa. She is an interdisciplinary artist with an emphasis in painting, installation and performance. With an illusion rich in light and shadow, the artist aims to integrate the deconstructed movements and fragmented slices of daily routines to convey an intimate, yet alienated tensions between people and reality. The artist's works simultaneously captivates and confronts viewers, rendering the quotidian action depicted her work as a momentary ritual.

Ho has exhibited internationally, including *Phantasmopolis: Asian Art Biennial*, National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, Taichung, Taiwan (2021); *Why Art Matters: Gallery Children's Biennale 2021*, National Gallery Singapore, Singapore (2021); *We Do Not Dream Alone: Asia Society Triennial*, Asia Society Museum, New York, NY, U.S. (2021); *Noire Lumière*, How Art Museum, Shanghai, China (2020); *Yokohama Triennale: Afterglow*, Yokohama Museum of Art, Yokohama, Japan (2020); *Meditations in an Emergency*, UCCA Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China (2020); *9th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art*, Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia (2018). Ho's work is represented in public collections including Borusan Contemporary, Istanbul; M+ Museum, Hong Kong and Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia.

Luka Yuanyuan Yang (b.1989, Beijing) is a visual artist and filmmaker. She graduated from London College of Communications, University of the Arts London with a BA (hons) in photography. By creating narratives where facts and fiction coexist, Yang challenges the rigid and conventional interpretation of history and gives voices to subjects that have been forgotten, silenced, and misinterpreted.

Her work has been featured in the *New Yorker*, New Orleans Film Festival, Atlanta Film Festival and Camden International Film Festival. As a visual artist, her work has been exhibited at the Centre for Heritage Arts & Textile, Hong Kong; Rockbund Art Museum, Shanghai; Power Station of Art, Shanghai; Times Art Museum & Times Arts Center Berlin; Chinese American Arts Council, NYC; Art in General, NYC; Espacio de Arte Contemporáneo, Uruguay; Sifang Art Museum, Nanjing; OCAT, Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen. She received awards internationally from organizations such as Art Power 100 (2019); Huayu Youth Award (2016) and Rencontres d'Arles (2015).

Wu Sibó (b.1976, China) was born in Maoming, southern Guangdong Province. He lives and works in Guangzhou since 1994. Wu graduated from Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts in 2005. In his gray-tone paintings, the mood of idleness, detachment and carefree lingers around. Normal people and mundane scenes in the countryside are the common subject matters in his work. From the perspective of an outsider, he presents the social landscape of southern China in a monochromatic and silent way. Wu's work has been exhibited at Times Museum, Guangzhou, China (2021) and Times Art Center, Berlin (2020).



(Left to right)

Luka Yuanyuan Yang,  
*Tales of Chinatown*, single-channel HD video with color,  
18'50", 2019, Edition of 3

Luka Yuanyuan Yang,  
*Theater of Crossed Roads: Money Flower*, 2022,  
print on aluminum, dimensions variable,  
Edition of 3



For more information and images please contact:

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Opening Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 11 am - 6 pm

### Notes to Editors

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