



Annex III
K. 10/323

'Ink Art and New Music' Creative Exchange Project of Composing for Mixed Ensemble

《水墨藝術與新音樂》
中西混合室內樂創作交流項目

Prof. Chan Hing-yan, Department of Music, Faculty of Arts
Ms. Sharon Lu, Cultural Management Office

24 April 2023



Ink Art & New Music

New Works by Faculty and Student Composers
項目導師及作曲學生新作品

與新音樂
水墨藝術

亞洲首演
Asian Premiere

International Collaborative Exchange

The 'Ink Art and New Music' Project is a collaborative exchange led by Bard College Conservatory of Music in the U.S., M+ Museum of West Kowloon Cultural District in Hong Kong, and HKU's Department of Music and Cultural Management Office.



Summary of the Impact

Heart the art, see the music!

- The project provided a one-of-a-kind cross-cultural, cross-disciplinary, cross-generational platform for artistic and educational exchanges. It fostered communication between Asian and Western cultures, promoted creativity and inspiration, and provided opportunities for new discovery and exploration of ideas.
- Through virtual lectures, mentorships, commissions, academic forums, and live performances, it explored the aesthetic commonality and discovered the innovative potential of *Ink Art* and *New Music*.
- Responding to ink paintings from M+ Museum, aspiring composers and musicians broke new grounds by composing and premiering works for mixed ensemble of Chinese and Western instruments.



Underpinning Research

- The project celebrated an East Asian aesthetic that continues to inspire: Ink Art and Chinese musical instruments are part of Chinese culture with a long history; both need to find a contemporary voice.
- M+ supported with the involvement of Curatorial (Ink Art), Learning and Interpretation, Visitor Service, and Digital departments. Dr. Lesley Ma and her curatorial team selected ink paintings from its collection, providing an in-depth introduction on modern and contemporary ink art. Dr. Ma also gave an online lecture to the student composers and the general public, entitled 'Introduction to Ink Art through the Lens of M+, Hong Kong'.
- Art works selected from M+ for the compositions are calligraphy and ink paintings by celebrated artists Irene Chou, Hung Fai, Leung Kui Ting, Li Yuan-chia, Lui Shou-kwan, Nam June Paik, and Tong Yang-Tze. Extensive studies into the artworks were conducted.

ong Kong



Underpinning Research

- Prof. Chan Hing-yan, a renowned composer lauded for subtle mediation between Chinese elements and Western idioms, formulated the research idea with Dr. Yeung-Ping Chen (South China Normal University), Dr. Robert Martin (former director of the Bard Conservatory), Dr. Jindong Cai (director of the US-China Music Institute), Dr. Lesley Ma (former curator at M+ and current associate curator at The Metropolitan Museum of Art), and Sharon Lu (programme director of HKU MUSE).
- Bard College involved its faculty and staff in the preparation for this project. In April 2022, they hosted a 2-day conference titled *Ink and Sound: a Conference on Chinese Music and Visual Arts* where students from the Bard Mixed Ensemble gave preview performances of the new compositions.
- Faculty members from The Tianjin Juilliard School and South China Normal University guided mentees, shared their expertise, and created new works.



Underpinning Research

Presented in 3 phases, the project explored the aesthetic commonality and discovered the innovative potential of *Ink Art* and *New Music*, by connecting creative, knowledgeable, and curious minds and encouraging meaningful conversations.

Phase 1 | Fall 2022 | Virtual Lectures

- In a master class style, leading composers and scholars shared their expertise as mentors and moderators in 4 virtual lectures, on composing for mixed ensembles inspired by Chinese ink art.
- These lectures were edited and released on HKU MUSE YouTube Channel, with transcriptions and carefully prepared translations.
- [Playlist of Lectures](#) on YouTube (with English and Chinese subtitles)



Underpinning Research

New Music Inspired by Ink Paintings

- 4 composition students were selected from Bard College and HKU (2 each) as mentees.
- 3 Faculty Composers and their student mentees worked on new compositions inspired by individually chosen works from the M+ collection of 20th and 21st century ink paintings.

吕氏秋冬 An Ink Artist's *Two Seasons*
 為小提琴、二胡及敲擊而作 for violin, erhu & percussion (one player)
 Commissioned by US-China Music Institute, Bard College Conservatory
 for "Ink Art and New Music" 2022

CHAN Hing-yan 陳慶恩
 Spring 2022 春

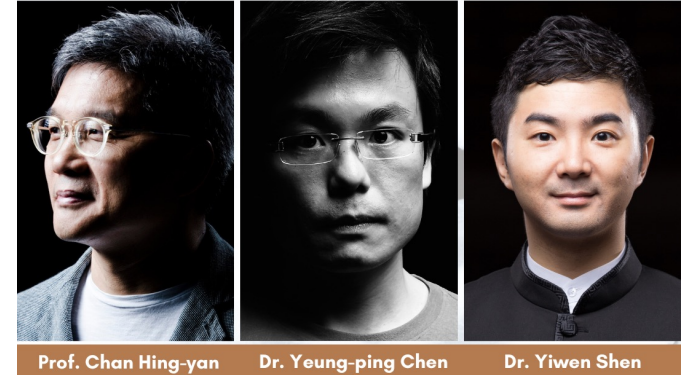
I. Autumn Cicadas 秋蟬

ERHU: use the set of thicker strings specially manufactured for performing "Great Wall Capriccio Concerto" (長城協奏)

N.B. Hold one clave against bass drum membrane; (strike this saline with the other clave (held r.h.))

An Ink Artist's Two Seasons, 2022, original score ©Chan Hing-yan

Faculty Composers



Prof. Chan Hing-yan

Dr. Yeung-ping Chen

Dr. Yiwen Shen

Student Composers



Austin Leung

Samuel Mutter



OGA

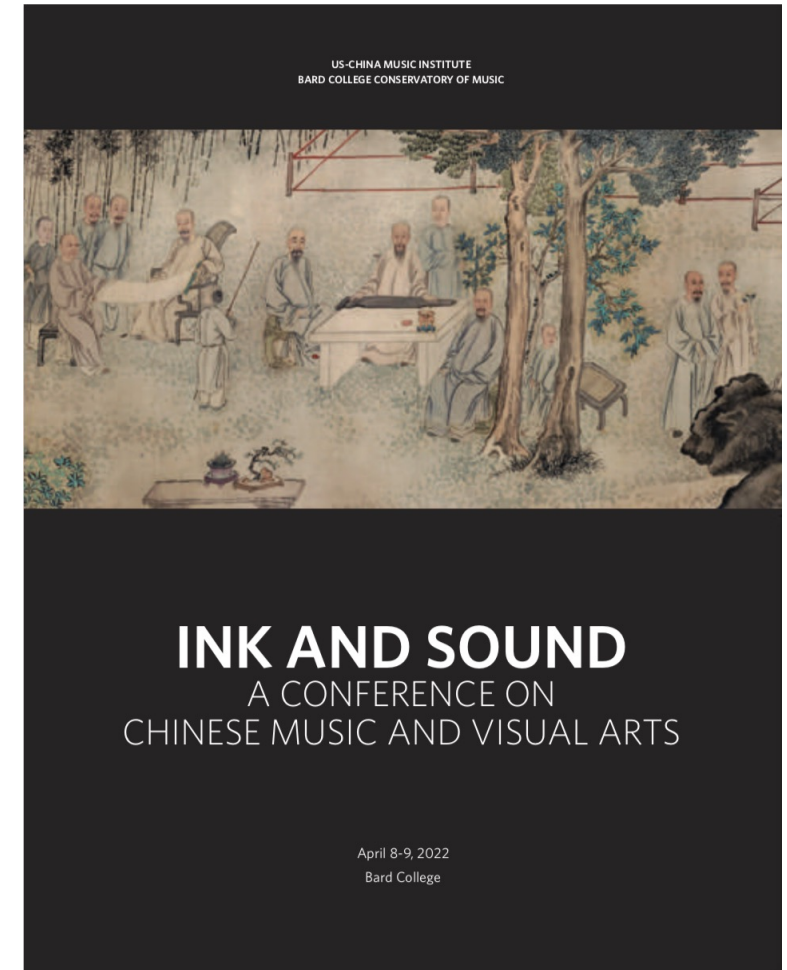
Jing Wang

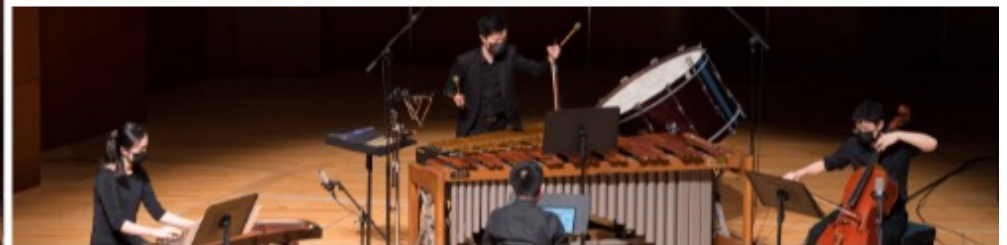
Underpinning Research

Phase 2 | April 2022 | United States

Ink and Sound: A Conference on Chinese Music and Visual Arts

- This 2-day conference at Bard, including a series of scholarly, interactive, and musical events, explored the interplay between Chinese music, calligraphy, art, and poetry.
- 7 new compositions received their World Premiere by Bard music students in 2 concerts, which were livestreamed and viewable from Hong Kong and around the world.





Underpinning Research

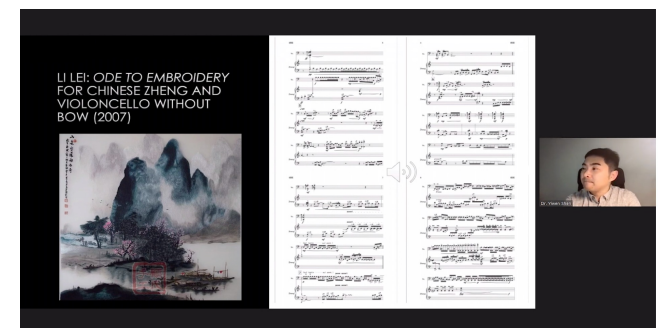
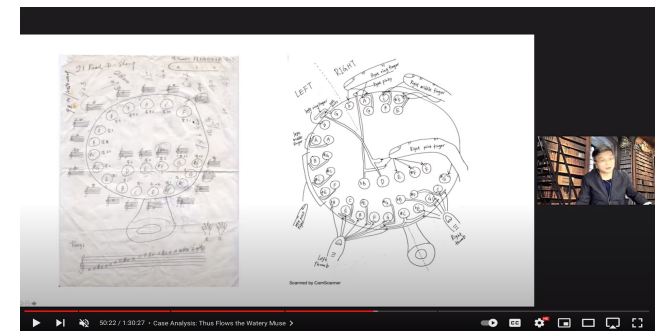
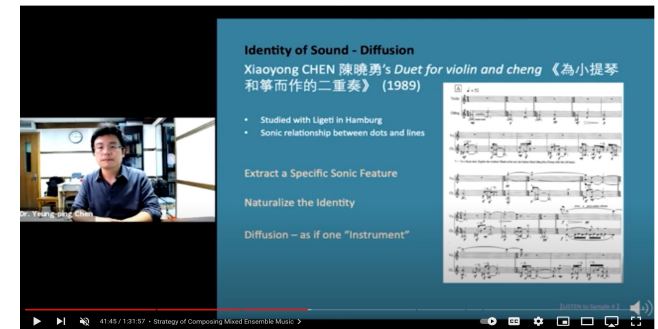
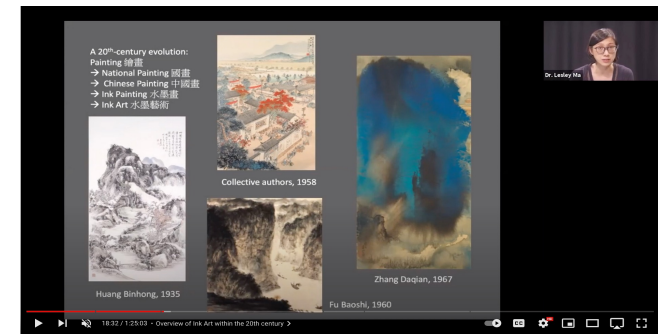
Phase 3 | Sept 2022 | Hong Kong

- Phase III and the finale featured the grand Asian Premiere of the new works at the HKU Grand Hall, performed by local professional musicians from Ensemble Traversée.
- Images of artworks were digitally projected to enhance the audience's understanding and to create a multi-dimensional experience with ink and sound.

Knowledge to be Exchanged

Composers and Scholars – Sharing through Virtual Lectures

- In her virtual lecture, Dr. Lesley Ma from M+ and her curatorial team selected ink art paintings from its collection. She led the first lecture on the relationship between ink art and new music and provides interpretive information on the selected artworks.
- Dr. Yeung-Ping Chen (SCNU), Prof. Chan Hing-yan (HKU), and Dr. Yiwen Shen (Juilliard), gave lectures on ‘the history and development of mixed ensembles’, ‘composition skills for writing for the mixed ensembles’, and ‘ensembleship and collaboration’, respectively. Each of them also created a new composition for the project.



Knowledge to be Exchanged

Composition and Mentorship

- With a strong mentorship element built into the project, young composers and performers can learn directly from the established composers and scholars, and from fellow students in Hong Kong, China, and the United States.
- The project's integrated mentorship provided a key to 2-way learning between mentors and mentees. Likewise, in creating and shaping new works, connections between composers and performers were also established, providing a rare platform for direct communication and opportunities to understand diverse artistic and practical demands.

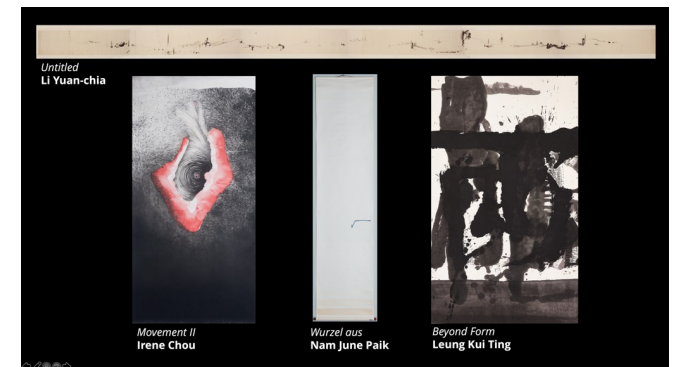
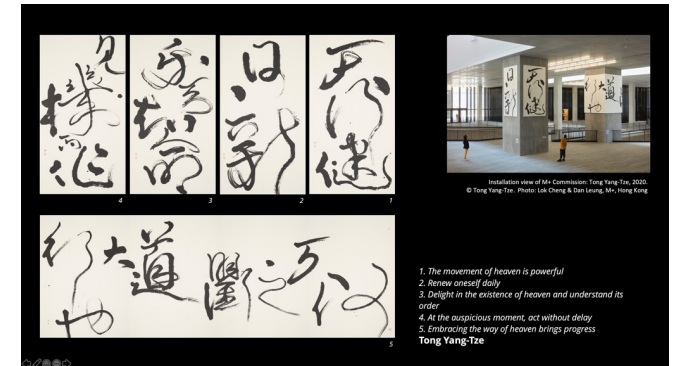




Knowledge to be Exchanged

An invitation to create and to inspire

- Hear the art, see the music – the multi-layer exchanges fostered creativity and innovation. Participants were able to engage with artworks, create new music, exchange ideas, present world premieres, and make music together.
- Curator of M+'s Hong Kong Visual Culture Ms. Tina Pang and HKU Music's Prof. Chan Hing-yan gave introductory remarks on the background of the selected ink paintings, how the composers used the paintings as a point of departure for inspiration, and how the music reflected critical elements of the paintings.
- Asian Premiere of New Works: Grand Hall, HKU (30 SEP 2022)
 - >> [House Programme & Programme Notes](#)
 - >> [Recordings of 7 New Works](#)



Art works selected from M+ Ink Art Collection

Engagement

With young talents: breaking new ground

A new work by HKU PhD composition student Jing Wang, responding to Li Yuan-chia's ink painting at M+, *Untitled, 1960*

Trace, 2022, by Jing Wang, original score, first page © Jing Wang

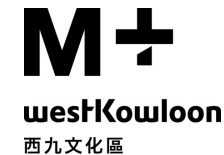
- A supervised process to create new compositions through mentorship
- Direct access to the M+ Ink Art collection
- Opportunities to learn from renowned faculty composers and scholars through masterclass-style lectures and discussions
- Interaction with professional musicians in reading sessions and rehearsals
- World Premiere and Asian Premiere in a professional concert settings

Engagement

With the public: a novel ink art and new music experience

- A multidimensional finale performance by professional musicians at HKU Grand Hall
- 4 lectures livestreamed on zoom and uploaded to MUSE YouTube channel with bilingual subtitles
- A conference and supporting events took place at Bard and were livestreamed on YouTube
- Dedicated webpages and HKU Event System
- Sharing on multiple social media platforms
- Newsletters reaching a 20,000+ database
- Engagement with audience worldwide through livestreams and videos.
- Audio and video recordings of the activities are available for further research and educational purposes

With external partners



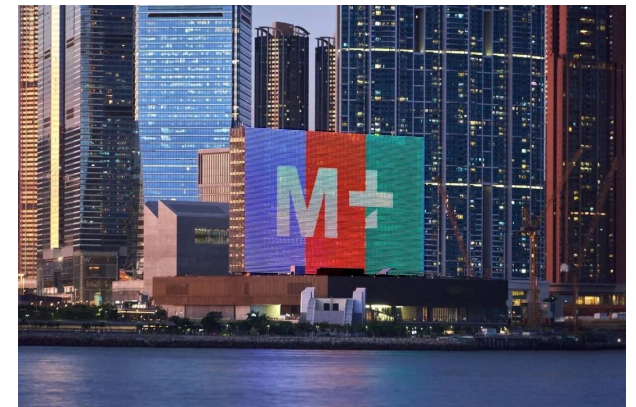
Impacts Achieved

International Exposure with KE Partners

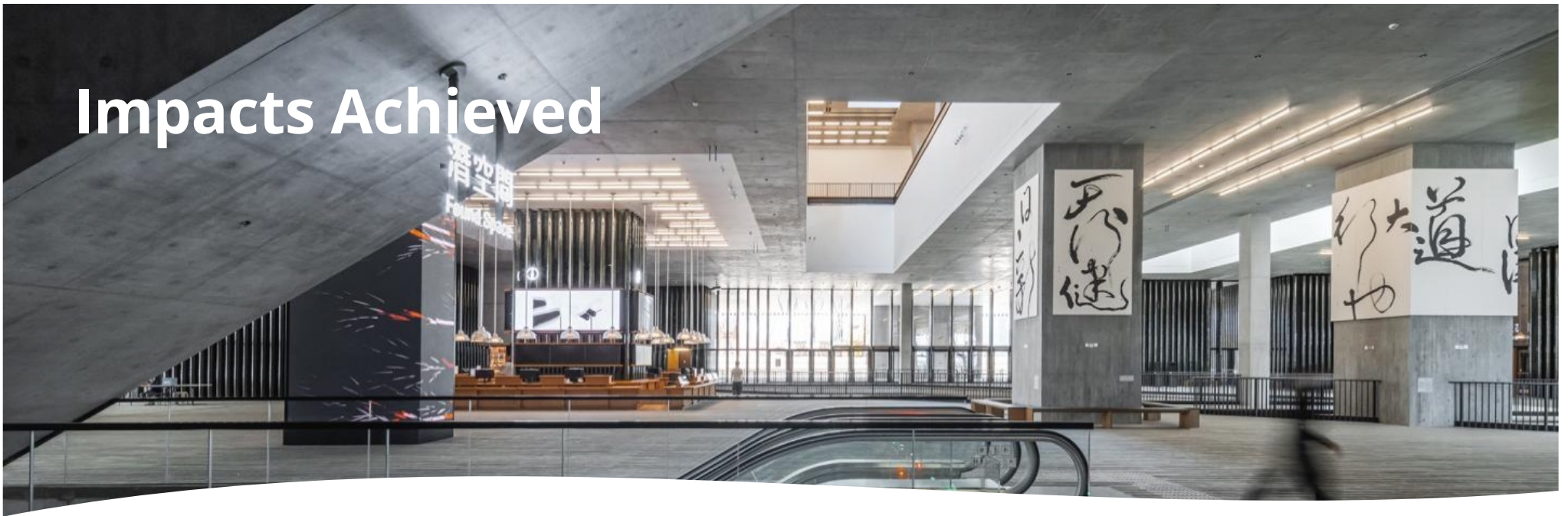
- Our collaborators from US, China, and Hong Kong brought the project under the international spotlight.
- The collaboration raised the profile of the research and build HKU's reputation as a cultural hub for knowledge exchange.

Fostered Communication between Asian and Western Cultures

- A platform was created for faculty composers and student composers to exchange ideas and have a meaningful dialogue for composing for mixed ensemble.
- Composers gained valuable opportunities to have direct access to the professional Chinese and Western instrumentalists during rehearsals.



Impacts Achieved



Breaking New Grounds with Strong Output

- The project promoted creativity and inspiration and provided opportunities for discovering and exploring ideas.
- Musical scores, interpretive notes, recorded workshops, audio and visual documentation of the premieres were developed into effective teaching and learning tools.

Reaching New Audiences and Sharing with the Public

- The project succeeded in attracting a larger group of people outside of HKU to experience knowledge exchange spearheaded by leading scholars and educators.
- New audience engaged and introduced to HKU MUSE concert series through cross-media and cross-cultural collaborations

Impacts Achieved

Beneficiaries

HKU students, staff, alumni, participants from our KE partners, the general public, visual art and music lovers in China, HK, and USA and other parts of the world were able to explore the aesthetic commonality and innovative potential of *Ink Art* and *New Music*, with first-rate composers and scholars through live and streaming events of the project.

- Recordings of the 4 Virtual Lectures are made available online, cumulating **1000+** viewership
- **300+** attended the livestreaming of the Virtual Lectures (SEP 2021)
- **200+** attended the 'Ink and Sound: A Conference on Chinese Music and Visual Arts' at Bard Conservatory, USA (APR 2022)
- **400+** attended the Finale Concert, including new groups reached via M+ Museum and the participating visual artists

Impacts Achieved

Sample Feedback



- **Austin Leung (Student Composer, Final Year PhD at HKU)**
"The lectures are immensely supportive to the development of my work. It is such a luxury to gain access to highly respected artists and composers. Their professional information and generous sharing allowed me to gain a lot more knowledge to the ink art itself and the composition of the mixed genre. I am extremely glad to be able to participate in this project."
- **Mr. Chung (Audience Member)**
"I was able to benefit from this educational programme online, where I witnessed cross-continental mentorships across different time zones despite the physical distance under the pandemic. As a visual art lover, I was so inspired to see the sparks between the 2 art forms, i.e. visual art and music, through this meaningful collaboration."
- **Kathryn Wright (Managing Director, US-China Music Institute)**
"Thank you for all your hard work over the past years to make this project a reality. We certainly faced some challenges, but I am proud of the work we did. And the music created was truly inspirational, and well as an amazing opportunity for the student composers."

Impacts Achieved

South China Morning Post – Feature Story

Feast your senses with a novel ink art and new music experience (15 SEP 2022)

"Ink art and Chinese musical instruments are part of Chinese culture with a long history; both need to find a contemporary voice. So we came up with the idea to create new music with a mixed ensemble featuring a very unique combination of instruments that responds explicitly to specific ink paintings. It has never been done before."—Prof. Chan Hing-yan

"I would like the audience to find something that inspires them in this piece. I used my own sound textures, and I hope they will find their own. Everyone will have a different view, with someone finding the trace point of the artistic process in the piece's middle, end or beginning."—Jing Wang

Feast your senses with a novel ink art and new music experience

- Asian Premiere of 'Ink Art & New Music: New Works by Faculty and Student Composers' on 30 September, 8pm, at Grand Hall of Lee Shau Kee Lecture Centre, Centennial Campus, HKU
- Featuring seven new works for mixed Chinese and Western instruments inspired by the Ink Art Collection of M+ Museum

Post from:
HKU Cultural Management Office

Advertising partner
Published: 9:04am, 15 Sep 2022

© HKU M+ Collection



Ink works by Tang Yang-Tze inspire Dr. Yeung-ping Chen's composition Song of Ink. Installation view of M+ Commission: Tang Yang-Tze, 2020. © Tang Yang-Tze. Photo: Lok Cheng & Dan Leung, M+, Hong Kong

[The content of this article has been produced by our advertising partner.]

Get set for an evening of multisensory experience of the musical and visual arts on 30 September at HKU. Aspiring young talents of Ensemble Traversée will perform seven novel, cross-genre, cross-cultural, and cross-generational works composed by three faculty composers and four outstanding student composers. Hailing from The University of Hong Kong (Prof. Chan Hing-yan, Austin Leung, Jing Wang), South China Normal University (Dr. Yeung-ping Chen), The Tianjin Julliard School (Dr. Yween Shen) and the Bard College Conservatory of Music (Samuel Mutter, OGA), they broke new ground by composing for mixed ensemble of Chinese and Western instruments that respond to their selected ink artworks from M+.

Breaking new ground with young talents



Prof. Chan Hing-yan (left) in dialogue with young MUSE artist Linus Fung (right) on stage © HKU MUSE

The genesis of the year-long multi-party collaboration 'Ink Art and New Music' Creative Exchange Project started back in 2018 when Prof. Chan, Dr. Chen, Dr. Robert Martin (former director of the Bard Conservatory), Dr. Jindong Cai (director of the US-China Music Institute), Dr. Lesley Ma (former curator at M+ and current associate curator at The Metropolitan Museum of Art) and Sharon Lu (programme director of HKU MUSE) met up in Hong Kong. "Ink art and Chinese musical instruments are part of Chinese culture with a long history; both need to find a contemporary voice. So we came up with the idea to create new music with a mixed ensemble featuring a very unique

Impacts Achieved

Reaching a wider community via social media and newsletters

HKU MUSE 港大藝思樂季
Published by June Lui · 30 August 2021 ·

【全新節目New Project】
《水墨藝術與新音樂》中西混合室內樂創作交流項目
Ink Art & New Music Creative Exchange Project

粵港新樂季將帶來《水墨藝術與新音樂》系列，匯聚作曲家、學者、藝術家、作曲系學生，及學生樂團，探索水墨藝術和現代音樂的美學異同，期拓欣賞中西藝術的視野。九月率先推出四場網上講座，由 #高耀中博士、#譚仰平博士、#陳麗恩教授，以及 #沈逸文博士 主講，指導四位作曲系學生，立刻登記成為旁聽的一分子，了解如何以水墨畫為靈感，為中西混合室內樂譜出新作。

To ... See more

Introduction to Ink Art through the Lens of M+ Hong Kong
從香港M+的角度認識水墨藝術

Development of Mixed Ensemble Music
中西混合室內樂的發展

Traditions as Constraints or Resources?
傳統作為限制或資源？

Conversations Between the Western and Chinese Instruments in Selected Works
選錄中西樂器對話

Virtual Lecture 網上講座

Like Comment Share

HKU MUSE 港大藝思樂季
由 Wing Sun Chung 發佈 · 2022年8月14日 ·

【Hear the Art, See the Music】
呂晉程 x 陳慶恩 Lui Shou-kwan x Chan Hing-yun

"His paintings rang a bell in me because I came from a Chinese music background. He was looking for a contemporary voice for ink art like I for my instrument erhu." – Chan Hing-yun

1個回覆 2次分享

US-China Music Institute of Bard College Conservatory of Music · 追蹤
2022年3月31日 ·

Announcing the three commissioned composers whose newly composed pieces will premiere on April 9 during our annual conference INK AND SOUND.

From left:
Shen Yiwen (Bard '10), composer, Tianjin Julliard School
Yeung-ping Chen, composer, South China Normal University ···· 查看更多

3次分享

M+, West Kowloon Cultural District ·
2022年8月8日 ·

【InkAndSound】 Hear music inspired by ink art in the M+ Collections.
Join INK AND SOUND: a Conference on Chinese Music and Visual Arts, presented by Bard College in the United States (online 9 and 10 April, Hong Kong time). The event includes new performances of specially commissioned compositions and extends a collaboration between the US-China Music Institute of Bard College Conservatory of Music, the Bard College Conservatory of Music, the HKU MUSE 港大藝思樂季 and M+ to explore the relationship between music and ink painting.

Find out more: <https://www.barduschinmusic.org/events/ink-and-sound>

Join us via Zoom: <https://www.barduschinmusic.org/events/ink-and-sound>
Webinar ID: 824 8968 7400
Passcode: 039726

Live via YouTube
Concert One (9 April, HKT 07:00): <https://youtu.be/pN4MhXs9k8>
Concert Two (10 April, HKT 08:00): <https://youtu.be/g3RTmYH88>

或許你看過M+的水墨作品，但你聽過嗎？《水墨藝術與新音樂》是M+與美國巴德美中音樂研習院、香港大學音樂系合作的中西混合室內樂創作交流項目，音樂系師生以M+水墨藏品為靈感創作了多首新作。4月9日至10日（香港時間），免費參與系列線上講座與當面音樂會，感受水墨藝術與現代音樂的跨界碰撞！
詳情：<https://www.barduschinmusic.org/events/ink-and-sound>
連接Zoom加入講座：<https://www.barduschinmusic.org/events/ink-and-sound>
編號：824 8968 7400
密碼：039726

YouTube直播
第一場演出（4月9日，香港時間07:00）：<https://youtu.be/pN4MhXs9k8>
第二場演出（4月10日，香港時間08:00）：<https://youtu.be/g3RTmYH88>

#InkAndSound #chinesemusic #inkart #BardCollege #HKU #水墨 #音樂 #水墨藝術與新音樂 #巴德美中音樂研習院 #香港大學

BARDUSCHINMUSIC.ORG
INK AND SOUND: a Conference on Chinese Music and Visual Arts — US-China Music Institute at the Bard College Conservatory of Music 巴德音乐学院美中音乐研习院

13



View Insights Boost post

Liked by sanders.lau and 95 others

hkumuse A big thank you to Ensemble Traversée for the Asian premiere of seven new compositions inspired by the M+ ink collection!

BARD COLLEGE CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC



March 28, 2022 (news/2022/ink-art-and-new-music-project)

INK ART AND NEW MUSIC PROJECT
(news/2022/ink-art-and-new-music-project)

(<https://www.mplus.org.hk/en/exhibitions/m-commission-tong-yang-zhe>)



亞洲首演
Asian Premiere

與新音樂
水墨藝術

Ink Art & New Music

New Works by Faculty and Student Composers
項目導師及作曲學生新作品

10 SEP | FRI | 8PM
Ink Art & New Music
New Works by Faculty and Student Composers
Asian Premiere
HKU Grand Hall

Come and witness how our Faculty and Student Composers transform their ideas, inspired by the Ink Art Collection of M+, into new music, merging their unique insights with a delicate balance of Western and Chinese musical traditions. We welcome you to join us for this project's grand finale and open your mind to a novel, cross-generational, cross-cultural perspective!

seven new works will receive their Asian premiere presented by the aspiring young talents of Ensemble Traversée, conducted by Yicky Shin.

PROGRAMME |

- JING WANG Trace
- SAMUEL MUTTER Nocturnal Scars
- OGA WURU/asa
- AUSTIN LEUNG Beyond Form
- YEUNG-PING CHEN Song of Ink
- CHAN HING-YAN An Ink Artist's Two Seasons
- YIWEN SHEN Wild Grass

Tickets at ARTMATE.NET
\$20 (admin fee)

GET TICKETS

Faculty Composers
Fai Shan Hong, Dr. Yeung Ping Chen, Dr. Yuen Ben

Student Composers
Yiwen Shen, Yicky Shin, Oga Wurusa, Chan Hing-yun