

HK ART WEEK 2016 SERIES: Chinese-ness Underpins Works By Foreigners With Spring Workshop's Wu Tsang and Pearl Lam Design's Enrico Marone Cinzano

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Hong Kong Art Week (aka. Art Basel Week) is a good way to check out the best and most interesting works from galleries here because it's their week and month to step up to the plate and exert their muscle and curatorial perspective while visitors are in town.

The latest showings from **Spring Workshop** (a not-for-profit art laboratory and exhibition space) and the newly opened **Pearl Lam Design** are no exceptions and worth highlighting. Both exhibits are first time solos for **Wu Tsang x Boychild** at Spring and **Enrico Marone Cinzano** at Pearl Lam Design, both foreign artists who have spent time in Hong Kong/China who utilise local cultures and history as a way to underpin their works conceptually. These exhibits are highly recommended for people who love Film and Design, and yearn to explore Hong Kong's off-central galleries.

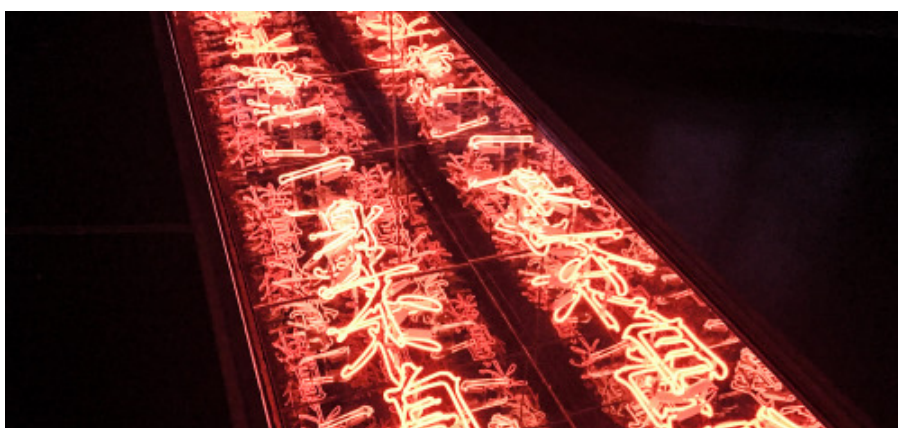
+ Wu Tsang's Duilian / Spring Workshop

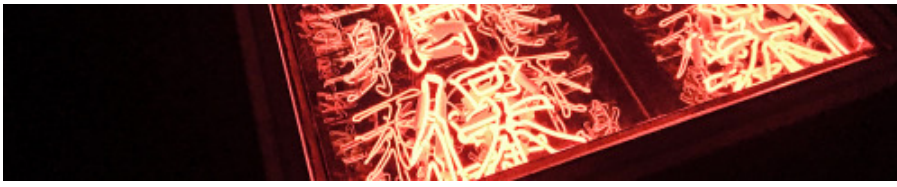


L-R, Mimi Brown, Christina Li, and Wu Tsang

Artist-in-Residence Wu Tsang's film, ***Duilian***, and supporting exhibition at Spring Workshop, is a wonderful example of what kind of art can come out of earnest support, guidance, and patronage in this city. As we all know Spring Workshop is a kind of testing ground for young and emerging artists worldwide who are

interested in working in Hong Kong and perhaps using it as a jumping-off point for their next work. Under the leadership of its founder, **Mimi Brown** and an amazing curator, **Christina Li**, Spring is able to host boundary-pushing shows that really leave a relatable impact for both the artist and Hong Kong people.





From Top, Dulian Film Installation (2016), One Life not preserved (2016), Tears Tears Tears a paper effigy (2016) all by Wu Tsang for Spring Workshop

Los Angeles, based artist, performer, and filmmaker, Wu Tsang's works this week at Spring is one such example. Born a male, but now identifies as female, the half-Chinese Tsang whose father immigrated into the United States from Mainland China, has been studying the revolutionary heroine, Qiu Jin (from the Qing dynasty), for quite some time. The 27 minute long film, on loop at Spring until May 22nd, is a work of fiction by Tsang based on Qiu's writings, and

stars longtime collaborator and partner, Boychild as Qiu Jin, whilst Tsang plays Jin's "intimate friend", calligrapher Wu Zhiying. The work is a visual feast, almost entirely filmed in a local colonial-style sampan and juxtaposed with shots of modern day Hong Kong from the harbour and interspliced with contemporary choreography by Boychild, martial artists, over-dialogue by members of Hong Kong's LGBT community in Cantonese, Malay, and Tagalog.



Lunch with Press at Spring Wokshop

Wu Tsang's interest in language and how it is re-designed and re-framed via contemporary perspectives over time is definitely the study here in her interpretation of the-now-fictional yet historical Qiu Jin.

+ Enrico Marone Cinzano / Pearl Lam Design

Enrico Marone Cinzano is an Italian designer who operates from China and is showing his "sustainable" works for the first time in Hong Kong via Pearl Lam Design. Cinzano's thematic focus is around the natural balance between nature and structure (architecture) and his role as a designer in mediating between these frameworks and with the material at hand, ie. timber, steel, and scrap leather.



Enrico Marone Cinzano, adjacent to Double Happiness Cabinet (2015)

Speaking with us candidly, Cinzano has a “no-bullshit” approach to creating work and is pretty clear about his self-taught design background. Once a developer and a “finance guy”, Cinzano at 50+ years old has finally found his true calling in creating operationally and visually stimulating one-of-a-kind furnitures. Cinzano owes much of his ideas to a response on the need for a re-connection to the natural environment in China-made works, and continued fascination with the natural order manifested in the Fibonacci Sequence and the architecture of self supporting structures, ie. crystals, skulls, and flat pack objects.





ENRICO MARONE CINZANO
CHINA CLEAN | 中國 CLEAN



From Top, the Flat Pack Chair (2015), the Flat-Pack Qing Chair (2015), the Fibonacci Table (2015), Console in Stainless Steel (2013), the Fibonacci Coffee Table (2015)

Look at the the *Double Happiness Cabinet, 2015* and the *Qing Chair, 2015* to see how Cinzano re-articulates furnitures assembled by traditional Chinese Joinery, for ease of use and transportation, whilst utilising hand carved and recycled timber in the process. The show is curated by Founder, **Pearl Lam**. We thank [ARTSY](#) for the Designer Talk that was arranged with Cinzano.

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VISIT [Duilian by Wu Tsang](#) . Ends 2016 MAY 22 . Spring Workshop, 3F Remex Centre, 42 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong . T: +852-21104370 / VISIT [China Clean:](#)

[Enrico Marone Cinzano](#) . Ends 2016 APR 14 . Pearl Lam Design,
GF Soho 189, 189 Queens Road West, Sheung Wan, Hong
Kong

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