

Digital File '21 - Discussions with artists of Chinese descent.doc'



21 : Discussions with artists of Chinese descent in the UK

廿一：英國華人藝術家訪談錄

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21 : Discussions with artists of Chinese descent in the UK is a new publication by Chinese Arts Centre examining the development of Chinese arts in Britain through engaging individual artist interviews and group discussions, and provides an inspiring, visually stunning showcase of over twenty artists' work.

Last year Chinese Arts Centre celebrated its twenty first anniversary. In the twenty-one years since it was established, the centre has grown from being a small artist run space to an international agency that promotes and supports Chinese artists from around the world. **As Chinese Arts Centre's scope broadens, what of the centre's original aim to create visibility for artists of Chinese descent in the UK? Who better than to ask the artists themselves.** Using our twenty-first year as an opportunity to reflect on how far we've come, Chinese Arts Centre have produced 21 : Discussions with artists of Chinese descent in the UK.

Twenty-one of the outstanding UK based artists Chinese Arts Centre have worked with over the years talk about their practice and their experiences as an artist of Chinese descent working in Britain. **Their deeply personal accounts reveal overlapping concerns and issues,** from the institutional racism of the British art world in the 1980s, to a complete dissatisfaction with the way Chinese artists have been programmed in the past, to the intense current interest in mainland China and the impact on British Chinese artists. The individual experiences account different stages and perspectives on the development of British Chinese arts.

Artists featured include **Lesley Sanderson**, the only artist of Chinese descent to have exhibited with the artists of the Black Art Movement in the 1980s, controversial performance artists **JJ and Cai (aka Mad For Real)** who moved to the UK from China twenty years ago and caused controversy in the 1990s by jumping on Tracy Emin's *My Bed*, and rising star **Gordon Cheung**, who's spectacular solo show at Chinese Arts Centre this year is just one of 15 shows he is involved with internationally this year.

All the interviews are accompanied by images of the works which reveal the sheer wealth of talent among the artists. With such divergent practices – from **Lisa Cheung's** interactive community projects to **Denise Kum's** acid infused media installations, from **Anthony Lam's** dramatic photography to **Gayle Chong Kwan's** foodstuff landscapes – 21 provides not only an account of the artists' experiences, but is a visual feast of works by some of the leading art practitioners working in Britain today.

IDENTIFIER

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ARTIST

Chinese Arts Centre, 1989-2013; Sanderson, Lesley, artist; Mad For Real; Cheung, Gordon, (b. 1975), artist; Cheung, Lisa, artist, b.1960; Kum, Denise, artist; Lam, Anthony, artist; Chong Kwan, Gayle, (b. 1973), artist; Key, Anthony, (b. 1949), artist; Li, Dinu, artist; Fong, Eric, (1960-), artist; Tan, Erika, artist, curator; Jiang, Jiehong (Joshua), artist and researcher; Lee, Kwong, art director; Wong, Ming, artist; Fok, Nora, artist; So, Pamela, artist, d.2010; Wilson, Shelley, artist; Chan, Suki, (b.1977), artist; Lok, Susan Pui San, artist, researcher, writer; Yeu Lai Mo, artist; Ling, Yuen Fong, artist; Kwok, Ying, artist, curator; Champion, Sarah, CEO of Chinese Arts Centre; Hancock, David, artist