

Press Release 15.03.21

Exhibition dates: Thursday 27 May - 20 June 2021 Venue: The Ceramic House, 75 Stanmer Villas, Brighton, BN1 7HN

Emptiness is Form at The Ceramic House: contemporary collectable ceramics by international artists of Chinese heritage.

Emptiness is Form launches INTERBEING, an ambitious international ceramic and sound art project between British and Chinese artists. The exhibition is curated by artist and curator Kay Aplin, and features contemporary Chinese ceramics from artists in China, the USA, Italy and the UK.



The title *Emptiness is Form* is taken from the *Heart Sutra* and reflects myriad ways in which the exhibitors work with the material of clay. The ceramists selected for this show represent established artists working in China and emerging artists from China and internationally.

All the artists selected have an interest in exploring traditional techniques with a contemporary sensibility, offering UK collectors, specialists and artists a rare overview of the breadth of contemporary Chinese ceramic practice today.

Works by Chinese sound artists, curated by artist Joseph Young, will be streamed during the show as live performances to accompany the ceramic works. The sound works will also be released on an album in collaboration with the <u>Aural Detritus</u> <u>Concert Series</u>.

Inter-being is a Buddhist concept that comes from the *Heart Sutra* and, in the context of INTERBEING, explores the cultural connections between two seemingly very different cultures, the UK and China. By starting from a point of similarity rather than distance, the project aims to foster and encourage a deeper understanding between countries.

The Ceramic House celebrates its 10 year Anniversary this year as a gallery, hosting international residencies for artists, a guesthouse and a centre for ongoing research into ceramic and sound art collaborative practice. The house has been embellished throughout with Kay Aplin's architectural ceramic work both internally and externally.

One-to-one tours virtual tours with the curator will be available, and the exhibition will be open to visitors on selected dates and by appointment. *Emptiness is Form* is part of Brighton's Artists Open House and coincides with the Brighton Fringe festival.

Kay Aplin, curator and founder of The Ceramic House said: "In the connected global culture of the 21st Century, the concept of 'inter-being' has something to say not just about the implicit cultural connections that bring together artists from very different backgrounds, but also about the complexity of an individual artist's practice. Especially now, as we look forward to a post-Covid-19 era, the ways that we cooperate trans-nationally will be of particular importance. In *Emptiness is Form* we want to fully explore the work of these ceramic and sound artists to deepen our knowledge of a culture vastly different from our own and invite people to share this unique experience."

Emptiness is Form is at The Ceramic House, Brighton open to the public from 28 May to 20 June 2021 at weekends, 11am-5pm.

People can also book appointments to see the show on weekdays and virtual one-toone tours with the curator are available on request.

Please visit the Ceramic House website for more information: https://www.theceramichouse.co.uk/emptiness-is-form/

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Notes to Editors:

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Link to dropbox of images and more information: LINK

More information on the INTERBEING project: LINK

Artists:

Annie Lai-kuen Wan, Hong Kong. Chaoqi Xu, China Cunze Yuan, Shanghai, China Eugene Chung, UK studying at RCA, from Hong Kong Gerald Mak, UK studying at RCA, from Hong Kong. Ho Lai, UK (from Hong Kong) Hua Wang, China Jenny Chan, UK Jia Kun, Italy Ka Ho Ng, Hong Kong Kang Qing, China. Kang Yang, China Lau Yat Wai, Hong Kong Ling Chun, USA Monica Tong, UK studying at RCA, from China Rong Sheng, China Ryan Hui Chun Kit, Hong Kong Wei Xin, USA Yibo He, China

INTERBEING marks the continuation of an investigation into collaborative sound art and ceramic practice that started with Landscape: Islands (2016) and Made in Korea (2017) and is curated by Kay Aplin (ceramics) and Joseph Young (sound art) for The Ceramic House <u>www.theceramichouse.co.uk</u>

Interbeing is funded by Arts Council, England.

About The Ceramic House

THE CERAMIC HOUSE is the creation of architectural ceramicist Kay Aplin. The Ceramic House is a gallery, hosts artist's residencies and is a centre for ongoing research into ceramic and sound art collaborative practice with artist Joseph Young.

At Artists Open Houses during the Brighton Festival, The Ceramic House opens to the public with curated international exhibitions of contemporary ceramic art. Further events and exhibitions take place occasionally throughout the year. The Ceramic House first opened in May 2011.

In 2016, a new 'white cube' project space, *In Camera* was opened offering a neutral space for installations and providing a space for events. *In Camera* provides a project space and a hub for the innovative dialogue between craft and digital art, alongside an increasingly ambitious, ongoing programme involving international residencies, exhibitions, publications, film, and performance events. <u>https://www.theceramichouse.co.uk/</u>