

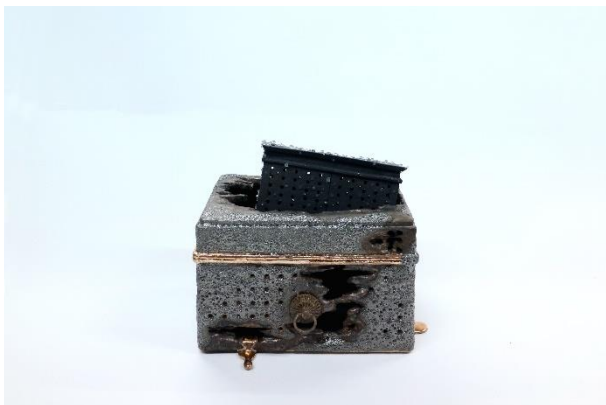


## Press Release 20.07.21

Key dates: May 2021 – March 2022

### Interbeing: Sound and ceramic artists connect China with the U.K.

Interbeing is an ambitious international ceramic and sound art project between British and Chinese artists. The project engenders international cooperation and fellowship, opening up new ways of viewing and listening as well as giving artists the chance to expand their practice through dialogue with their peers.



Curators Kay Aplin and Joseph Young continue an ongoing exploration of international collaboration that explores the possibilities of making work connecting two very distinct cultures and artistic disciplines. The project launched in June with an exhibition of contemporary Chinese ceramics at The Ceramic House in Brighton, UK and continues with a series of exhibitions, residencies, films and a book throughout 2021.

This summer at the Powell-Cotton Museum two pairs of artists will be working together to respond to objects and themes in the permanent collection. Hong Kong ceramic artists Annie Wan, and Lau Yat Wai will be collaborating with UK artists, Emily Peasgood and Dan Thompson who will work with sound. The results of their collaborations will be displayed over the summer in the historic setting of Quex House in Margate. The work produced will be both site-specific, designed for a

particular space in the historic house, and responsive, opening up new ways of reading familiar objects and settings in the museum and the house.

In September lead artist Joseph Young will work with a Tai Chi master and a Tai Chi community group at London Chinese Community Centre (CCC) to produce a film made in collaboration with a filmmaker featuring sounds recorded in China in an exploration of the Tai Chi movement technique. The film premieres at CCC on Silver Sunday (3.10.21) and subsequently screened at further venues.

In September [Chiddingstone Castle](#), in collaboration with The Ceramic House, hosts a virtual exhibition pairing established Chinese ceramic artists selected by Shanghai University with objects from their Buddhist Collection. In the context of the ongoing global pandemic, this virtual exhibition opens up opportunities for continuing cultural exchange and collaboration made otherwise impossible by an inability to travel in person.

In the autumn, the project continues with a collaborative residency for five UK based artists who are paired with five Chinese sound artists. The remote residency takes place in association with [Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute](#), renowned for its traditional porcelain making processes. British artists working in porcelain Andrew Livingstone, David Cushway, Valeria Nascimento, Fenella Elms and Kay Aplin will work with Chinese sound artists Zhang Xian, Hui Ye, Sun Wei, Sin Ned and Sheng during October to produce collaborative artworks that will be exhibited in the form of a film. This new way of working will explore the materiality of the various ceramic forms, with a sound track created by the sound artists.

Kay Aplin's new ceramic installation inspired by symbolic Chinese flora *Ceramic Wallpaper: Peonies* will be compiled into an artist's book called Silk Roads and Floral Routes that will take the peony installation on a tour of China. The book will be launched at the end of the Interbeing project in December.

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.

Kay Aplin, 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, in a post-Covid-19 era, the ways that we cooperate trans-nationally will be of particular importance.

The idea of 'inter-being' has helped us to develop an understanding of how divergent artists' practices are already connected through a complex web of interdependency. We are not searching for common ground through a process of cultural exchange, but assuming its pre-existence and through this project, we want to fully explore this interconnectedness, and to deepen our knowledge of a culture vastly different from our own."

## **Notes to Editors:**

### **Dates:**

July- August 2021 Online Residency  
27 August - 31 October Exhibition

#### **INTERBEING: Residency (UK) *No Interdependent Origins***

**Venue:** Powell-Cotton Museum (UK)

Residency for two Hong Kong ceramic artists paired with two UK sound artists, followed by an exhibition in Quex House at Quex Park, Birchington-on-Sea, England.

1 September - 31 October 2021

#### **INTERBEING: Exhibition *Neither Increasing Nor Decreasing***

**Venue:** Hosted online by [www.theceramichouse.co.uk/](http://www.theceramichouse.co.uk/)

Virtual exhibition pairing Chinese ceramists with objects from Chiddingstone Castle's Buddhist Collection.

3 October 2021

#### **INTERBEING: Film *Listening Hands***

**Venue:** London Chinese Community Centre

Joseph Young's film in collaboration with a filmmaker will feature sounds recorded in China in an exploration of the Tai Chi movement technique. This will be a premiere for Silver Sunday.

October 2021

#### **INTERBEING: Residency (China) *Perfection of Understanding***

Remote residency for five UK artists with Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute (JCI) who will be collaborating with five Chinese sound artists. A film will be made by filmmaker Roswitha Cheshier to exhibit the resulting work.

December 2021

#### **INTERBEING: Book *Silk Roads and Floral Routes***

Artist's book by Kay Aplin *Silk Roads and Floral Routes* document a new body of work. *Ceramic Wallpaper: Peonies* are digitally installed on an imaginary tour to the favourite walls of artists in China. The book will be launched at the end of the Interbeing project.

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**Images shown:** Left: Lau Yat Wai, Right: Annie Wan

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**Link to dropbox of images** and more information. A full list of participating artists is also available in this folder:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/gtprgebibcrx8pr/AACyrktr5dMwfVZPV3gy1gWa?dl=0>

**Vimeo link to Sound Artists work:** <https://vimeo.com/theceramichouse>

The project 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 [www.theceramichouse.co.uk](http://www.theceramichouse.co.uk)

*Interbeing* is produced by The Ceramic House in partnership with:

Powell-Cotton Museum, Kent (UK)

Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute (China)

Shanghai University (China)

Chiddingstone Castle

London Chinese Community Centre

Karin Weber Gallery, Hong Kong, representing artists Annie Wan and Lau Yat Wai.

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.

<https://www.theceramichouse.co.uk/>

### **About Powell-Cotton Museum**

The Powell-Cotton Museum is situated in Quex Park, Birchington, Kent and houses the diverse personal collections of hunter and explorer, Percy Powell-Cotton. The museum also contains the collections of Powell-Cotton's two daughters, Antoinette and Diana Powell-Cotton, who shared their father's passion for conservation. The museum, which links to the ground floor of Quex House, now comprises nine galleries dedicated not only to the extensive collection of large mammals but to many artefacts representing the cultures and traditions of the locations Powell-Cotton visited.

<http://www.powell-cottonmuseum.org/>

### **About Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute (China)**

The Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute, in Jingdezhen city in the Jiangxi province of the People's Republic of China, is China's only institute of higher learning dedicated to the ceramic arts.

<https://www.jingdezheninternational.com/>

### **About Karin Weber Gallery**

Established in 1999 by German-born Karin Weber, and now in its 22nd year, Karin Weber Gallery is one of Hong Kong's oldest contemporary art galleries. Situated on Aberdeen Street, in the heart of SoHo, the gallery presents a year-round programme of curated exhibitions, talks, and collector events.

<https://www.karinwebergallery.com/>

**About Chiddingstone Castle:**

Chiddingstone Castle in Kent is home to the eclectic collections amassed over a life time by its last private owner, Denys Eyre Bower (1905 – 1977). Bower bought the Castle in 1955 and moved in, displaying his collections there and opening it to the public. The collections are grouped into four key areas - Japanese, Stuart and Jacobite, Buddhist, and Ancient Egyptian. The building has Tudor origins and was remodelled in the 19th century to resemble a medieval castle.

<https://www.chiddingstonecastle.org.uk/>

**About London Chinese Community Centre:**

The London Chinese Community Centre has been serving the UK's Chinese community for over 40 years from the heart of London's Chinatown. The CCC's work is dedicated to helping the community gain access to their entitlements and improve living standards. Specifically, support activities ranging from advice services, adult education classes through to health wellbeing, cultural, creative pursuits as well as boasting a vibrant youth club and various sports clubs.

[www.ccc.org.uk](http://www.ccc.org.uk)