

## **Nine shortlisted artists announced for the Han Nefkens Foundation - Loop Barcelona Video Art Award 2018**

Barcelona, 9 November 2018: The Han Nefkens Foundation and LOOP Barcelona are delighted to announce the nine artists shortlisted for the first edition of the **Han Nefkens Foundation - Loop Barcelona Video Art Award 2018**, in collaboration with the Fundació Joan Miró. They are: **Mr. Chi-Yu Wu** (1986, Taiwan), **Ms. Yin-Ju Chen** (1977, Taiwan), **Ms. Sow-Yee AU** (1978, Malaysia), **Mr. Tzu Nyen Ho** (1976, Singapore), **Mr. Isaac Chong** (1990, Hong Kong), **Ms. Thao Nguyen Phan** (1987, Vietnam), **Mr. Chia-Wei Hsu** (1983, Republic of China), **Ms. Nao Yoshigai** (1987, Japan) and **Mr. Ping Wong** (1984, Hong Kong).

Established by the Han Nefkens Foundation in collaboration with Loop Barcelona in 2018, the annual award aims to increase contemporary artistic production in the video art field by supporting artists of Asian origin or nationality. Featuring artists from all over Asia, the nine shortlisted artists were selected by a jury comprised of the artistic direction for the award.

The winning artist, which will be announced during **Loop Barcelona 2018** (12-22 November), will receive \$15,000 funding for the production of a new work, one copy of which will be donated to the collection of the Han Nefkens Foundation. To coincide with Loop Barcelona 2019, the resulting work will be presented at the **Fundació Joan Miró** in November 2019. The Han Nefkens Foundation will also present the work in various international art centres throughout 2019 and 2020.

The winner will be selected by a judging panel chaired by **Han Nefkens**, Founder of the Han Nefkens Foundation, and joined by **Emilio Alvarez**, Founding co-director of LOOP Barcelona, **Marko Daniel**, Director of the Fundació Joan Miró, **Hans Ulrich Obrist**, Co-Director of the Serpentine Galleries, and **Barbara London**, Associate Curator at MoMA.

As part of Loop Barcelona, the Han Nefkens Foundation and the Fundació Antoni Tàpies are presenting Erkan Özgen's first solo exhibition in Spain. **Giving Voices: Erkan Özgen** (November 16, 2018 - February 20, 2019) invites reflection beyond the boundaries of politics to the intimate experiences of war.

The shortlisted artists for the Han Nefkens - Loop Barcelona Video Art Award 2018 are:

**Mr. Chi-Yu Wu (1986, Taiwan)**

Based in Taipei, the work of Chi-Yu Wu focuses on developing connections among humans, things, animals and the world of technic capitalism. His practice explores narratives in lost memory, such as oral history and mythology. He has participated in exhibitions including *TransJustice* (MOCA, Taipei, 2018), the Taipei Biennial (2016) and the 2nd “CAFAM Future” Exhibition (CAFA Art Museum, Beijing 2015), as well as in film festivals such as International Short Film Festival (Beijing, 2017), EXiS Festival (Seoul, 2017) and Arkipel Festival (Jakarta, 2016).

**Ms. Yin-Ju Chen (1977, Taiwan)**

Yin-Ju Chen is a Taipei-based multidisciplinary artist, working in video, photography, drawing and multimedia installations. She interprets social power and history through cosmological systems, using astrology, sacred geometry and alchemical symbols. She has participated in numerous international exhibitions and film festivals, including the Rotterdam Film Festival (2018, 2011), Transmediale (2018), Liverpool Biennial (2016), 66th Berlinale (2016) and the 20th Biennial of Sydney (2016), Shanghai Biennial (2014) and Taipei Biennial (TW, 2012).

**Ms. Sow-Yee AU (1978, Malaysia)**

The work of **Sow-Yee AU** focuses mainly in questioning, exploring and expanding the relation between images, image making, history, politics and power, through video installations and live cinema performance. Her work has been exhibited in institutions such as MMCA (Seoul), Mori Art Museum (Tokyo), HKW (Berlin), Rockbund Art Museum (Shanghai), as well as in festivals such as the Singapore Film Festival, ExiS (Seoul), BACC (Bangkok), among others.

**Mr. Tzu Nyen Ho (1976, Singapore)**

Ho Tzu Nyen works with videos, installations and theatrical performances that often begin as engagements with historical and philosophical texts and artifacts. Tzu Nyen Ho solo exhibitions have been presented at the Kunstverein (Hamburg, 2018), Shanghai Ming Contemporary Art Museum (2018), Guggenheim Bilbao (2015) and Mori Art Museum (Tokyo, 2012). He represented the Singapore Pavilion at the 54th Venice Biennale (2011) and was awarded the Grand Prize of the Asia Pacific Breweries Foundation Signature Art Prize (2015).

**Mr. Isaac Chong (1990, Hong Kong)**

Based in Berlin, **Isaac Chong** works with a diverse range of media, including performance, site-specific installations, public art, video, photography and multimedia. His practice focuses on transforming the tensions, interventions and interactions of human bodies into a microcosm of human relationality in social systems. Recent solo exhibitions include those at M+ Museum (Hong Kong, 2018), Apartment der Kunst (Munich, 2018), Kunstraum (Munich, 2018) and Bauhaus Museum (Weimar, 2016).

**Ms. Thao Nguyen Phan (1987, Vietnam)**

Considered a multimedia artist whose practice encompasses painting, installation and ‘theatrical fields’, this also includes what Thao Nguyen Phan calls performance gesture and moving images. Through literature, philosophy and daily life, Phan observes ambiguous

issues in social convention, history and tradition. A co-founder of the collective, Art Labor, Phan has exhibited in Vietnam and further afield, with solo and group exhibitions at Gemäldegalerie (Berlin, 2018), Dhaka Art Summit (2018), Para Site (Hong Kong, 2018), Factory Contemporary Art Centre (Ho Chi Minh City, 2017); Nha San Collective (Hanoi, 2017); Bétonsalon (Paris, 2016), among others.

**Mr. Chia-Wei Hsu (1983, Republic of China)**

Chia Wei Hsu specifically works on the actionability underneath image linking up the relationships of humans, materials, and places omitted in the narrative of the conventional history through incidents beyond camera. Key exhibitions have been presented at Industrial Research Institute (Taiwan, 2017), Hong Gah Museum Taipei (2016), Haus der Kulturen der Welt (Berlin, 2017), Taipei Biennial (2016), Taipei Fine Arts Museum (2016) and Rockbund Art Museum (Shanghai, 2013). He represented the Taiwan Pavilion at the 55th Venice Biennale (2013).

**Ms. Nao Yoshigai (1987, Japan)**

Work by Nao Yoshigai expresses the time needed to focus on “watching and listening” as a motion picture, based on the physical sense and phenomena unique to living things. Yoshigai has been awarded with prizes from Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media (2013) and the 19th Japan Media Arts Festival (2015). More recently, she has participated in exhibitions and festivals at Ai Kowada Gallery, NTT InterCommunication Center, 3331 Arts Chiyoda (Tokyo) and Japan Cuts 2018 (New York).

**Mr. Ping Wong (1984, Hong Kong)**

Ping Wong's animations have been commissioned by M+, NOWNESS and Prada, and he is a winner of a Perspective 40 Under 40 award.. His recent shows include *One Hand Clapping*, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, and *Songs for Sabotage*, New Museum (New York, 2018). Wong also took part in a residency at the Chinese Centre for Contemporary Art (CFCCA) and has held exhibitions internationally in Manchester, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Berlin and Paris, amongst other locations.

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**Han Nefkens Foundation**

The Han Nefkens Foundation is a private, non-profit organization set up in Barcelona in 2009. It focuses on video, with the aim of connecting people through art across the world, collaborating with renowned international art institutions. The Foundation's founding values have defined it from the beginning as an innovative and forward-thinking model: a production hub that oversees and promotes contemporary creation from the very first moments until the final presentation. Positioned as a platform for artists to advance in their careers, its main activity, always at the international level, is to commission works through its awards and grants.

**LOOP Fair Barcelona**

LOOP is a platform dedicated to the study and promotion of the moving image. Founded in 2003, since its creation it offers a specialised audience a curated selection of video-related contents from challenging perspectives. While teaming up with an international community of artists, curators, gallerists, collectors and institution directors to develop projects which aim at exploring the capacities of video and film in today's contemporary art discourses, it yearly

hosts LOOP Barcelona, a special meeting point that unfolds into three main sections: LOOP Fair, LOOP Festival, and LOOP Studies.

### **Fundació Joan Miró**

The Fundació Joan Miró was created by the artist himself and opened its doors to the public in 1975. It holds a unique collection of Miró's works, his personal library, as well as an archive with the entirety of his preparatory drawings. A center for the research of Miró's output and legacy, since its opening as the first museum devoted to modern and contemporary art in Barcelona, the Fundació has hosted numerous exhibitions. It is also the home of Espai 13, one of the earliest spaces devoted to emerging artists and curators, as well as an active educational center focused on the promotion of creativity and a better understanding of modern and contemporary artistic practices.

### Current projects at Han Nefkens Foundation

#### **Production Awards**

Han Nefkens Foundation - LOOP Art Fair Video Art Award (Barcelona)  
Han Nefkens Foundation - ARCO Video Art Award (Madrid)  
Han Nefkens Foundation - BUK Museum Korean Video Art Award (Seoul)  
Han Nefkens Foundation - CAC Award Latin-American Video Art (Quito)

#### **Production Grants - Exhibitions**

Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn: Vaijko Chachkhiani  
Fundació Antoni Tàpies: Erkan Özgen  
Gwangji Biennial: Heecheon Kim  
Antòni Tapies Foundation: Erkan Özgen

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