

Press Release

Input/Output (I/O) & Voxfire Gallery

17.02.2014

Input/Output has actively showcased new media artworks from international artists since 2009; projects including with various science, technology and creativity, we target to bring in various cutting edges programmes to public space; Voxfire Gallery, an independent art space which is founded in 2011, dedicated to showcasing thought-provoking works of art in various medium by local artists.

In 2014, I/O collaborates with Voxfire Gallery, co-curated the exhibition **“Memento Mori”**, each party invited a local artist to participate, being new media artist Alan Kwan (invited by I/O) and surrealist artist Sonya Fu (invited by Voxfire Gallery) respectively. **“Memento Mori”**, as a Latin phrase, represents an artistic and symbolic reminder of the inevitability of death. In the space of Voxfire Gallery, the artists interpret their views on death through their creative works.

In this exhibition, an installation and a series of digital paintings will be featured. Artists attempt to convey their views toward life and death by using different media meanwhile arousing audience reflection. In his kinetic installation **“Beating Clock”**, Alan Kwan is trying to reactivate a heart from a dead animal and turns into a clock consisting of flesh and silicon by using mechanical device and computer program. He attempts to challenge people's impressions towards existence meanwhile questions the many contrived activities happening in the world we live in.; and one of Sonya Fu's digital paintings **‘Blossom’**, which symbolizes life as fascinating and temporary as flowers. The concept takes death as a vigilant reminding people to embrace the present moment instead of being terrified by the idea of death.

Opening Reception: FRIDAY, March 7, 7pm - 10pm

Exhibition Dates: March 7 – March 29, 2014

Venue: Voxfire Gallery, 1/F 52 Gage Street, Sheung Wan (Entrance at Aberdeen Street)

Opening Hours:

Tuesday to Friday : 11:00am – 7:00pm

Saturday : 12:00pm – 6:00pm

Sunday / Monday / Public Holiday : By appointment only

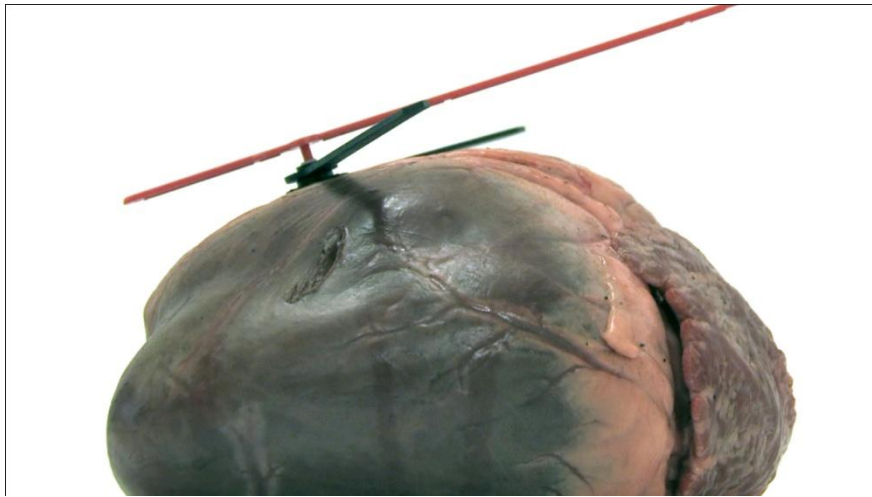
(Free admission to public)

For further information, please visit www.inputoutput.tv/ and www.facebook.com/voxfiregallery/ / www.voxfiregallery.com

For media enquiries, please contact:

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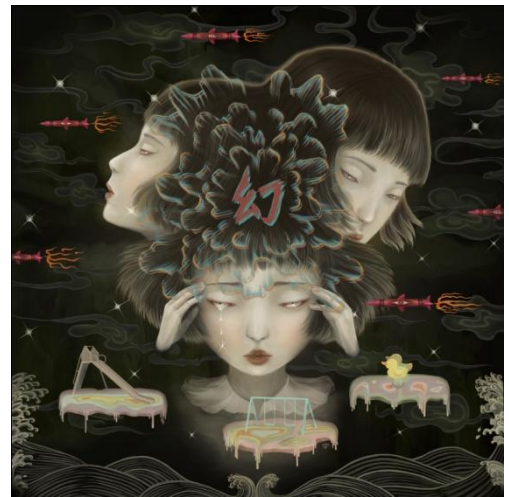
“Beating Clock”

By Alan Kwan 關子維



“Blossom/萌心萌生”

By Sonya Fu 傅敏兒



“Hypnagogia/半夢半醒”

By Sonya Fu 傅敏兒



“Adios/再會”

By Sonya Fu 傅敏兒

Alan Kwan Biography

Alan Kwan (b.1990) is an artist working at the intersection of cinema and new media art.

His art projects, which involve experimentation with film, videogame, animal organ, and various emerging technologies including life-logging devices and brainwave sensors, have been shown in exhibitions around the world including Ars Electronica Festival (Austria), ZKM Center for Art and Media (Germany), CYNETART Festival (Germany), Vector Game Art Festival (Canada), Games of Art Festival (Australia), and 404 International Festival of Art & Technology (Argentina), as well as been featured in major media such as Discovery Channel, WIRED, Popular Science, and Boston Globe.

Started making short film at the age of 9, he has also been an independent film director whose works have been awarded and showcased in film festivals including International Video Art Festival Camaguey (Cuba), Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF) and Hong Kong Independent Short Film and Video Awards (ifva). In late 2011, he was invited to attend the Asian Producer's Lab at the Puchon International Fantastic Film Festival in Korea.

Sonya Fu Biography

Sonya Fu (b. Fu Man-Yi 1982) is a surrealist artist based in Hong Kong. Growing up in the former British Colony where East meets West, Fu is influenced by both Oriental and Western culture.

Starting from 2010, Fu has exhibited in galleries and art fairs across Hong Kong, China, America, Australia and Germany. Fu's work has been featured in many renowned art publications including Curvy, Laminate Most Wanted and the Semi-Permanent art books.

In 2011, Fu was endorsed by Semi-Permanent as a new and notable artist of Hong Kong and selected to demonstrate live digital painting for Wacom at Semi-Permanent HK. In the same year, Fu was awarded with Perspective Magazine's '40 Under 40' which celebrates and acknowledges top young creative talent throughout Asia.

Fu's chosen medium is digital painting, this encompasses an intricate and unique process which enables her to paint with very detailed and delicate brushstrokes. Using inspirations from dreams, music, morality and religious belief systems, Fu bases her subject matter on hypnagogic imagery and the unseen beauties she has encountered during episodes of sleep paralysis. All of this combined introduces the obscure and eerie atmosphere in Fu's work.

Sonya quotes "My art can be disturbing to the audience, but this is my honest interpretation of the consciousness that lies deep within me. If my work manages to scare, sadden, excite or inspire people, then I am doing the right thing as an artist – creating and conveying emotion."

About Input/Output

Established in 2009, Input/Output (I/O) has brought forth cutting edge technology to Hong Kong in the form of media arts. I/O is a media art consultancy, which provides project management services including curation, artist management, production and exhibitions & performance management. Through working with collaborators, I/O produces pop up exhibitions and events in public spaces to introduce the community to new media art. I/O also works with local universities and institutions to provide workshops, seminars and conferences to expose the younger generation to the latest developments in the media art scene.

About Voxfire Gallery

Founded in 2011, Voxfire Gallery is an art space dedicated to the uncovering and discovery of emerging artists and creative talents. Located inside a historical walk-up building in the heart of Hong Kong's booming art district at the seventh stop on the Sun Yat-Sen historical trail, Voxfire holds exhibitions, performances, film showings and speaking events. In 2014, Voxfire has branched out to provide brands-meet-art consultancy for corporations and institutions. Find us at www.voxfireagency.com