

PRESS RELEASE

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Telling Hong Kong Stories through Shutter Art  
HK Urban Canvas 2019

Discovering local history in **Kowloon City** and **Ap Lei Chau**



High-resolution photos: <https://bit.ly/2HTW9D9>

(2 April 2019, Hong Kong) – This year, to find out how traditional neighbourhood shops have adapted to the changes that have taken place over the years, and to explore the local food culture and history, *HK Urban Canvas* visits Ap Lei Chau and Kowloon City.

**22 new shopfront shutter artworks and more**

Organised by Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation (HKYAF) and powered by Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited, *HK Urban Canvas* is a community art project that enhances community inclusion and highlights unique aspects of local culture through art and oral history. Launched in 2017, the project has created 62 shopfront shutter artworks in 6 districts to celebrate Hong Kong's local history and collective memories. Each year, the project is divided into two phases. The main focus of phase one is public art. This year, 22 new shopfront shutter artworks were created by 9 groups of local artists. Each work reflects the history of Ap Lei Chau and Kowloon City and the personalities and histories of the shop owners. The focus of phase two is art education. This year we were joined by hundreds of students. Working with local artists and their teachers, the students created 260 pieces of artwork inspired by the history and local stories of Ap Lei Chau and Kowloon City, and highlighting the contributions of our community neighbours. The resulting artworks will be showcased in the *HK Urban Canvas 2019* exhibitions at Aberdeen Promenade and Kowloon City Plaza in April. During the

exhibition period, HKYAF also presents guided cultural tours of the shutter artworks, and an updated version of the *HK Urban Canvas* mobile app will be available for download.

### **Discover the cultural heritage of Kowloon City and Ap Lei Chau**

In previous years, *HK Urban Canvas* has explored the neighbourhoods of Central and Western District, Wan Chai, Sham Shui Po, Mong Kok and Yau Ma Tei. This year the project explored Ap Lei Chau and Kowloon City to uncover the traces of local heritage and traditional shops that continue to exist despite the changes that have taken place in both neighbourhoods.

**Kowloon City** is a culinary destination for authentic Thai, Chiu Chow and Cantonese cuisine. **Fong Wing Kee Hot Pot Restaurant**, a neighbourhood favourite among local residents and visitors, is famed for its rich, flavourful satay hot pot broth. Initially established in the 1950s, the business started as a humble noodle stall. In the 1980s it was relocated to Hau Wong Road and expanded into a hot pot restaurant. Since Fong Wing Kee opened, there have been many changes in the neighbourhood, including the demolition of Kowloon Walled City in 1993 and the closure of Kai Tak Airport in 1998. The shutter artwork, created by local artist Devil, shows Fong Wing Kee's legacy in three snapshots. The image on the right shows the owner Mr Fong pointing at a vintage photograph of Kowloon Walled City, where his father's original stall was located. The centre image shows a bowl of soup being prepared at the noodle stall. The image on the left shows people enjoying hot pot in the current shop today.

Before urbanisation and the construction of the road bridge, **Ap Lei Chau** was a sparsely populated island with small coastal and floating village communities living along the northern shore. When fishermen are working, they often spend weeks or months at sea. To prepare for long periods away from land, they pack stocks of all the food and everyday items they need while they are away, including emergency supplies of Chinese medicine. **Ching Hing Wine Medicine Company** was opened in 1975 by Dr Chan and his wife to supply the local fishing community with Chinese medicine and traditional herbal remedies. All the raw ingredients are hand-prepared by the couple themselves through time-consuming processes like slicing, smoking and drying. The shutter artwork is inspired by their tenacious spirit and hard work. It shows the couple in their pharmacy with their pet dog – Dr Chan preparing prescriptions and Mrs Chan grinding herbs with a pestle and mortar – and both with contented smiles on their faces.

### **Learn about local history with our free guided cultural tours**

From 13 to 28 April, alongside the exhibitions of student artwork, HKYAF will also run *HK Urban Canvas 2019* guided cultural tours to explore the local history and community stories of Kowloon City and Ap Lei Chau. The programme includes a total of 24 tours. Each tour is approx. 1 hour long and can accommodate up to 15 participants. In mid-April, to accompany the tours, we also launch an updated version of the *HK Urban Canvas* mobile app complete with the new tour routes for Kowloon City and Ap Lei Chau. The updated app features 6 districts, 10 tour routes, local shop stories and images of all shutter artworks produced since the project started in 2017. The app also has an augmented reality (AR) function that allows users to view the artworks any time, even when the shops are open and the shutters are not visible.

## Notes to Editors

Project Organiser: Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation  
Powered by: Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited  
Official Facebook Page: HK Urban Canvas ([@HKUrbanCanvas](#))

### HK Urban Canvas Mobile App

The new *HK Urban Canvas* mobile app will be launched in April 2019. The updated app features tour routes in Wan Chai, Central and Western District, Sham Shui Po, Yau Ma Tei, Mong Kok, as well as the newly added Ap Lei Chau and Kowloon City. Download now: <https://appurl.io/j2wsphex>

### HK Urban Canvas 2019 Exhibition

#### Ap Lei Chau

Date: 05 – 23 | 04 | 2019

Time: 10am – 8pm

Venue: Aberdeen Promenade, Aberdeen Praya Road

Fees: Free admission, no tickets required

#### Kowloon City

Date: 09 – 24 | 04 | 2019

Time: 10am – 8pm

Venue: B1 Atrium, Kowloon City Plaza, 128 Carpenter Road, Kowloon City

Fees: Free admission, no tickets required

### HK Urban Canvas 2019 Free Guided Cultural Tours

- The **Kowloon City Guided Cultural Tour** starts at Kowloon City Plaza, and explores signature food dishes at local eateries and other food and lifestyle cultures through unique local stories behind the shopfront shutter artworks, and discovers the historical traces of Kowloon Walled City, pre-war Cantonese shophouses and more local cultural highlights in the neighbourhood.
- The **Ap Lei Chau Guided Cultural Tour** begins at Hung Shing Temple, where old fishing villages settled nearby, and explores the old streets and local shops of Ap Lei Chau, discovering unique stories and customs behind Hong Kong's traditional fishing communities.

Route	Date	Time	Meeting Point	Tour Duration
Ap Lei Chau	13, 14, 19, 21, 27, 29 April	11am & 2pm	Main entrance of Hung Shing Temple, Ap Lei Chau	Approx. 1 hr
Kowloon City	13, 14, 20, 22, 27, 28 April	11am & 2pm	B1 Hall, Kowloon City Plaza, 128 Carpenter Road, Kowloon City	Approx. 1 hr 15 min

Online registration: [www.hkyaf.com/events/773](http://www.hkyaf.com/events/773)

## Shops participating in *HK Urban Canvas 2019*

### AP LEI CHAU



#### Hing Tai Yee

Location: 60 Ap Lei Chau Main Street  
Establishment: Around 1890s  
Business: Grocery Shop  
Artist: Marka Mak



#### So Kee Ho

Location: G/F, 13-15 Hung Shing Street  
Establishment: 1960s  
Business: Boat Supplies  
Artist: Wong Ting Fung



#### Ching Hing Wine Medicine Company

Location: 58 Ap Lei Chau Main Street  
Establishment: 1975  
Business: Chinese Medicine Pharmacy and Clinic  
Artist: Candice Keung



#### Wing Kee

Location: 84 Ap Lei Chau Main Street  
Establishment: 1964  
Business: Hardware  
Artist: Wai Wai



#### Wai Kwong Diesel Engines Ltd

Location: 104 Ap Lei Chau Main Street  
Establishment: 1964  
Business: Engine Dealer  
Artist: Marka Mak



#### So Kee Cha Chang Teng

Location: 16 Hung Shing Street  
Establishment: 1953  
Business: Cha Chang Teng  
Artist: Wong Ting Fung



#### Cheung Chaan

Location: 50 Ap Lei Chau Main Street  
Establishment: 1950s  
Business: Sailcloth Products  
Artist: Devil



#### Lam Hon Kee

Location: G/F, 13-15B Hung Shing Street  
Establishment: 2017  
Business: Dried Seafood  
Artist: Smile Maker



#### Apleichau Kaifong Welfare Association

Location: 20 Ping Lan Street  
Establishment: 1950  
Business: Community Service  
Artist: Noble Wong



**Hung Shing Street Mural**

Location: Roundabout by Hung Shing Street

Artist: Noble Wong, Students from St. Peter's Secondary School

**KOWLOON CITY**



**Chong Fat Chiu Chow Restaurant**

Location: 60-62 South Wall Road

Establishment: 1970s

Business: Chiu Chow Restaurant

Artist: Smile Maker



**Fong Wing Kee Hot Pot Restaurant**

Location: 85-87 Hau Wong Road

Establishment: 1955

Business: Noodles and Hot Pot

Artist: Devil



**Tak Hing Fishball Company**

Location: 76 Fuk Lo Tsun Road

Establishment: 1980s

Business: Food Production

Artist: Marka Mak



**Ruamjai Thai Grocery**

Location: G/F, 21 South Wall Road

Establishment: 2000

Business: Thai Grocery

Artist: Marka Mak



**Tei Mou Koon Dessert**

Location: 47 Fuk Lo Tsun Road

Establishment: 1990

Business: Chinese Dessert

Artist: Wai Wai



**Yee Heung Tofu Shop**

Location: 74 Nga Tsin Long Road

Establishment: 1960s

Business: Tofu Shop

Artist: Smile Maker



**Shantou Ting Hoi Lo Sze Restaurant**  
 Location: 50 Nga Tsin Long Road  
 Establishment: 1990s  
 Business: Chiu Chow Restaurant  
 Artist: Candice Keung



**Yip Shing Hong Food Company**  
 Location: 68 Nga Tsin Wai Road  
 Establishment: 1980s  
 Business: Chiu Chow Pickles and Groceries  
 Artist: Noble Wong



**Shun Hing Restaurant**  
 Location: 56-58 Nga Tsin Wai Road  
 Establishment: 1984  
 Business: Cha Chaan Teng  
 Artist: Wong Ting Fung



**Cheung Choon Chemist**  
 Location: 91 Tak Ku Ling Road  
 Establishment: 1950s  
 Business: Pharmacy  
 Artist: Uncle



**Wong Ming Kee**  
 Location: 80 Kai Tak Road  
 Establishment: 1950s  
 Business: Chiu Chow Noodles and Congee Shop  
 Artist: Chloe Yau



**Lung Fung Frozen Meat Company**  
 Location: 48A Nga Tsin Long Road  
 Establishment: 2015  
 Business: Frozen Meat  
 Artist: Wong Ting Fung

### About Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation

Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation (HKYAF) is a charity that provides access to high quality, non-competitive free-of-charge arts experiences for all young people aged 5 to 25. Established in 1993 by Lindsey McAlister OBE, JP, HKYAF organises inclusive and inspirational projects that reach out to youngsters of all cultures, backgrounds, languages and abilities, and actively creates opportunities for those who are disadvantaged and underprivileged. Each year, HKYAF reaches over 800,000 people through its projects, exhibitions and performances.

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