



MILL6 Foundation Presents a New Series of Installations by Yukihiro Taguchi, Second Artist-in-Residence



Hong Kong - 25 November 2016 – MILL6 Foundation is delighted to present a new series of installations by Berlin-based Japanese artist, Yukihiro Taguchi, the second artist-in-residence of the program. Taguchi's residency runs from September 27 to December 21, 2016.

Taguchi began his research on the common and traditional customs around Hong Kong, engaging different communities and public groups to explore the possibilities of, and push the boundaries of textile art. Known for his research on local cultures, the artist's practice is rooted in interventions that interweave his physical body with the surrounding landscape. Taguchi takes inspiration from unpredictable encounters with everyday objects and people on the streets, and then documents the process through his installations, events, and stop-motion video works.

During his residency in Hong Kong, Taguchi collected myriad daily paraphernalia, from unwanted clothes, bamboo columns to recycled bags, these commonly found objects sprawl the streets of Tsuen Wan, Sham Shui Po, To Kwan Wan, Wanchai and the Western district. The new series of installations embody the spirit of textile production, weaving, sewing and staging unique materials that take on new meanings within a reimagined context. Remnants of construction bamboo are repurposed and reconfigured into functional furniture for public enjoyment; impromptu street interventions make use of weaving colourful fabric strips recycled from neglected clothing; and recycled bags and fabrics are dissected into small triangular pieces, sewn together again to form a billowing quilt. The public installations encourage audience participation, engaging passers-by and different communities to encounter familiar places, situations and daily life necessities from a new perspective, concurrently stimulating curiosity, intrigue and critical dialogue.



Simultaneously, Taguchi will host spontaneous events and workshops to engage with the local public, intended as improvisational street art. In parallel, Taguchi will document these happenings, via digital photography and video, to unveil layered changes of space, people and atmosphere in his research. As one of the participating artists of the affiliated Japan Media Arts Festival, taking place at The Annex from November 26 to 28, Taguchi will present a staged performance encompassing installation, video and a stop-motion animation centered on the motif of how he interacts with Hong Kong communities. On December 3 to 4, Taguchi will collaborate with The Upcycling Bird, local fashion designers and seamstresses to create limited-edition, handcrafted products for sale at The Mills Holiday Shopfloor – Gift and Workshop Market in Kwun Tong.

Taguchi will also hold a workshop at V54 Young Artist in Residence, the collaborating residency venue partner with MILL6, to present his on-going research, video and art installations, as well as an artistic collaboration with a local musician in mid-December.

“I am thrilled to have the opportunity to extend my practice in Hong Kong, a city renowned for its dynamism and pace. My research and street interventions executed here have allowed me to connect with the local audience and communities, transforming the city landscape through the installations and textile practices, and develop an understanding of the distinct identities of different neighborhoods within the metropolis. Through the process of engaging various fiber materials, I have been able to explore new possibilities within my own work, testament to the meaningful platform presented by MILL6 Foundation to explore the intersection of textiles, art and the city,” noted the artist.

“Through our artist-in-residence program, MILL6 Foundation aims to develop a collaborative relationship between the artist and local communities, sharing their valuable experience and insightful knowledge to expand the possibilities of textile arts. The artist takes inspiration from street and neighborhood encounters, and has extensively involved a spectrum of communities locally. The bilateral research process and meaningful co-learning experience of the artist and communities embody our vision to extend public engagement in contemporary and textile art,” commented Him Lo, Community Engagement and Learning Program Curator of MILL6 Foundation.

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*Interviews with Yukihiro Taguchi and Him Lo, Community Engagement and Learning Program Curator of MILL6 Foundation can be arranged by request.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

About MILL6 Foundation

MILL6 Foundation is a non-profit arts and cultural institution and a registered charity in Hong Kong. Established in 2015 as part of The Mills heritage conservation project, the



space is expected to be completed in 2018.

Centered on textile arts and culture, MILL6 is establishing a permanent collection whilst simultaneously curating a series of pre-opening programs consisting of: Exhibitions, Community Engagement, Learning, Heritage, Artists-in-Residence and Public Art. The non-profit institution aims to foster independent creative practice, as well as explore new meanings and experiences regarding textile arts and 'techstyle' innovation with local communities. We are committed to preserving the essence of local culture and heritage, conserving the valuable stories of the textile industry, and compel a continuous dialogue between Hong Kong and international creators. Our exhibitions and activities provide a way for local communities to 'look out' onto the outside world, and for international creatives to 'look in' on Hong Kong.

About TAGUCHI Yukihiro

Born in 1980, Osaka. Graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts, Tokyo University of the Arts. Currently, he presents performative installations and film works using stop-motion to highlight bodily movements at many exhibitions, mainly in Germany.

<https://yukihirotaguchi.wordpress.com>