

六廠MILL6

Press Release

8 December 2017

MILL6 Foundation Launches

Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile (CHAT)



8 December 2017 - MILL6 Foundation proudly unveils the identity and programming vision of the **Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile (CHAT)**, the Foundation's permanent home scheduled to open in Spring 2019. With **over 17,000 square feet of potential exhibition space**, the revitalised space in Tsuen Wan forms part of the heritage conservation project of The Mills, previously cotton spinning mills of Nan Fung Textiles. CHAT's multi-faceted exhibition and co-learning programmes will be dedicated to interweaving contemporary art, design, heritage, and the community, underscored by a shared legacy of Hong Kong's textile industry. CHAT will feature three exhibition spaces, a permanent collection space, multiple studios as well as creative rooms, all newly designed to support the education and outreach efforts of the organisation.

CHAT's Mission

Hong Kong's first and only art organisation focused on textiles, the programming of CHAT will reflect the legacy of the former cotton mills. Cotton yarn manufacture, is a process which inherently bridges different technologies, occupations, and fields from agriculture, engineering, scientific development, design to trade. This multidisciplinary approach is also at the core of CHAT's programmes. With this progressive energy, CHAT will present

a holistic series of programmes that weave together different communities, disciplines and practices, concurrently telling stories of history, politics, trade, and social economics.

CHAT's Programmes

Exhibitions:

CHAT's exhibition programmes will spotlight contemporary art and design in dialogue with textile heritage, and will feature two sectors: a **Permanent Exhibition** at The D. H. Chen Foundation Gallery, showcasing archival objects from the 1940s onwards, an interactive visual journey alongside experiential workshops; and **Seasonal Exhibitions** that foster cross-disciplinary experimentation to explore new possibilities of textile arts. The Spring Exhibitions will challenge conventional ideas of textile art through contemporary art exhibitions; the Summer Exhibitions feature participatory programmes that invite local communities into artistic production; and the Winter Exhibitions will be complemented by discussion forums that stimulate discourse and dialogue on design and innovation within the textile and fashion realms.

Co-Learning Platforms:

Concurrently, CHAT will present a multitude of Co-Learning platforms throughout the year, engaging the wider public through participatory workshops in collaboration with academic institutions, artist collectives, NGOs, artists and designers. CHAT Lab, formed by a group of textile veterans, experienced sewing workers and craftsmen, will offer a welcoming space for young emerging artists and designers to bring their ideas to fruition. CHAT will also continue to offer its Artist-in-Residence programme for international artists, providing meaningful opportunities for them to engage with Hong Kong's culture and textile history.

Logo of CHAT



In conjunction, CHAT proudly unveils its brand identity, a logo design that is rooted not only in the history of the cotton mills, but reflects the significance of textiles in contemporary society. Inspired by the most fundamental structure of warps and wefts in weaving textile, CHAT's logo embodies the very mission of the organisation in interweaving diverse fields and voices into a multi-dimensional fabric full of endless possibilities. CHAT's logo is a

symbol that is as ancient as the most fundamental fabric structure, and yet it is also as contemporary as the hashtag.

Celebrating the announcement, **Co-Directors of CHAT, TAKAHASHI Mizuki and TEOH Chin Chin** note, "*We are delighted to unveil Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile (CHAT), this moment marks a new phase for Hong Kong and Asia's textile arts and innovation. CHAT pays homage to the historic contributions the textile industry has made to our city's social and economic progression. At the same time, our vision is to present innovative and interdisciplinary programmes that challenge the conventional understanding of textile arts,*

thereby generating myriad new interpretations and ideas of textiles. We are excited to invite our visitors on this journey of exploration, and hope that our dynamic and forward-thinking platform will inspire new experiences and perspectives.”

For details of CHAT space, please see Appendix 1.

www.mill6chat.org

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*Interviews with TAKAHASHI Mizuki, Co-Director, Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile (CHAT); TEOH Chin Chin, Co-Director, Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile (CHAT) can be arranged by request.

NOTES TO EDITORS:






About CHAT

Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile (CHAT) is a part of the heritage conservation project of The Mills, the former cotton spinning mills of Nan Fung Textiles in Tsuen Wan. It is scheduled to open in Spring 2019. Through CHAT's own curated multi-faceted programmes that will include exhibitions and co-learning programmes, it invites visitors to experience the spirit of the innovative legacy of Hong Kong's textile industry and engage in new dialogues and inspirational journeys that interweave contemporary art, design, science, heritage, community and craftsmanship.

About MILL6 Foundation

Founded in 2015, MILL6 Foundation (MILL6) is a non-profit arts and cultural organisation in Hong Kong. MILL6's primary mission is to manage and operate CHAT, the first art centre of its kind in Hong Kong. The D. H. Chen Foundation is the Founding Donor and Nan Fung Group is the Main Donor.

Appendix 1 - CHAT Fact Sheet

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| General Information | Address | 41–47 Pak Tin Par Street, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong | |
| | Tel | +852 3979 2301 | |
| | Enquiry | enquiry@mill6chat.org | |
| | Website |  mill6chat.org | |
| | Follow us here |   mill6chat | |
| Opening Year | 2019 | | |
| Organisational Information | MILL6 Foundation | CHAT is managed and operated by MILL6 Foundation, a non-profit arts and cultural organisation. | |
| | MILL6 Foundation Address | 23/F, Nan Fung Tower, 88 Connaught Road Central, Central, Hong Kong | |
| Founding Donor |  陳廷驊基金會 The D. H. Chen Foundation | Main Donor |  南豐集團 NAN FUNG GROUP |
| Total CHAT Size | Floor Area | ft ² | m ² |
| | GFA | 38,501 | 3,577 |
| | UFA | 26,420 | 2,455 |
| Space Allocation (UFA) | Spaces | | |
| | Exhibition Spaces | 17,581 | 1,633 |
| | Other Multi-purposes Spaces | 4,647 | 431 |