

15 October 2020

Press Release

CHAT joins hands with international institutions to launch new initiative Textile Culture Net

A year-long programme to seek further possibilities of textile art and culture in digital form beyond geographical limit



(Hong Kong, 15 October 2020) 4 textile institutions – Central Museum of Textiles in Łódź; CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile) in Hong Kong; Lottozero in Prato; TextielMuseum in Tilburg – will embark on a long-running collaborative and creative journey of textile art and design starting from 20 Oct 2020. Against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing social distancing across the world, the 4 textile institutions have jointly conceived a new initiative titled Textile Culture Net, covering a series of online exhibitions and exchange ideas, interpretations and approaches to textile beyond geographical limit.

Historically and traditionally, textile making is a communal activity as well as collaborative work involving different skills and sources of knowledge from farmers, spinners, weavers and dyers, who have learnt new techniques and designs from other places to develop attractive fabrics. The history of textile development is in tandem with the evolution of technology. The textile industry was a major driving force of industrial revolutions in various regions, and innovative technologies have always been applied to create new textile materials for multiple purposes, such as medical, athletic, and architectural uses.

Paying homage to the cooperative nature of textile practices as well as the application of new technologies, the 4 institutions will take advantage of contemporary digital technologies to bring together their unique content, collection objects, and even manpower, not only to offer a fresh textile lens for wider audiences to enjoy art and design, but also to introduce a new chapter in curatorship and programme direction for textile institutions today.

Specifically, the collaboration starts with the first of 4 annual online exhibitions on December 2. The first edition is based on the 'About A Worker' exhibition curated by Lottozero, and provides the perspectives of the 4 textile institutions on the theme of work and workers' condition through fashion and textile design experiences. The online exhibition will be published on the Instagram accounts of the institutions and connected by the hashtag **#TextileCultureNet**.

The online programmes will run for one year, which will forge a new way of institutional collaboration among small and medium scale museums and art centres to become more inclusive, sustainable, efficient, and at the same time, dynamic and powerful.

Textiles have always accompanied humans, wrapping our injured bodies, filling our eyes with colours and encompassing rich textures. Foreseeing the digital impacts on art, design and museum experiences, which are supposedly in opposition to the tactile experience of textiles, Textile Culture Net will seek further possibilities of textile art and culture in digital form.

Textile Culture Net Details

Date: From 20 October 2020
Venue: Instagram

Instagram Accounts:	Central Museum of Textiles	www.instagram.com/centralnemuzeumwlokiennictwa
	CHAT	www.instagram.com/mill6chat
	Lottozero	www.instagram.com/lottozero
	TextielMuseum	www.instagram.com/textielmuseum

Hashtag: **#TextileCultureNet**

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About CHAT

CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile) is a part of the heritage conservation project of The Mills, the former cotton-spinning mills of Nan Fung Textiles in Tsuen Wan. Through its multifaceted curated programmes, which include exhibitions and co-learning programmes, CHAT aims to be an art centre that weaves creative experiences for all, inviting 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 and heritage.

General Enquiries:

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RSVP for events at rsvp@mill6chat.org

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APPENDIX 1: Online Exhibition Schedule

Date	Content Details
20 October 2020	Project Introduction: Introduction of Textile Culture Net and participating institutions
2 December 2020	Exhibition Theme: About ABOUT A WORKER
3 February 2021	Exhibition Theme: Common Threads
5 April 2021	Exhibition Theme: Your Things
2 June 2021	Exhibition Theme: When Our Textiles Become Art
To be announced	Exhibition Theme: To be announced

APPENDIX 2: About the Institutions

Central Museum of Textiles in Łódź, Poland

The Central Museum of Textiles in Łódź presents textiles in a broad spectrum of meanings and ideas. It combines the rich history of Łódź textile industry with the artistic vision of twentieth-century artists who propagated textile art in the world.

The museum runs exhibitions, educational activities and interdisciplinary research projects. It has an impressive collections of textile art, fashion, and objects related to the history of textile industry. Since 1972, CMT has been organizing the International Triennial of Tapestry.

Web: www.cmwl.pl

IG: www.instagram.com/centralnemuzeumwlokiennictwa

FB: <http://www.facebook.com/cmwlodz>

Press: Sylwia Meyer-Olejarczyk | Promotion and marketing specialist | s.meyer@cmwl.pl | +48 509 360 945

CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile) in Hong Kong, China

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Lottozero in Prato, Italy

Lottozero is a center for textile design, art and culture, with an open laboratory for textile experimentation, a shared studio space and an exhibition area.

Based in Prato (Italy), one of the most important textile district of Europe, Lottozero operates both as a creative hub and design studio. Its mission is to create a fertile environment for textile research and experimentation in design and art, and an international base for networking in the textile sector.

Web: www.lottozero.org

IG: www.instagram.com/lottozero

FB: www.facebook.com/lottozero

Press: Tessa Moroder | Co-founder and CEO Lottozero | <mailto:tessa@lottozero.org> | +39 340 2787854

TextielMuseum in Tilburg, The Netherlands

In the TextielMuseum in the Netherlands you will get to know everything about textiles in the field of design, art, fashion, industrial heritage and innovation. The museum is located in a former textile factory and offers an unique combination of inspiring exhibitions, educational programmes and the TextielLab, which is specialised in textile research and production. In the TextielLab internationally renowned artist, designers and architects develop innovative textile projects that find their ways in exhibitions, public buildings and catwalks worldwide.

Web: www.textielmuseum.nl

IG: www.instagram.com/nl/textielmuseum

FB: www.facebook.com/textielmuseum.nl

Press: communicatie@textielmuseum.nl