



(For Immediate Release: June 15, 2015)

Asian Cultural Council Announces 2015 Hong Kong and China Grantees

Hong Kong, China – Amongst a total of 89 fellowship grants awarded in Asia and the United States, 14 stellar individuals in the visual and performing arts of Hong Kong and China have been announced this year's Asian Cultural Council (ACC) fellowship recipients. For 2015, ACC's grant award amount worldwide exceeds HKD 10 million.

Headquartered in New York with offices in Hong Kong, Tokyo, Taipei and Manila, ACC is a non-profit organization that awards fellowships and provides program services for cultural exchange in the arts. ACC believes that the arts are central to the lives of people and offer unique opportunities for the growth of communication, respect, and mutual understanding between those of different cultures. The ACC is funded by the generosity of its private donors from Asia and the U.S.

"As the arts of Hong Kong and China gains international prominence, ACC believes that the support of individuals working in art and culture in the region will allow for this rapid growth to develop sustainably, going from strength to strength," says Josephine Wai, Director of ACC Hong Kong. *"This critical time in the region's cultural development is echoed in the lives of our fellowship recipients, who themselves are dealing with new challenges emerging in the arts, as well as in the personal development of their careers. The ACC believes that dialogue and exchange with gifted people of different backgrounds and expertise fosters new ideas that can produce a profound impact upon the wider community. We are confident that our fellows will return from their ACC trips abroad with fresh findings and will contribute greatly towards the cultural futures of Hong Kong and China."*

The 14 individuals in this year's fellowship cohort represent a selection of young creative forces in the region as well as professionals currently positioned in pivotal roles within the cultural landscape of Hong Kong and China. For 2015, the Hong Kong and China fellowship recipients in the visual arts include **Cheung Wai Ting, Stephanie (張慧婷)**, Lead Curator in Make a Difference Institute, who works on projects dedicated to creative innovation and social change. **Li Shurui (李殊睿)** is a visual artist based in Beijing and Chongqing who is known for her work in Op Art. Based in Guangzhou, **Song Ta (宋拓)** is a conceptual artist who often explores issues of hierarchy and power structures within society in his work. **Wang Sishun (王思順)** creates conceptual installations and sculpture that often feature a laborious transformation and recontextualisation of physical elements.

In film and media art, this year's recipients include **Mok Chung Ling, Jolene (莫頌靈)** who is an filmmaker and video artist that explores the intersection of space, time, and socio-cultural phenomena in her film and video work. **Kwan Tsz Wai, Alan (關子維)** is a filmmaker and new media artist who is receiving ACC support for his second year of post-graduate study at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's renowned 'Art, Culture and Technology' program.

Four of this year's fellowships have been awarded to individuals in the performing arts. Currently an undergraduate student of the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, **Ho Shun Yin, Kitty (何舜然)** has

received support to participate in the renowned Aspen Music School and Festival this summer via the Lady Fung Music Fellowship. **Huang Rujing (黃儒菁)** is a PhD candidate in ethnomusicology at Harvard University, and will be travelling to Taiwan to research the revival of Chinese imperial court music (*yayue* 雅樂). The Chinese theatre playwright and poet **Ji Chao (姬超)** will be exploring contemporary expressions of traditional art in theatre, and will be attending the Yale University School of Drama as a visiting scholar as part of his exchange program. **Zhang Wuyi (張武宜)** is a performing arts presenter and Chief Representative (Hong Kong) of the Beijing Midi Music Festival who will be conducting research on small-scale independent performing arts festivals in the U.S. for his future work in China.

In architecture, this year's Tsinghua – MIT Exchange Program and Young Architects' Award – both supported by the Hsin Chong K.N. Godfrey Yeh Education Fund – have been awarded to **Tang Yan (唐燕)** and **Yip Chun Hang (葉晉亨)**. Dr. Tang, Associate Professor of the Tsinghua University School of Architecture, will be participating in the Special Program for Urban and Regional Studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Yip Chun Hang, Architecture Director and Co-Founder of LAAB Studio will be researching the 'Maker Movement' on a special study tour in the U.S.

Amongst this year's cohort, two fellowship recipients working in arts administration and arts criticism are supported through ACC's recently-established partnership with the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in New York (HKETONY). **Lam Suk Yee, Connie (林淑儀)** is Executive Director of the Hong Kong Arts Centre and will be conducting research on arts institutions in the U.S. for the future development of her work in Hong Kong. **Leung Wai Sze, Jass (梁偉詩)** is a performing arts critic and researcher who is interested in alternative performing arts spaces, and will be conducting exchange and research on this topic through an extended stay in the New York.

About the Asian Cultural Council

Since the establishment of the Hong Kong office in 1986, the Asian Cultural Council has awarded more than 500 fellowships to leading arts professionals from Hong Kong and China for programs of advanced study and research in the United States and other countries in Asia. This group of individuals and organisations are part of a network of over 4,000 outstanding cultural professionals across Asia and the United States who have been supported by the ACC since it was first established in 1963 in New York by John D. Rockefeller 3rd.

Application for 2015 Fellowships

The Asian Cultural Council will begin receiving applications on September 1, 2015 for fellowships to be awarded in 2016. For more information, please refer to the website: www.asianculturalcouncil.org.hk

Editors who are interested in more information from the ACC or in arranging an interview with our grant fellows are welcome to contact: **Ms. Kathy Ip | T: 2895 0407 | E: kip@acc.org.hk**

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Asian Cultural Council, Inc. (Incorporated U.S.A.)

The Asian Cultural Council is a registered charity in Hong Kong and a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in the United States

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亞洲文化協會宣佈 2015 年度香港及中國的藝術獎助金得主

亞洲文化協會 (ACC) 宣佈本年度藝術獎助金得主名單，共有八十九位來自美國及亞洲地區的藝術家及藝術團體獲發獎項，其中十三位來自中國及香港的傑出藝術工作者，而 2015 年度全球資助總額超過一千萬港元。

亞洲文化協會的總部設於紐約，並於香港、東京、台北及馬尼拉設有分會。協會屬非牟利組織，工作主要為頒發藝術交流獎助金，與及計劃得獎者的交流考察旅程和提供相關的專業支援。協會認同藝術是生活中不可或缺的元素，而通過藝術上的交流，可以促進不同文化的聯繫、尊重及諒解。藝術獎助金的設立，全賴亞洲及美國的私人捐助者慷慨支持。

亞洲文化協會香港分會總監韋志菲女士表示，香港及中國內地的藝術發展逐漸受到國際重視，亞洲文化協會相信支持這些地區的文化藝術人才，將會有效地幫助和促進兩地這一方面的持續蓬勃發展。兩地的文化發展現正處於關鍵時期，獎助金得主亦同樣地在這個時候面對著個人發展及藝術路上的新挑戰。本會相信通過與不同文化背景和專業的人才對話及交流，能夠為藝文界得出一些新的想法及信念，而進一步為他們所在的社區帶來正面而強大的影響。本會對各位獎助得主非常有信心，在他們完成了本會的考察、研究及文化交流之旅後，必定能夠以嶄新角度為中港兩地的文化藝術界的未來發展帶來一番新氣象。

本年度香港及中國的十三位獎助金得主代表了兩地新一代的創作力量，以及界內現任關鍵工作的行政專才。在視覺藝術範疇，本年度的獎助金得主包括創不同協作(Make a Difference Institute)首席策展人**張慧婷**，負責策劃社會創新及創意計劃、專注於光效應藝術的北京及重慶視覺藝術家**李姝睿**、作品專門探討社會制度及權力架構的廣州概念藝術家**宋拓**及視覺藝術家**王思順**。王善於創作具概念性的裝置及雕塑，其作品常牽涉繁複的物質轉移及變化。

而在電影及媒體藝術方面，獎助金得主包括影片主要探討空間、時間和社會文化現象三方面的電影人及錄像藝術家**莫頌靈**，以及正在麻省理工學院修讀藝術、文化和科技碩士課程的影片製作人及新媒體藝術家**關子維**。

本年度的表演藝術獎助金得主有四位，分別是獲得馮秉芬爵士夫人音樂獎助於夏季金前往美國艾斯本音樂節的香港演藝學院學生**何舜然**，將前往台灣研究中國的傳統雅樂的哈佛大學民族音樂學博士學生**黃儒菁**，會以訪問學者身份到訪美國耶魯大學戲劇學院研究傳統戲劇藝術的當代演繹手法的中國戲劇作家及詩人**姬超**，以及將會到美國研究小型獨立表演藝術節後把新概念帶到中國的表演藝術推廣人及北京迷笛音樂節的香港代表**張武宜**。

於建築界別，新昌-葉庚年教育基金所支持的清華大學-麻省理工交換計劃及青年建築師獎的獎助得主，分別是到麻省理工學院參加其主辦的市區與區域研究特別課程的清華大學建築學院副教授**唐燕**，及 LAAB 實現室建築總監及其中一位創辦人**葉晉亨**，他將到美國研究當地的「自造者運動(Maker Movement)」。

本年度的其中兩位獎助金得主，是獲得新近設立的香港駐紐約經濟貿易辦事處-亞洲文化協會獎助金前往美國，分別是去研究美國文化藝術機構的香港藝術中心總幹事**林淑儀**，以及前往紐約深入研究當地另類表演藝術空間的本地表演藝術研究及評論人**梁偉詩**。

亞洲文化協會

亞洲文化協會香港分會自一九八六年成立以來，支持了超過五百位香港及中國內地的藝術文化工作者，以獎助金形式為藝術家提供留美學習機會，提供獨特的體驗式教育，旨在通過文化交流活動，支持藝術家進行研究及個人創作。亞洲文化協會由美國人約翰·洛克菲勒三世於一九六三年創立，自成立以來，共資助了超過四千位亞洲及美國的藝術工作者，藉以支持及促進各地之文化交流。

2016 年獎助金申請

下年度獎助金申請將於二零一五年九月一日起接受申請，詳情請瀏覽本會網站 www.asianculturalcouncil.org.hk。

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