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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"Happily Ever After II"

Featured artists: Lo Lai Lai Natalie, Cheng Yin Ngan, Chau Lok Yan Cathy, Chuk Yin Man Edwin, Tam Cheuk Lam Jessie, Wong Chun Kit Louis and Yau Lok Yi Rose

10 Jul - 25 Aug 2018

Opening Reception: 7 July 2018, Saturday, 4 – 6:30pm Artists will be present.

Venue: Blindspot Gallery (15/F, Po Chai Industrial Building, 28 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Wong Chuk Hang, Hong Kong) Opening Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10am to 6pm (Sunday and Monday by appointment only); closed on public holidays

Blindspot Gallery is delighted to present "Happily Ever After II", the second iteration of our summer group exhibition featuring works by Lo Lai Lai Natalie and Cheng Yin Ngan, two practising artists from last year's exhibition "Happily Ever After", as well as five fresh graduates of BA programme, Chau Lok Yan Cathy, Chuk Yin Man Edwin, Tam Cheuk Lam Jessie, Wong Chun Kit Louis, and Yau Lok Yi Rose, from Academy of Visual Arts at Hong Kong Baptist University and The Chinese University of Hong Kong. The ensemble ranges in materials and approaches, including painting, mixed media, installation, video and photography. By showing fresh graduates alongside practising artists who completed their academic training a year ago, the exhibition articulates a balance between perseverance and growth, continuity and change.



The two returning artists from "Happily Ever After" will showcase their latest works, reflecting recent developments in their art practice. Lo Lai Lai Natalie, who is a farmer and an artist, fuses the episteme of plant intelligence into the techné of image and video making in a new series of hand-coloured black-and-white photographs titled *The Circadian Clock*, as well as a time-lapse and drone-shot video titled *A Continuous Colouring Game*. Alluding to cryptochrome, a light-sensitive pigment that directs the living pattern of plants, the artist engages in a vibrant colouring game that is likened to the self-generative and problem-solving intelligence of plants. Cheng Yin Ngan continues with the making of large abstract oil paintings, drawing

inspiration and recurring motifs from daily and childhood surroundings. In her depiction of an airplane traversing the city sky, the artist induces the multifarious sensations of aviation, including the kiddy wonder of flying and the expansiveness in face of the novelty of the unknown.

Two of the new graduates use the visual media to explore how performative actions affect established systems. In *Paradox*, Wong Chun Kit Louis uses video and texts to document actions he performed – virtuous and wrongful deeds that seemingly cancel out each other – to question the mediocre foundation of modern Chinese ethics. Tam Cheuk Lam Jessie is a history-major-turned artist and an incessant scribbler who records her dreams. In *My Dreams of Art* and *Everyday I Grow Some Grass Here*, the artist leaves marks and thoughts that reflect on the art school system, life as an artist, and the modern society at large.

Three other artists engage in story telling that transforms space, time and memory. Chau Lok Yan Cathy creates large mixed media paintings, *It just happens.*, in which daily family life and landscape are abstracted into the dynamic interaction of dreamy and bright colours, undulating grounds and waxy textures. In *Him'N'Hers*, Yau Lok Yi Rose presents an array of small oil paintings, part self-portrait and part narrative scenes, that are lyrical memory fragments of a past intimacy in a foreign land. In *The Place We Have Never Remembered*, Chuk Yin Man Edwin photoshopped away identifiable signs from his photographs of city motorways to create a non-place in the lightbox diptych.

Interviews are welcome and can be arranged.

About the Artists

Lo Lai Lai Natalie (b.1983) graduated from the Chinese University of Hong Kong with a BA in Fine Arts in 2006, and obtained a MFA from the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2017. Lai's solo exhibitions include "Slow-So TV – Ann Eilathan's Gaze" (Floating Projects, Hong Kong, 2016) and "Souvenirs and Gifts" (Observation Society, Guangzhou, China, 2014). Group collaborations in which Lai has contributed include "The Fish Pond Sustainable Art Festival" (Yuen Long Tai Sang Wai, Hong Kong, 2018) and "The HK FARMer's Almanac" (Spring Workshop, Hong Kong, 2015).

Cheng Yin Ngan (b.1995) graduated from the Academy of Visual Arts, Hong Kong Baptist University in 2017, and was awarded the special mention prize at the AVA BA Graduation Exhibition. Exhibitions in which Ngan has participated in include "Form in Emptiness" (am space, Hong Kong, 2018) and "PLUNGING MY HAND INTO THE LAKE OF BILLOWING TREES" (Gallery Exit, Hong Kong, 2017).

Chau Lok Yan Cathy (b. 1996) received her BA in Visual Arts from the Academy of Visual Arts, Hong Kong Baptist University in 2018. She was the recipient of the Best Award for Western Painting from the Academy of Visual arts in 2018.

Chuk Yin Man Edwin (b. 1996) received his BA in Visual Arts from the Academy of Visual Arts, Hong Kong Baptist University in 2018. He was the recipient of the Academy of Visual Arts Award in 2018.

Tam Cheuk Lam Jessie (b.1993) received her BA in Fine Arts from the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2018 and was the recipient of CUHK's Culture Corner Art Academy Fine Arts Award (Western Art) in 2017.

Wong Chun Kit Louis (b. 1996) received his BA in Visual Arts from the Academy of Visual Arts, Hong Kong Baptist University in 2018.

Yau Lok Yi Rose (b. 1995) received her BA in Visual Arts from the Academy of Visual Arts, Hong Kong Baptist University in 2018.

All artists are Hong Kong-born and currently live and work in Hong Kong.

About Blindspot Gallery

Set up in 2010, Blindspot Gallery is a Hong Kong-based contemporary art gallery. The gallery began with a primary focus on contemporary photography and image-based art, and has evolved to include diverse media in contemporary art. The gallery represents both emerging and established artists, mainly from Hong Kong and the region but also beyond.

For enquiries and media interviews, please contact Ms. Lesley Kwok at 2517 6238 or by email info@blindspotgallery.com

Image Caption:

Lo Lai Lai Natalie, *The Circadian Clock: Crown Daisy (II) no.1,* 2018, Oil on archival inkjet print, 14.7 x 22.3 cm (Image courtesy of artist and Blindspot Gallery)