

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Play and Loop II”

Curated by Nick Yu

Featured artists: Sophia Al-Maria, Patty Chang, Luke Ching Chin Wai, Hao Jingban, Isaac Julien, Jiang Zhi, Lai Lon Hin, Leung Chi Wo, Nira Pereg, Shen Xin, Victoria Sin, Angela Su, Pilvi Takala, Eason Tsang Ka Wai, Wang Bing, Wong Kit Yi, Ming Wong, Wong Wai Yin

30 June – 22 August 2020

Opening Event: 27 June, 2020, Saturday, 4-6:30pm

Sign Language workshop with Leung Chi Wo will start at 4:30pm.

Venue: Blindspot Gallery (15/F, Po Chai Industrial Building, 28 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Wong Chuk Hang, Hong Kong)
Opening Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10:30 am to 6:30 pm (Sunday and Monday by appointment only); closed on public holidays

“Play and Loop II” is the second iteration of an eight-week screening programme at Blindspot Gallery, featuring works by 18 regional and international artists. Each week, video works by two artists will be featured and played continuously on loop during the opening hours of the gallery. The selected works congeal into weekly themes pertinent to our current state of affairs and being. Sedimenting, speculating and fantasizing, these weekly artwork pairings become navigation points between an unruly past and an uncharted future.



The opening week is themed “Heavy Hands”, featuring Pilvi Takala’s *The Stroker* (2018) and Leung Chi Wo’s *Sign* (2008). In a time when the world reels from the hygienic isolation of COVID-19, we start to recalibrate the practice of human touch and technologies of communication. “Heavy Hands” recognizes the biopolitical potential of the human hand, and speculates on its radical capacity to affect, ideologize and subvert normative human interaction.

The Stroker captures Takala’s infiltration of a trendy East London coworking space, where she strolls around the workspace and lightly touches other members in a friendly manner. These “touching” encounters are mostly cordial, but in time gestures of affectation become sites of negotiation and negation, betraying the plasticity of the boundaries between self and world.

Leung Chi Wo’s *Sign* is a two-part video exploring the use of sign language between infant and parents. Part one features a deaf teacher demonstrating basic signs in Australian Sign Language (Auslan) with which parents can learn to

communicate with their children starting at 6-month-old, with phrases such as “You wet?”, “You poo?”, “want milk?”, “No”, “Yes”, and “Ta! (thank you)”. Part two is a fictional account of a mother signing to her baby, conveying vocabularies she came across daily in *The Canberra Times*, which can be discomfiting and harsh, a heavy preparation for the infant’s life to come.

The opening event will incorporate a sign language workshop in Hong Kong Sign Language (HKSL) with artist Leung Chi Wo and deaf teacher Aaron Wong, interpreting a series of keywords the artist has encountered lately describing current affairs in different local newspapers. RSVP required for the workshop at info@blindspotgallery.com.

Screening Schedule:

Week 1 27.6 – 4.7	Heavy Hands	Pilvi Takala Leung Chi Wo	<i>The Stroker</i> (2018) <i>Sign</i> (2008)	15'16" 13'00"
Week 2 7 – 11.7	Still Dancing	Ming Wong Hao Jingban	<i>Next Year L'Année Prochaine 明年</i> (2016) <i>An Afternoon Ball</i> (2013)	17'40" 24'21"
Week 3 14 – 18.7	Daily Phobia	Patty Chang Nira Pereg	<i>Milk Debt Hong Kong, Jun 8, 2019</i> (2019) <i>67 Bows</i> (2006) <i>and Melancholy</i> (2009)	13'11" 8'35" 5'51"
Week 4 21 – 25.7	Going Away	Patty Chang Wong Kit Yi	<i>Shangri-La</i> (2005) <i>A River in A Freezer</i> (2017)	40'00" 25'25"
Week 5 28.7 – 1.8	Exile	Wang Bing Shen Xin	<i>Traces</i> (2014) <i>Strongholds</i> (2016)	29'00" 71'00"
Week 6 4 – 8.8	Chase	Isaac Julien Jiang Zhi	<i>Baltimore</i> (2003) <i>In the Woods</i> (2018)	11'56" 22'31"
Week 7 11 – 15.8	Stellar Contagion	Angela Su Sophia Al-Maria + Victoria Sin	<i>Cosmic Call</i> (2019) <i>BCE</i> (2019)	12'43" 9'43"
Week 8 18 – 22.8	Progress	Wang Bing Jiang Zhi	<i>Crude Oil</i> (2009) <i>The Nail</i> (2007)	14 hrs 85'15"
Also on view		Luke Ching Chin Wai Lai Lon Hin Eason Tsang Ka Wai Wong Wai Yin	<i>Screensaver: Sunsets</i> (2014) <i>Black Dream</i> (2019) <i>Music Box</i> (2018) <i>Housework No.3</i> (2016) <i>Clearing ten thorns</i> (2016)	39'07" 6'22" 8'16" 11'34" 1'33"

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. May Wong at 2517 6238 or by email info@blindspotgallery.com

Image Caption:

Pilvi Takala, *The Stroker*, 2018, Dual-channel video installation, 15'16" (Image courtesy of artist, Blindspot Gallery, and Carlos/Ishikawa, London)
Leung Chi Wo, *Sign*, 2008, Single-channel video, 13'00" (Image courtesy of artist and Blindspot Gallery)