



Foreword

We exist in a world full of conflict. Between humans there will always be this undercurrent of tension – it is the very essence of what makes us truly human. In this solo exhibition of Ant Ngai's most recent works, the artist delves deeper into the sense of the unknown – do we really love each other? Do you really know what the other person thinks? This pervasive sense of conflict – that fight between what we see and what we think – is a potent, silent war that rages internally.

The artist is insistent that there is never an outright goodbye – because every ending is the most certain indicator that the next storyline of tension is about to start. This group of new paintings is a search for this elusive starting point. The intentional placement of characters in very recognisable Hong Kong locations – such as Tai Hang Tung near the Kowloon Tong district, and the Pak Tin Estate in Shek Kip Mei – is the artist's way of trying to find bearings in this otherwise ever-changing world.

Do we ever know what we are looking for? Are the fish really lost? Is the idealised man inevitably directionless and empty? The main characters in this exhibition are not depicted in human form; yet they do represent a manifestation of all that we stand to lose, if people let go of what is precious.

The greatest crime is to be careless.

We invite you to exert some mental strength.

Words by:Joyce Ng

導言

我們生活在一個矛盾的世界。人與人之間總會有緊張的暗湧，這就是人類的本質。蟻穎琳藉著這次個展，深入探討我們潛伏在內心常有的感受：我們真的相愛嗎？你真正了解別人的想法嗎？這種普遍存在的衝突感和我們所見所想之間的鬥爭，是一場內心的肆虐、強大而無聲的戰爭。

藝術家指出徹底的告別是不存在的，每一個結局只是標示了下一個緊張故事情節的開始，展覽的新作就是希望能尋找這個難以捉摸的起點。她有意地將人物放置於香港各個明確的地點，例如九龍塘附近的大坑東和石硶尾的白田邨，試圖在這個瞬息萬變的宇宙中尋找方向。

我們知道自己在尋找什麼嗎？畫中的魚真的失蹤了嗎？理想化的人必然會迷失和空虛嗎？本次展覽的主要人物沒有以人形描繪，如果人們放棄自己認為珍貴的東西，畫中人則代表我們將失去的一切。

人類當中最大的過失莫過於粗心。

我們誠邀您通過是次展覽，從新思考自己對生活有所要求。

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