

ISAAC CHONG WAI

b. 1990, China

Lives and works in Berlin and Hong Kong.

EDUCATION

- 2013 – 2016 MFA, Public Art and New Artistic Strategies, Bauhaus-Universität, Weimar, Germany
- 2009 – 2012 BFA, Academy of Visual Arts, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 An Intimate Surrender, curated by Louiza Ho, Taikwun Contemporary, Hong Kong
carefully, Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2025 Traces in Silence, Städtische Galerie Nordhorn, Germany
- 2024 Falling Carefully, Zilberman Berlin, Germany
- 2023 Traces in Silence, curated by Heidi Brunnschweiler and Angelika Li, Galerie für Gegenwarts Kunst, Bremen, Germany
Breath by Breath, Blindspot Gallery, Liste Art Fair Basel, Switzerland
Isaac Chong Wai in dialogue with Joseph Beuys: The End of Growth, Museum Schloss Moyland, Germany
- 2022 Post-Mythical Accidents, Una Boccata d'Arte, Elpis Vakfi and Galeri Continua, Castiglione di Sicilia, Italy
If we keep crying, we will go blind., Zilberman İstanbul, Türkiye
- 2021 Leaderless, Bilsart, collaboration of Kulturakademie Tarabya and Zilberman Istanbul, Turkey
- 2019 What is the future in the past? And what is the past in the future?, Zilberman Berlin, Germany
I Made a Boat in Prison – A Journey to the Shore, Zilberman-Projects, Istanbul, Turkey
Is the World Your Friend?, Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2018 An Artistic Archive of Borders, curator: Nina Holm, Kunstraum München, Munich, Germany
Future of the Past—Past of the Future, Goethe Institut Hong Kong, Hong Kong
The Rehearsal of the Futures, curator: Nina Holm, Apartment der Kunst, Munich, Germany
- 2017 L'Homme et la Mer, Serlachius Residency by Serlachius Museums and Mänttä Art Festival, Mänttä, Finland
- 2016 What is the future in the past? And what is the past in the future?, Bauhaus Museum, Weimar, Germany
- 2011 An Unknown Artist, Academy of Visual Arts, Choi Hung, Hong Kong

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 Falling Up, curated by Leo Li Chen, Outside Art Space, Beijing, China
Being Alone: Artistic Perspectives from Central and East Asia and Beyond, curated by Petra Poelzl with dramaturgy by Dandan Liu, HAU Hebbel am Ufer, Berlin, Germany
Serralves em Festa 2026, Porto, Portugal
Nor here, Nor there, Robilant, London, UK
Secret Asian Man Presents: 언니 (Unni), Whistle Seoul, South Korea

- Kollwitz Neu Sehen, Kollwitz Museum Köln, Germany
- 7th Mardin Biennial: SKYground, curated by Çelenk Bafra, Mardin, Turkey
- 2025 14th Taipei Biennial, Whispers on the Horizon, curated by Sam Bardaouil and Till Fellrathtaking Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taiwan
- Life Rehearsals, curated by Na Rongkun, Inside-Out Art Museum, Beijing, China
- 50th anniversary exhibition: Challenged Togetherness, curated by Benedikt Johannes Seerieder, Kunstmuseum Magdeburg, Germany
- PERFORM! 2025, curated by Klaus Biesenbach, with Lisa Botti, and Gregor Quack, Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin, Germany
- ton not. not ton., curated by Ngyuen Phuong-Dan and Merle Radtke, Kunsthalle Münster, Germany
- Body and Building, curated by Matthias Ulrich, SCHIRN Kunsthalle Frankfurt, Germany
- 2024 Politics of Love, curated by Dr. Belinda Grace Gardner and Anna Nowak, Kunsthau Hamburg, Germany
- Shared Spaces, Kunsthalle Barmen, Wuppertal, Germany
- Forgive Us Our Trespasses / Vergib uns unsere Schuld—Of (Un)Real Frontiers, Of (Im)Moralities, and Other Transcendences, curated by Bonaventure Soh Bejeng Ndikung, Haus der Kulturen der Welt | HKW, Berlin, Germany
- Bangkok Art Biennale - Nurture Gaia, curated by Prof. Dr. Apinan Poshyananda, Pojai Akratanakul, Dr. Brian Curtain, Akiko Miki, Dr. Paramaporn Sirikulchayaont, Thailand
- 60th International Art Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia: Foreigners Everywhere, curated by Adriano Pedrosa, Venice, Italy
- MEMORY/MYTH, curated by Ananya Mukhopadhyay, Ames Yavuz, Sydney, Australia
- A Moment in Extended Crisis, curated by Andy Butler, UTS Gallery, Sidney, Australia
- Out of the Box 3: Traces of Interest, curated by Inka Gressel and Susanne Weiß, ifa Gallery Stuttgart, Germany
- Instances of Erasure, program by Nazlı Yayla & Marjolein van der Meer, Platform 82, Berlin, Germany
- 2023 The Assault of the Present on the Rest of Time, curated by Katya Inozemtseva, Schinkel Pavillon, Berlin, Germany
- The Nationalgalerie: The Collection of the 21st Century, curated by Sam Bardaouil and Till Fellrath, and Catherine Nichols, Hamburger Bahnhof–Nationalgalerie der Gegenwart Museum, Berlin, Germany
- 22nd Biennial Sesc_Videobrasil, artistic direction by Solange Farkas and is curated by Raphael Fonseca and Renée Akitelek Mboya, Associação Cultural Videobrasil and Sesc, Brazil
- 2019, küratör: Yekhan Pınarlıgil, Zilberman İstanbul, Türkiye
- The Breath Leaves Its Traces, curated by Olaf Stuger, Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin, Germany
- If the Berlin Wind Blows My Flag. Art and Internationalism Before the Fall of the Berlin Wall, curated by Nóra Lukács and Melanie Roumiguère, Kunstverein (n.b.k.) and the DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Program, Berlin, Germany
- The Person in Question, curated by students of the Master Art Education Curatorial Studies, MiZ, Zurich University of the Arts, Zürich, Switzerland
- Practice Till We Meet, curated by Hanlu Zhang, esea contemporary, Manchester, Germany
- Bodily Reaction: Vitalizing the Bare Life, Taikang Space, Beijing, China
- Afterimage: New Media in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan, Art West Gallery of University of Melbourne, Australia
- 2022 Spheres of Interest, curators: Inka Gressel and Susanne Weiß, ifa-Galerie, Berlin, Germany
- Settling into the Abyss, curated by Naz Kocadere, Zilberman Istanbul, Turkey

- MIT DER TÜR INS HAUS FALLEN Neuerwerbungen der Sammlung des Bundes, Neues Museum Staatliches Museum für Kunst und Design Nürnberg, Germany
- Difference/Indifference, curated by Angelika Li, Kunsttages Basel, Switzerland
- Myth Makers—Spectrosynthesis III, curated by Inti Guerrero and Chantal Wong, Tai Kwun Contemporary Museum, Hong Kong
- Forming Communities: Berliner Wege, curated by Thomas Eller and Li Zhenhua, Kindl Museum, Berlin, Germany
- BEYOND, curators: Liberty Adrien and Bettina Freimann, Âme Nue and Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg, Germany
- Identity Not Proven, curator: Susanne Klein, New Acquisitions for the Federal Art Collection, Bundeskunsthalle Bonn, Germany
- Carried by the Wind, curated by Angelika Li, PF25, Atelier Mondial, Basel, Switzerland
- 2021 By Proxy, curators: Melis Golar & Naz Kocadere, Zilberman Selected, Istanbul, Turkey
- Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin, Louvre Museum Auditorium, Paris
- Studio Bosphorus, 10th Anniversary of Kulturakademie Tarabya, Kunstraum Kreuzberg/Bethanien, Berlin, Germany
- Videotage - Digital Birth: Zooming in on NFT, Art Basel Hong Kong
- Recurrence 2, curator: Lotte Laub, Zilberman, Berlin, Germany
- Unlock, Zilberman Istanbul, Turkey
- 2020 Viral Self-Portraits, Museum of Contemporary Art Metelkova, +MSUM, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Looking for Another Family, curator: Joowon Park, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Seoul, South Korea
- Recurrence, curator: Lotte Laub, Zilberman, Berlin, Germany
- Reset, curator: Rachael Vance, Arndt Art Agency, Artsy
- Looking For Another Family, curator: Joowon Park, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (MMCA), Seoul, South Korea
- Ordinary Heroes: Made in Hong Kong, IFFR International Film Festival Rotterdam, the Netherlands
- Homo Novus Festival, curated by Gundega Laiviņa, Riga, Latvia
- Next Act, Asia Society, Hong Kong
- BerlinViews, Berlin, Germany
- Human Capital, Innsbruck Biennial, Innsbruck, Austria
- Rehearsal of the Futures: Police Training Exercises, IFFR International Film Festival, Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 2019 The Racing Will Continue, The Dancing Will Stay, curator: Leo Chen Li, Guangdong Times Museum, Guangzhou, China
- Living Sound—Expanding the extramusical, curator: Nicole Lai, Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), Taipei, Taiwan
- Imaginary Bauhaus Museum, Schiller Museum, Weimar, Germany
- 2018 The D-Tale: Video Art from the Pearl River Delta, curator: Hou Hanru, co-curator: Xi Bei, Times Art Center, parallel institution of Guangdong Times Museum, Berlin, Germany
- M+ Live Art Audience As Performer, curator: Alice Teng, M+ Museum, Hong Kong
- KOTODAMA, curator: André Chan, Para Site, Hong Kong
- Freiraum, curator: Annika Üprus, Kanuti Gildi SAAL and Goethe Institut, Tallinn, Estonia
- Transcultural Transience, with Rachel Monosov, curator: Pauline Doutreluingne and Petra Poelzl, ACUD Galerie, Berlin, Germany
- 2017 TOY Award—BERLIN MASTERS, curator: Philipp Bollmann, Stiftung Brandenburger Tor am

- Max Liebermann Haus with Arndt Art Agency, Berlin, Germany
 The 3rd Berliner Herbst Salon, Maxim Gorki Theater, Kronprinzenpalais, Berlin, Germany
 Forecast Forum, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, Germany
 Tale of the Wonderland, curator: Mimi Chun, Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong
 Urban Nomad 2017 Hangzhou Liangzhu Big Rooftop Moving Image Exhibition, Liangzhu Village Cultural Art Center, Hangzhou, Videotage, Hong Kong
 Have you ever measured the reality?, Das Weisse Haus, Vienna, Austria
 Carnival, curator: Caroline Ha Thuc, Hong Kong Amnesty International, Hong Kong
- 2016 The 5th Large-Scale Public Media Arts Exhibition—"Human Vibrations" curator: Caroline Ha Thuc in Hong Kong, organized by HKADC, Hong Kong and Gwangju
 Faith and Terror—Performance Art Festival, Meinblau, curators: Bernhard Draz, Anne Hölck & Tristan Deschamps, Berlin, Germany
- 2015 NEAR AND FAR 1914-1918 EVENTS/HISTORY/MEMORY, curator: Gordana Kaljalovic, Macura Museum, Serbia
 Imaginary Bauhaus Museum, the second Berliner Herbstsalon "Flucht", Maxim Gorki Theater, Berlin, Germany
 Acting Space—Bauhaus Goes Kunstfest '15, Kunstfest Weimar, Germany
 The Human Body: Measure and Norms, curator: Caroline Ha Thuc, Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong
 Montag Modus 'Transgression/Creation', curator: Lena Szirmay-Kalos and Kata Krasznahorkai, CHB Collegium Hungaricum Berlin, Berlin, Germany
- 2014 Moscow International Biennale for Young Art, A Time for Dreams, curator: David Elliott, National Centre for Contemporary Arts (NCCA), Moscow Museum of Modern Art (MMOMA) and Museum of Moscow, Moscow, Russia
 Works on Paper II, curator: Rachel Rits Volloch, MOMENTUM Worldwide, The Global Platform for Time-based Art, Berlin, Germany
 La quema de tiempo. Muestra de video del colectivo La Decanatura, Plataforma Bogota, Bogota, Colombia
- 2013 Video Screening, The 2nd OZON International Video Art Festival, Katowice, Poland
 Bodied Spaces be/verkörperte Räume, Collective Patty & Britty and ART CLAIMS IMPULSE Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 2012 Fresh Trend 2012, HKART Network, 1a space, Hong Kong
 Discordia, 10 Chancery Lane Gallery, Hong Kong
 OSTRALE'012—International Exhibition of Contemporary Arts, IAM—International Art Moves, Dresden, Germany
 Cabinet of Curiosity, Hong Kong Contemporary, The Park Lane Hong Kong, Hong Kong
- 2011 Point to Point Art Exhibition, Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation, Lok Fu Plaza, Hong Kong

COMMISSIONS

- 2023 "Two-Legged Stool," glass and mirror installation, esea contemporary
 "Tribute" and "The End of Growth," performance installation and photographs, Museum Schloss Moyland, Moyland
- 2022 "Post-Mythical Accidents," solo exhibition commission in public space including sculptures and installations, Fondazione Elpis and Galleria Continua, Castiglione di Sicilia
 Participatory performance at Hamburger Kunsthalle, Seeing/Unseeing, Âme Nue, Hamburg
 Video and performance in reference to Käthe Kollwitz, Die Mütter, ifa-Galerie, Berlin

- 2021 Performance video, Federal Foreign Office building, Berlin Festival of Lights Federal Foreign Office, Berlin, Germany
Performance, Falling Carefully, Asia Society Hong Kong, Hong Kong
- 2020 Performance, Where are the orders from above?, co-created with Krišjānis Elviks
Homo Novus, International Festival of Contemporary Theatre, Riga, Latvia
- 2018 Performance, Aware-of-Vacuity, curator: Leo Chen Li, Guangdong Times Museum, Guangzhou, China
Performance in public space, The Collective Individual Exercises, curator: Rainer Hoffmann, SPRING Festival, Urban Heat, Festivals in Transition, Utrecht, Holland
Performance, Rehearsal of the Futures: Police Training Exercises, curator: Alice Teng, M+ Museum, Hong Kong
Performance, Rehearsal of the Futures: Is the World Your Friend?, curator: Pauline Doutreluingne and Petra Poelzl, ACUD Galerie, Berlin, Germany
- 2016 Performance in public space, live streaming and video installation, One Sound of the Futures, curator: Caroline Ha Thuc, Kai Tak Runway Park in Hong Kong, May 18 Democracy Square in Gwangju and K11 Artist Village in Wuhan, Hong Kong Arts Development Council, Hong Kong
- 2015 Performance in public space, One Sound of the Histories, Kunstfest, Weimar, Germany

GRANTS and AWARDS

- 2024 winner of the Art Award of the City of Nordhorn 2024
Désirée and Hans Michael Jebsen Fellowship, Asian Cultural Council
- 2023 NEUSTARTplus-Stipendium für freiberufliche bildende Künstler:innen, Stiftung Kunstfonds, Bonn
- 2022 Scholarship, INITIAL 2 Special Grant—New Cooperations together with Dagmar Aigner, Akademie der Künste, Berlin
- 2021 Research Stipend, Berlin Senate, Senate Department of Culture and Europe, Berlin, Germany
- 2020 Fellowship Award, Kulturakademie Tarabya by German Embassy and Goethe-Institut, Kulturakademie Tarabya, Istanbul, Turkey
Museum Talent Award, Kunstpalast Museum, Jutta Cuny-Franz Memorial Award Kunstpalast Museum, Düsseldorf, Germany
- 2019 Winner of Bloom Award, Düsseldorf
Huayu Youth Award Finalist, Huayu Foundation, Sanya
Shortlist, Berliner Festspiele Theater Treffen: Stückemarkt
- 2018 Scholarship, Künstlerhaus Lukas
Finalist, Han Nefkens Foundation—Loop Barcelona Video Art Award
- 2017 First Runner-up, Hong Kong Human Rights Art Prize
TOY Award Nomination, Berlin Masters Foundation, Stiftung Brandenburger Tor
- 2016 Artist Scholarship Program, Burger Collection
Scholarship, ART-UNI-ON
- 2015 Bauhaus Essentials Award, Marke 6, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar
Kreativfonds—Nachwuchs
STEP Beyond Travel grants, European Cultural Foundation
- 2014 Bauhaus Essentials Award, Marke 6, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar
Funding from Burger COLLECTION, Hong Kong for Moscow International Biennale for

- Young Art
- 2013 Honorable Mention, Award of the 2nd OZON International Video Art Festival
- 2012 Best Honours Project Award, Prof. Eva Man
First Runner-up, Hong Kong Contemporary Award
- 2010 – 2011 Scholarship from Zonta Club of Victoria

RESIDENCY and OTHER PROGRAMS

- 2025 Abramović Institute (MAI) in Dialogue with Joseph Beuys residency at Museum Schloss Moyland, Bedburg-Hau, Germany
- 2021 Scholarship, Artist in Residence, German Federal Foreign Office and Galleries Association of Berlin (LVBG), Berlin, Germany
- 2018 Residency, Künstlerhaus Lukas, Ahrenshoop, Germany
Urban Heat by the Festivals in Transition (FIT) network of 13 international festival partners, supported by Creative Europe, (from 2015)
Closing Academy, Spring Festival, Utrecht, Holland
- 2017 Residency, Serlachius Museums, Mänttä, Finland
TEDxJSU, Jena
- 2016 Das Weisse Haus, Vienna, Austria
London City Lab, LIFT, London, UK
Lisbon City Lab, Alcantara, Lisbon, Portugal
Cairo City Lab, D-CAF Festival, Cairo, Egypt
- 2015 Opening Academy, Spielart, Munich, Germany
- 2014 Bauhaus Goes Sarajevo 2014/1914 by MFA Public Art and New Artistic Strategies, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Sarajevo, Bosnia

PUBLIC TALKS

- Talk at the Library: Witnessing History, moderated by Aita Sulser, Asia Society Switzerland (2023)
- Berlin Art Week at Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin, 2023
- Zürcher Hochschule der Künste (ZHdK), Zurich, 2023
- Asia Society Switzerland, Zurich, 2023
- Slade School of Fine Art, London, 2023
- Museum Schloss Moyland, 2023
- Kindl Museum, Berlin 2022
- ifa-Galerie Berlin, 2022
- Chinese University of Hong Kong, moderated by Yongwoo Lee, Hong Kong, 2022
- Northwestern University, moderated by Hayana Kim, IL, United States, 2021
- Federal Foreign Office with Christine Nippe, Berlin, 2021
- Theaterhaus G7 with Petra Ramsauer, moderated by Dandan Liu, Mannheim, 2021
- Asia Society with Nick Yu, Switzerland, 2020
- Goethe Institut, Hong Kong, 2020
- Royal Institute of Art (Workshop and Seminar) with Ming Wong, Stockholm, 2019
- Guangdong Times Museum with Leo Chen Li, Li Ren and Wang Bo, Guangzhou, China, 2019
- Museum of Contemporary Art with Hong-Kai Wang, Hsin-Wen Hsu and Samson Young, Taipei, 2019
- Academy of Visual Arts, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong, 2019

Bauhaus Universität Weimar, Weimar, 2019
Kunstraum München, with Heinz Norbert Jocks, Munich, 2019
M+ Museum with Alice Teng and Wen Yau, Hong Kong, 2018
Node Center for Curatorial Studies, Berlin, 2018
Goethe Institut, Hong Kong, 2018
Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, 2017
Bauhaus Museum (Workshop and Seminar), Weimar, 2016
K11 with Caroline Ha Thuc, Hong Kong, 2016
National Centre for Contemporary Arts (NCCA), Moscow, 2014

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Hamburger Bahnhof-Nationalgalerie der Gegenwart
Burger Collection, Hong Kong and Zürich
Bundeskunstsammlung (Federal Collection of Contemporary Art), Bonn
ifa collection (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen/ International Cultural Relations ifa), Berlin and Stuttgart
Sunpride Foundation, Hong Kong
Akeroyd Collection