

## Tai Kwun Launches Open Call for Artists' Studios

Artists, artist-collectives, practitioners or researchers are invited to apply

Hong Kong, 4 August 2020, Tuesday



**Tai Kwun — Centre for Heritage and Arts** today announces the second annual Open Call for Artists' Studios, an initiative aimed at artists, practitioners, and researchers working in the fields of contemporary art, performing arts, and heritage, the three main programming spheres at Tai Kwun. Applications are open to all, with a strong preference for candidates who can demonstrate a strong connection to Hong Kong. Up to four successful applicants will be eligible to work at the artists' studios free of charge, in the historic former residential quarters (Block 06 and 07) within Tai Kwun, with a target duration of 3-6 months between April 2021 and March 2022. Successful candidates will have the opportunity to take part in Tai Kwun's public programming events such as talks and sharing sessions.

The successful candidate should ideally be an artist, performer, art practitioner, curator, architect, researcher, writer, educator, or academic, working in the field of contemporary art, performing arts, or heritage. The successful candidate should preferably demonstrate a strong connection to Hong Kong and ideally Tai Kwun (in terms of connection to the site as well as Tai Kwun's programming). Applications will be evaluated based on the artistic, creative, and academic merit of the candidates, particularly with regard to the degree to which the successful candidates can gain a rewarding, enriching experience at Tai Kwun, as well as how the successful candidates can contribute to contemporary art, performing arts, and heritage in Hong Kong.

The deadline for applications is Friday, 18 September 2020.

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[www.taikwun.hk](http://www.taikwun.hk)

Proposals will be evaluated by a committee that includes representatives of Tai Kwun Contemporary as well as field experts.

Interested parties can submit applications to [opencall@taikwun.hk](mailto:opencall@taikwun.hk) by 23:59pm, Friday, 18 September 2020. Visit Tai Kwun website for full details: <https://bit.ly/31c4Ujd>.

### Tai Kwun's Artists' Studios

In parallel with Tai Kwun's diverse public programming, Tai Kwun's Artists' Studios offer a residency programme with a goal to expand the depth of programming and foster a wide-ranging network connecting artists, professionals, and the public, spurring interdisciplinary collaboration and contributing to a flourishing art and cultural scene in Hong Kong. The aim is to enable artists and professionals in the creative spheres to develop their artistic and creative practices and to benefit from Tai Kwun and its partners' networks; moreover, hosted guests also actively contribute to Tai Kwun's engagement with the public.

Tai Kwun's Artists' Studios will primarily be focused on candidates with a strong connection to Hong Kong, who are selected in an annual Open Call, with the aim of providing much needed space for artists as well as an important platform and network.

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### **Editor's notes:**

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### **About Tai Kwun — Centre for Heritage and Arts (Tai Kwun)**

Tai Kwun is Hong Kong's Centre for Heritage and Arts — a cultural destination for inspiration, stimulation and enjoyment. We aspire to offer the best heritage and arts experiences, and to cultivate knowledge and appreciation of contemporary art, performing arts and history in the community.

Tai Kwun invites all visitors on a journey of discovery that fuses across multiple genres of arts, heritage, culture and lifestyle in Hong Kong. Here, visitors will discover the rich heritage of the site through the thematic exhibitions and immersive public programmes that explore Hong Kong's history and culture, alongside a multitude of vibrant and inclusive contemporary art presentations and performing arts offerings all year round.

Opened in May 2018 and operating on a not-for-profit model, Tai Kwun is the fruition of a joint partnership between The Hong Kong Jockey Club and the Government of the HKSAR to conserve and revitalise the buildings of the historic Central Police Station compound, which represents one of the most significant revitalisation projects in Hong Kong. The site comprises three declared Monuments of Hong Kong – the former Central Police Station, Central Magistracy and Victoria Prison, all have been meticulously conserved, with unflinching attention to authenticity. The site also includes two new buildings – JC Contemporary and JC Cube, by renowned architects Herzog & de

Meuron; and several outdoor spaces – Parade Ground, Prison Yard and Laundry Steps, providing an exciting venue for the public programmes presented by Tai Kwun and its partners.

Tai Kwun, which means “big station” in Chinese, is the colloquial name used by Hong Kong people to refer to the former police headquarters and the surrounding compound. The name has been adopted as a reminder of the historical importance of this living heritage site.

In 2019, Tai Kwun received the Award of Excellence in the 2019 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation. This is the highest honour of the prestigious Awards, which bestows an international recognition of the outstanding achievement in the conservation and revitalisation efforts of Tai Kwun.

Tai Kwun Contemporary is the not-for-profit visual art programme of Tai Kwun. Realising six to eight exhibitions a year and curatorially driven, Tai Kwun Contemporary showcases and commissions artists from Hong Kong and beyond, while offering an extensive range of public programming. With the aspiration to contribute to and transform the experience and understanding of contemporary art in Hong Kong, Tai Kwun Contemporary is devoted to inspiring the Hong Kong public with an inquisitive attitude and committed to offering a conducive platform for learning and experimentation.

For more information, please visit our website: <https://www.TaiKwun.hk>.

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