

ARTIST CHEMIN HSIAO RECOGNIZED WITH 2023 QUEENS ARTS FUND GRANT FROM NEW YORK FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS (NYFA) AND THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS (DCLA)

Chemin Hsiao Will Present His New Watercolor Paintings at Flushing Town Hall on 9/16~10/01 as Part of Award Program

Queens, NY (September 2, 2023) – Chemin Hsiao is one of 142 Queens-based artists, artist collectives, and small non-profit organizations to receive funding through the [Queens Arts Fund](#) program, presented by [The New York Foundation for the Arts](#) (NYFA) in partnership with [the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs](#) (DCLA).

Chemin Hsiao was recognized with a New Work Grant for “From Past to Present”, which will bring his new watercolor paintings to the Flushing Town Hall and its community in Queens from 9/16~10/01. The public reception will be scheduled on Saturday, 9/23, 4:30~6:30pm with the artist walk-through of the exhibition at 5:30pm. Right before the public reception, the artist will host a drop-in painting workshop for the public to experience watercolor painting onsite at 2:30~4:30pm.

"From Past to Present" is a series of new watercolor paintings made from observations of photos, printed materials, and still image from videos. The selection of those reference images were based on the artist's personal connections with the images, whether its history relates to his culture background from Taiwan (or Asia/USA in general, reflecting where he resided), or directly links to memories to his family from the past and the present.

This new work series marks a major transition from different eras of Hsiao's watercolor painting practice. Before 2020, his artwork mostly involved paintings from life, for instance, painting inspired by the nature within botanical gardens or residencies. As the world was affected by the pandemic, his practice slowly shifted toward creating within a confined space, such as his studio. He began to work more from photographs or references found online or taken by himself via camera.

Between 2020~2022, the painting series "New Phase" which involved the symbol of mask, marked as the first series he didn't directly work from life. Some of those paintings are also displayed in this exhibition.

The City-funded Queens Arts Fund, administered by NYFA for Fiscal Year 2023, will provide \$457,600 in project grants to Queens-based artists, artist collectives, and small non-profit organizations of all artistic disciplines to support the local production of artwork and cultural programs that highlight, engage, and bolster the borough of Queens.

All recipients must have a public component—held in-person, virtually, or combination of both—in Queens within the 2023 calendar year to provide Queens community members with the opportunity to experience dynamic, easily accessible arts and cultural events. Members of the public can participate in Queens Arts Fund programming by following the hashtag #QAF2023 on social media.

Chemin Hsiao was recognized with a [New Work Grant](#) of \$3,000. New Work Grants are offered to Queens-based individual artists, unincorporated artist collectives, or collaborations between multiple artists of all disciplines to support the creation of new work. "New Work" is defined as work that has not been produced or presented to an audience before.

[Click here for more information on Queens Arts Fund.](#)