The University Museum and Art Gallery (UMAG) of the University of Hong Kong (HKU) will present *Chak: Landscapes and Other Natural Occurrences* from February 7, 2020 to May 3, 2020. Known primarily for his landscapes, Chak paints the forms of the natural world in abstract and poetic ways. After showing internationally—having lived in Japan and the USA for several decades—*Chak: Landscapes and Other Natural Occurrences*, is one of the first significant solo exhibitions of the artist’s work to be displayed in Hong Kong. The UMAG exhibition highlights both his larger two-panel canvases and smaller works on paper as a way to illustrate the artist’s evolution of thought.

Solidly grounded in traditional methodologies, Chak’s philosophy of painting is drawn out in oil, acrylic and ink. Each composition is a manifestation of the painter’s belief in the need to remain in conversation with nature. His study of plants, rivers and hillsides are influenced by the painter’s idealised mission to recreate nature through his own sophisticated form of craftsmanship. Chak is fascinated with the calm that nature offers each of us to recharge amidst our hectic days within urban environments.

Chak graduated from the Department of Fine Arts at the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1981, where he studied with the modernist master Liu Kuo-sung. With his students, Liu stressed the necessity of considering multiple artistic traditions and unconventional modes of brushwork as a way to transform Chinese painting. During his undergraduate years, Chak incorporated a broad range of contemporary theories and materials, for which he received many prestigious awards, including honours from the Contemporary Hong Kong Art Biennial (Hong Kong Museum of Art, 1979) and Youth Art Now: Asia (Hong Kong Arts Centre, 1980). After graduation, he was awarded a Monbusho Scholarship to continue his education at the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts. Chak then went on to study in the United States, completing an MA from Ball State University in 1986, an MFA from Queens College in New York, a residency at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine and the National Artists Program at the P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center in New York City. Throughout the 1980s and early ’90s, Chak’s work was shown widely in Hong Kong, New York, Tokyo and Taipei. After living abroad for nearly 30 years, he returned to Hong Kong in 2009.

For more images and captions of the exhibits, please click [here](#).
Media RSVP:  
Elena Cheung, Tel: 2241 5512, Email: elenac@hku.hk  
Chelsea Choi, Tel: 2241 5509, Email: cchelsea@hku.hk

Opening Ceremony  
**Date:** February 6, 2020 (Thursday)  
**Time:** 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm  
**Venue:** 2/F, Fung Ping Shan Building, UMAG, HKU, 90 Bonham Road, Pokfulam, Hong Kong  
**Officiating Guest:** Chak, Featured artist  
**Host:** Florian Knothe, Director of UMAG, HKU

Details of the Exhibition  
**Period:** February 7, 2020 (Friday) to May 3, 2020 (Sunday)  
**Opening Hours:**  
9:30 am – 6:00 pm (Tuesday to Saturday)  
1:00 pm – 6:00 pm (Sunday)  
Closed on Mondays, University and Public Holidays  
**Venue:** 2/F, Fung Ping Shan Building, UMAG, HKU, 90 Bonham Road, Pokfulam, Hong Kong  
**Tel/Email:** (852) 2241 5500 (General Enquiry) / museum@hku.hk  
**Admission:** Free  
**Website:** [http://www.umag.hku.hk/en/](http://www.umag.hku.hk/en/)

Connect with UMAG on Social Media:  
Instagram: @umag_hku, #UMAG, #Chak, #Landscapes  
Weibo: @香港大學美術博物館 UMAG  

About University Museum and Art Gallery of the University of Hong Kong (UMAG)  
UMAG was founded in 1953 as the Fung Ping Shan Museum. It was originally established as the Fung Ping Shan Library in 1932 in honour of its benefactor. For more information on UMAG, please [click here](http://www.umag.hku.hk/en/).

Media Enquiries  
UMAG Senior Communications Officer Elena Cheung, Tel: (852) 2241 5512, Email: elenac@hku.hk  
UMAG Programme Officer Chelsea Choi, Tel: (852) 2241 5509, Email: cchelsea@hku.hk

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