

Academy of Chinese, History, Religion and Philosophy – Department of History

2024-25年度章群教授紀念公開學術講座  
Prof. Chang Chuen Memorial Public Lecture Series (2024-25)

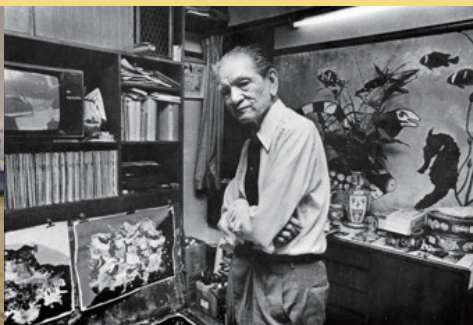
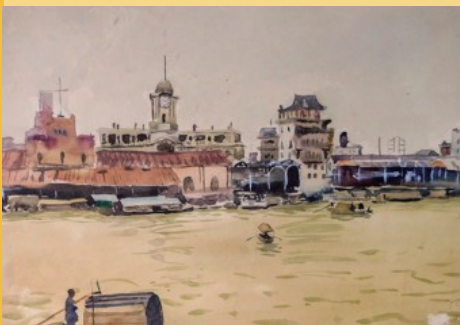
歷史系主辦 Presented by the Department of History

# LUIS CHAN AND HIS HONG KONG KALEIDOSCOPE

Professor Kuiyi Shen  
University of California, San Diego

**ABSTRACT** This talk will examine Luis Chan (Chen Fushan; 1905 – 1995), a Hong Kong artist renowned for his unique artistic vision. It was he who had the most profound contemporary consciousness among Hong Kong artists at the time. Over the course of his career, he worked in various realms of painting and also devoted himself to writing art criticism, translations, introductions to contemporary art, as well as to promoting the development of Hong Kong art. He had great achievements in oil painting, watercolor, collage, and acrylic, especially in his later years, when he used ink and color to express his fantasy world. Crossing the boundaries of medium, he brought forth images characterized by their absurdity and humor to reflect on the remarkably diverse phenomena one might associate with Hong Kong in the second half of the twentieth century, and thus created his unique personal painting vocabulary and style.

**BIO** Kuiyi Shen is Professor of Art History, Theory, and Criticism, and Vice Chair of the Visual Arts Department at University of California, San Diego. His research focuses on modern and contemporary Asian art. Among his publications are *A Century in Crisis: Tradition and Modernity in the Art of Twentieth Century China* (1998); *Chinese Posters* (2009); *Arts of Modern China* (2012, winner of the 2103 ICAS Book Prize in Humanities), *Light Before Dawn: Unofficial Chinese Art 1974-1985* (2013), *Painting Her Way: The Ink Art of Fang Zhaoling* (2017), and *Luis Chan* (2019). He also maintains an active career as a curator. The best known of the exhibitions he has curated are *A Century in Crisis: Tradition and Modernity in the Art of Twentieth Century China* (1998), *Reboot: The Third Chengdu Biennial* (2007), *Why Not Ink* (2012), *Light Before Dawn* (2013), and *Luis Chan* (2019). He is a recipient of fellowships and awards from National Endowment of Art, Social Science Research Council, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Ishibashi Foundation, Stanford University, Leiden University, University of California, University of Heidelberg, and others. He is also the managing editor of Brill's book series *Modern Asian Art and Visual Culture*.



**Date** April 1, 2025 (Tuesday)  
**Time** 9:00 am - 10:30 am (HKT)  
**Venue** WLB204, Wing Lung Bank Building for Business  
Shaw Campus, 34 Renfrew Road, Kowloon Tong  
**Language** English

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Passcode: 741102



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