Description	Image
Fung Hong-hou (1901 – 1983)	
Couplet of Collection of Su Shi's Poem in Small Seal Script	9M 8 4
1978	
Pair of hanging scrolls, ink on gold-flecked paper	秋·诗·秦
Each 126 x 32 cm	
Collection of Hong Kong Museum of Art	意
AC1980.0036	
	静

Seven Reflections¹

Text: Lau Yee-ching Poet, writer

I

Thunder in silence

Then back to silence within silence

II

The room is clean and bright

Big Tree General

What is on his mind?

After Big Tree General

What would be written?

Ш

From endpoint to endpoint

Time flies

__

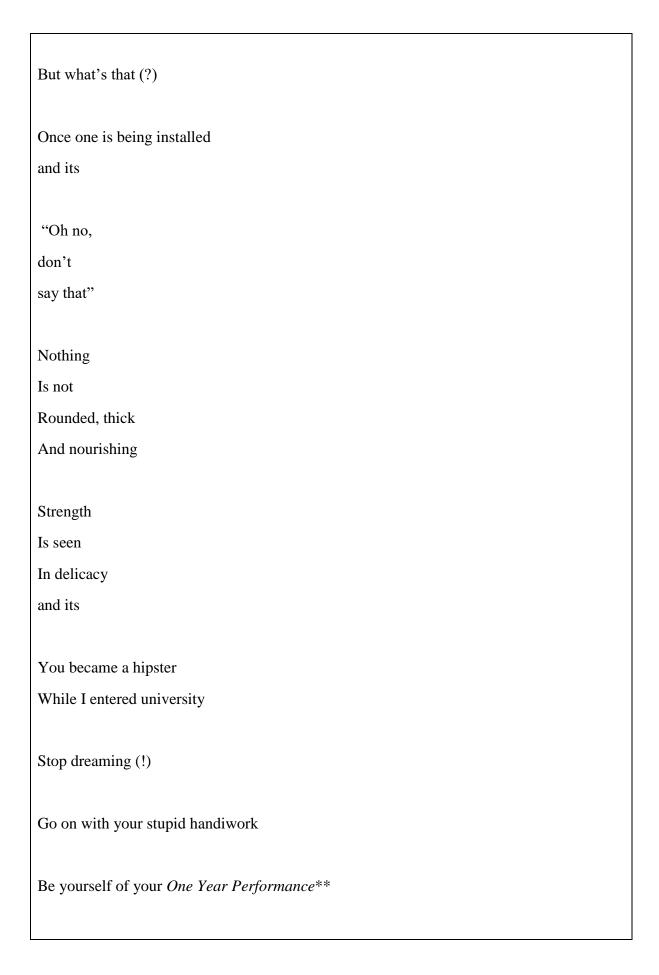
¹ This is the poet's reflection after reading the calligraphic text by Fung Hong-hou and appreciating its form, including his comprehension of Fung Hong-hou's creative approach, his response to the beauty of Fung's calligraphy, and the sentiments derived from it.

I hold no regrets on the impossibility of meeting the ancients I regret my helplessness towards those I cannot remember And the thoughts and respect For those who are unpredictable IV Elegant and graceful Hard and strong, soft and delicate An expansive expression of quietness Like my nostalgia Towards those too ancient for me to remember And expectation Towards those who are unpredictable V "Free-spirited debonair will not go unappreciated Upright character and moral integrity will not be shaken by popular trend" The free spirit is like the wandering wind Counterposing yet interdependent The two mirror each other At the same time rhyme and form a word VI You, with your brush and ink Realize yourself Make your own wish come true

And bring us into
High morality
As one
Wisdom and integrity
Not as one
As this world
VII
Good wishes that last for years
That rely on
Fung Hong-hou's seal
Ha Kou and Ah Tai - If Huang Binhong hadn't been around ²
Text: Lau Yee-ching Poet, writer
If Huang Binhong hadn't been around
I have no idea how Chinese painting would have developed
You can do installation instead!
If Huang Binhong hadn't been around
I have no idea how Chinese painting would have been
Installed*
Are you going to "install" Huang Binhong?

² 'Ha Kou' and 'Ah Dai' are the characters from the novel *The Story of Ha Kou* written by Huang Gu-liu. The story is set in Hong Kong during its transition from a feudal society to a colony; Huang Binhong is a painter from the late Qing to early Republican China, while Cai Guoqiang and Hsieh Tehching are contemporary artists. The poet uses the context of the novel and the works of the three artists to raise the question, in a humorous tone, how to innovate the art of calligraphy and how can it navigate in the contemporary world. At the same time, the terms 'curating' and 'entering a university' in the poem reveal the transformation of calligraphy from being an everyday life practice to a delicate art form.





Mr Cai Guoqiang has sent us an order again!

Mr Hsieh Tehching is planning to jump ship again!

You see,

Our master Fung Hong-hou has come East to carve a stone

And writes his Gwanggaeto Stele along the street again

Hadn't I said, free-spirited debonair will not go unappreciated

It's the beauty, intoxication, and joy of literature!

Translator's note:

^{*} the Chinese word for "installation" (裝置) can also mean to frame somebody or to set up somebody in colloquial Cantonese.

^{**}The title of Hsieh Tehching's work