

這碌耐味中 及 大式接建

'Living with Bamboo: Museum of Art is Here' is a prelude to the reopening of the Hong Kong Museum of Art in 2019 after its expansion with a brand-new façade. It is an education programme providing a new model of art learning for the audiences. This programme aims to bridge the gap between traditional Chinese arts and the modern world in an approachable way, bringing forward the Museum collection. We are honoured to have the support and participation of local academic institution and the museums around the world.

Although bamboo is closely associated with our everyday life, it often goes unnoticed. If we slow down and open up our senses to read bamboo carefully, we will find extraordinary and seasoned stories. We hope 'Living with Bamboo' will inspire you to dig out the connotations that went previously unnoticed in your hectic life, and provide a breath of fresh air in this urban oasis where culture is all-present.

Hong Kong Museum of Art



網址 Website: http://hk.art.museum www.livingwithbamboo.org

> Seemingly ordinary, but incredible indeed. A single stem appealing enough; a bundle reveals crucial lessons. Neither grass nor wood, one has taste by savouring it. In many of the verses by masters, characters with the bamboo radical are frequently used. Carving roots endows them with a thousand looks; ink painting depicts thousands bamboo stems. Modesty a hollow stem gives; gains integrity the moment it breaks the soil!



展期: 2016.9.10 - 10.11

開放時間:每日上午10時至晚上8時

地點:香港銅鑼灣高士威道六十六號香港中央圖書館地下展覽館

Exhibition Period: 2016.9.10 — 10.11

Opening Hours: 10am - 8pm

Address: Exhibition Gallery, G/F, Hong Kong Central Library, 66 Causeway Road Causeway Bay, Hong Kong



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Presented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department Organized by the Hong Kong Museum of Art In Partnership with the Design and Cultural Studies Workshop Education Partner: Academy of Visual Arts, Hong Kong Baptist University **Living with Bamboo: Museum of Art is Here** 教育推廣計劃 | Education Programme













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# Bamboo Theatre

Every year during festive seasons, scaffolding masters show off their techniques in constructing bamboo theatres. A giant bamboo provisional theatre that could accommodate audiences of seven to eight thousand only takes a month to create and it returns to the original state after the celebration in a very short period of time.

## **Abundant Stories**

A bamboo yoke shoulders numerous folk industries, upholding traditional culture and mentality; no matter be it the branches, fruit, grain or shoots, there is always a story. Seven Sages in the Bamboo Grove is the most revered among all literati stories related to the bamboo.

### **Cultivated Taste**

Su Shi of the Song dynasty had said, 'The absence of bamboo renders a person banal', and the literati of Ming embraced his philosophy. Ordinary bamboo became elegant objects that were often found in the scholarly gentleman's studio, ranking much higher than items made of expensive materials such as rhino horn, ivory, gold and silver or rare wood.

## Ink Bamboo Painting

The earliest ink bamboo painting passed down through the generations was by Wen Tong of the Song dynasty (960 - 1279). His bamboo, expressive and realistic, was the role model for succeeding painters. After the Song dynasty, literati continued to create conventions for the ink bamboo: botanic nodes in Yuan (1271 - 1368), inscription form in Ming (1368 – 1644) and verses in Qing (1644 – 1911), which influence painters even to this day.

Bamboo can build a world, and a world can be hidden within a small stem segment. Carved into various ornamental objects for decorating a writing desk, bamboo ware often depicts myths and stories of the classics. Being durable with timeless designs, bamboo ware only gets more gorgeous and mellow with time.

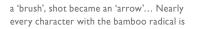
# Beyond the Craft

The Delectables Bon appétit! One portion of bamboo shoot siumai, two orders of rice cooked in a bamboo stem, three ounces of Chinese white wine, fish with bamboo shoots from the four seasons, and rice dumplings wrapped in bamboo leaves during the fifth month of the Chinese lunar calendar! The whole bamboo plant is edible, from the roots to the leaves. We eat the delectable bits, while the less palatable parts become medicine; even the inedible parts are turned into cooking and eating utensils. You bring food to your mouth with bamboo chopsticks, and wrap up the meal picking your teeth with toothpicks, thinking, 'We are actually greedier for bamboo than pandas!'.

# 'We are actually

than pandas!'.

greedier for bamboo



Characters with the Bamboo Radical

A bamboo stem in the hand of a literatus made a bamboo ware that documented how our predecessors unleashed their creativity in the material bamboo.

Bamboo reminds us to be upright, and to set ourselves benchmarks. We may no longer use bamboo ware at home, but we still eat bamboo shoots and speak the 'bamboo words'.

# Mnemonic Chanton Bamboo Craft

Dr. Ho Siu-kee from the Academy of Visual Arts of Hong Kong Baptist University (BUAVA) has summarized his study on bamboo craftsmanship in a catchy mnemonic chant that is simple and easy to remember. The verse is basically composed of verbs. Chop it and split it, hollow it out and twist it...from the finger to the toe, from the mouth to the buttock...all are

embedded with a unique body language.

## Diversity of Forms

Almost any structure or object could be made of bamboo - from as large as a house or a chair, to as small as chopsticks or toothpicks. Even if one only plants the bamboo in their garden, it appeals to the eye and the ear.

The close relationship between bamboo and the Vertical strips of characters were compiled into

Bamboo is not exclusively such an important symbol in Chinese culture is

grown in China. The reason why the plant has become extraordinary...

Originating from Bamboo Strips

Chinese culture has all been written on the plant. Since the origin of bamboo-strip scrolls, men have been experimenting with Chinese calligraphy on narrow rectangular surfaces, cultivating calligraphic forms and continuation between characters that are pursued to the present day.

albums, on which the earliest Chinese classics





