

## CHAT Announces Summer 2026 Programmes

Highly interactive and tactile experiences for the whole family to de-stress, rediscover everyday life, co-create art and celebrate connection



Image courtesy: Slow Art Collective / Photo: Tobias Titz

**[Hong Kong, 18 July 2026]** CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile) announces an exciting summer programme filled with participatory, playful and highly tactile experiences. Showcasing works by Agus Nur Amal PM Toh, Chan Wai Lap and Slow Art Collective, ***Weave and Shout!*** is curated by CHAT's Executive Director and Chief Curator Takahashi Mizuki, who recently co-curated the enthusiastically received Japan Pavilion at the 2026 Venice Biennale. In this year's edition of ***Seed to Textile***, CHAT's flagship community programme, fashion designer Yeung Chin, Indian dance artist Neesha Jhaveri and choreographer Wong Sui Lun Alan join hands to trace resonances between human migration and botanical dispersal through a series of hands-on and co-creative activities. Both *Weave and Shout!* and *Seed to Textile* are open to the public at The Mills from 18 July 2026.

### ***Weave and Shout!* | 18 July – 25 October 2026**

This group exhibition showcases works by **Agus Nur Amal PM Toh** (Aceh), **Chan Wai Lap** (Hong Kong) and **Slow Art Collective** (Melbourne). Together, the artists playfully explore the sources of everyday stress and invite visitors to relax and recharge through touch, weaving, role-play and laughter.

Entering The Hall at The Mills, visitors will be welcomed by *Sensation Release!*, an imaginative playground built by Agus Nur Amal PM Toh. Using household objects and second-hand textiles, Agus has invited various communities in Hong Kong to co-create this interactive space. Visitors of all ages are invited to rescue lifelike dog statues with a pump, take amusing pictures of their animal companions, relive childhood memories by shouting into electric fans, and become imaginary news presenters. The playground will be on view from 18 July to 9 August.

Agus is a renowned storyteller and artist from Aceh, Indonesia. Committed to preserving the Acehnese storytelling tradition by giving it a new form, he is also noted for empowering communities through art and using playful art making as a means of trauma healing. His work was featured at the documenta fifteen in Kassel, Germany in 2022, where he showcased installations and storytelling performances that highlighted the power of cultural memory, collaboration and peace building.

At CHAT on the second floor, visitors will begin their journey with a familiar yet alien local school corridor installed by Hong Kong artist Chan Wai Lap. From school uniforms standing 3 m tall, to a giant leather shoe one can climb into for photos, to classroom desks waiting to be scribbled on – everything visitors encounter will be recognisable but intriguingly different from what is expected in an ordinary school setting.

Chan is acclaimed for his distinctive swimming pool series, which has become highly recognisable in Hong Kong's contemporary art scene. Before developing these iconic works, Chan's creation had a special thematic focus on school and school life. In this exhibition, these familiar subjects will be reimagined as large, immersive installations.

Slow Art Collective presents two distinct spaces. In the disco-like space where fluorescent colours pop in the dark, visitors can drop tennis balls into tubes that run across the room and lead to various sound-making instruments. In the brighter space, visitors will find an abundance of colourful yarns and recycled fabric strips, which they can freely weave, knot or plait onto a large bamboo structure and specially designed walls. The installation will constantly evolve throughout the exhibition as more visitors contribute to its ever-changing form.

Led by Chaco Kato and Dylan Martorell, Slow Art Collective is known for their large-scale interactive looms and musical installations in public spaces. For over a decade, they have been using recycled materials to bring sensory and play-based experiences into community settings. Having presented their participatory work in Australia, Nepal, Japan, the US and other locations, they are now bringing it to Hong Kong for the first time.



Image courtesy: CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile), Hong Kong

### **Seed to Textile 2026: Open Studio | 18 July – 25 October 2026**

Launched in 2019, Seed to Textile is CHAT's annual flagship community programme. Through hands-on processes of planting and art making, it brings together artists and the public to draw connections between nature, textiles and art.

This year, Seed to Textile looks to Indian culture for inspiration. As Hong Kong's fourth-largest non-Chinese ethnic group, the Indian community is inextricably woven into the fabric of the city. Hong Kong fashion designer **Yeung Chin**, Indian dance artist **Neesha Jhaveri** and Hong Kong choreographer **Wong Sui Lun Alan** lead Seeders – openly recruited participants from different generations and cultural backgrounds – to explore sustainable fashion and contemporary dance inspired by Indian culture.

In the open studio at CHAT, visitors will have the opportunity to experience the heritage textile craft of Indian block printing, using wooden blocks designed by Yeung and natural dyes made from plants grown by Seeders on the rooftop of The Mills. They can also use various pre-inked stamps to create unique motifs on paper as a memento to take home.

The activities offered by Seed to Textile 2026 engage more than just the hands. With expert advice from Jhaveri, Wong has created a set of easy-to-follow dance movements inspired by Indian traditions and textile production, both of which share inseparable ties to nature. Using recycled clothing, Yeung gives physical form to these movements through a three-dimensional patchwork installation, where visitors can pose as dancers by fitting into the sculpted garments. As visitors try the dance steps, they are also encouraged to wear a pair of special overshoes and leave ink footprints on a piece of fabric laid out nearby. The textiles resulting from this activity and the block printing experience will be made into costumes for a dance performance after the exhibition, further promoting cultural diversity, eco-consciousness and empathetic creative practices.

**Snuggle and Stitch: Childhood Textiles of Hong Kong | until 21 February 2027**

In The D. H. Chen Foundation Gallery, *Snuggle and Stitch: Childhood Textiles of Hong Kong* brings together local childhood textiles spanning the 1930s to the 2020s, featuring heirloom garments, mass-produced toys, artisanal dolls and more – inspiring nostalgia from a simpler time and sparking joy through shared memories. The activity stations accompanying the display have been hugely popular since their introduction. Visitors can experience some of old Hong Kong's favourite childhood games, such as 'Toss-a-Pouch' and 'String-a-Web', rediscovering the wonders of tactile play with friends old or new.

**Takahashi Mizuki**, Executive Director and Chief Curator of CHAT, said, '*Weave and Shout!* intends to free visitors from everyday stress and pressure through interactive artworks. From a reimagined local school corridor and two distinct spaces for experimenting with sound and weaving, to a whimsical installation built with household objects and second-hand textiles, this highly participatory experience invites every visitor to immerse themselves in an open environment.'

**Eugenia Law**, Associate Curator of CHAT, remarked, '*Seed to Textile 2026: Open Studio* is not only an exhibition – it is a catalyst for exchange and a living space where different communities meet, create and imagine belonging together. At the heart of the programme is a simple belief: when we create together, we begin to understand one another.'

**Press kit with high-resolution images can be viewed and downloaded [HERE](#)**

*Image courtesy: CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile), Hong Kong*

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**Exhibition Details:**

**Weave and Shout!**

Date: 18 July – 25 October 2026

Time: 11:00am–7:00pm (closed on Tuesdays)

Venue: CHAT, 2/F, The Mills, 45 Pak Tin Par Street, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong

**Special Display: Sensation Release!**

Date: 18 July – 9 August 2026

Time: 10:00am–10:00pm

Venue: The Hall, G/F, Mill 6, The Mills

**Seed to Textile 2026: Open Studio**

Date: 18 July – 25 October 2026

Time: 11:00am–7:00pm (closed on Tuesdays)

Venue: CHAT, 2/F, The Mills, 45 Pak Tin Par Street, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong

**Snuggle and Stitch: Childhood Textiles of Hong Kong**

Date: 8 March 2026 – 21 February 2027

Time: 11:00am–7:00pm (closed on Tuesdays)

Venue: The D. H. Chen Foundation Gallery, CHAT, 2/F, The Mills, 45 Pak Tin Par Street, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong

**NOTE TO EDITORS**

**About CHAT**

CHAT is a textile culture museum in Hong Kong that weaves together heritage, art and community. Located on 2/F of The Mills, the former cotton spinning factory of Nan Fung Textiles in Tsuen Wan, CHAT first opened its doors in 2019 and has been offering exhibitions, co-learning programmes, research support and more – to spark conversations, to break barriers, to inspire talent, to grow with the community.

## APPENDIX 1: CHAT Summer Programme 2026 Highlighted Events

| Category    | Date                                                                                        | Time        | Event Details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Performance | 18.07.2026<br>(Saturday)                                                                    | 3:30-4:00pm | <p>Event: Magic from Everyday Objects!</p> <p>Venue: The Hall, G/F, Mill 6, The Mills</p> <p>Language: English</p> <p>Artist: Agus Nur Amal PM Toh</p> <p>Admission: Free, walk-in</p> <p>Description: Looking for a fun weekend activity for the whole family? Watch renowned storyteller Agus Nur Amal PM Toh bring out the magic of everyday objects! This is a rare opportunity to see him perform in Hong Kong, and an experience both adults and children will love!</p>                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Workshop    | 23-24.07.2026<br>(Thursday and Friday)                                                      | 2:30-6:00pm | <p>Event: CHAT Two-Day Summer Camp: Make Your Own Superhero Cape</p> <p>Venue: CHAT</p> <p>Language: English with informal Cantonese and Mandarin interpretation</p> <p>Age: Recommended for ages 4 and above. No prior experience is needed.</p> <p>Admission: HK\$960, RSVP via <a href="http://mill6chat.org">mill6chat.org</a></p> <p>Description: In this two-day camp, young makers will learn how nature can inspire textile creation. Using leaf pounding, dyeing and sewing techniques, participants will create a unique cape that can also be worn as an apron. Both boys and girls can be superheroes – everyone is welcome to join!</p>      |
| Experience  | For age 10-25:<br>25.07.2026<br>(Saturday)<br><br>For all ages:<br>02.08.2026<br>(Saturday) | 2:00-3:30pm | <p>Event: Towel Nunchaku Class</p> <p>Venue: The Hall, G/F, Mill 6, The Mills</p> <p>Language: Cantonese</p> <p>Collaborator: Jerry LAU</p> <p>Admission: HK\$50, RSVP via <a href="http://mill6chat.org">mill6chat.org</a></p> <p>Description: Join us for an exciting, beginner-friendly towel nunchaku session led by Hong Kong martial artist and nunchaku master Jerry Lau! You will discover the history of nunchaku, learn basic techniques and practise putting everything together into fluid movements. Using just an everyday household item, channel your inner martial artist, sweat out your stress and swing away all negative energy!</p> |
| Workshop    | 30-31.07.2026<br>(Thursday and Friday)                                                      | 3:00-6:00pm | <p>Event: CHAT Two-Day Summer Camp: Make Your Own Upcycled Backpack</p> <p>Venue: CHAT</p> <p>Language: English with informal Cantonese and Mandarin interpretation</p> <p>Age: Recommended for ages 7 and above. No prior experience is needed.</p> <p>Admission: HK\$960, RSVP via <a href="http://mill6chat.org">mill6chat.org</a></p> <p>Description: In this two-day camp, young participants will learn to upcycle an old garment – from disassembling it to embellishing the fabric with</p>                                                                                                                                                       |

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|          |                                        |                                   | eco-friendly techniques and sewing it into a stylish, functional backpack.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Workshop | 01.08.2026<br>(Saturday)               | 11:00am-<br>1:00pm<br>3:00-5:00pm | <p>Event: Inventing Play: Toys from Everyday Materials</p> <p>Venue: The D. H. Chen Foundation Gallery</p> <p>Language: Cantonese</p> <p>Collaborator: Joel CHUNG</p> <p>Age: No prior experience is needed. Suitable for children aged 6 and above. Each child must be accompanied by an adult; no registration is required for the accompanying adult.</p> <p>Admission: HK\$80, RSVP via <a href="http://mill6chat.org">mill6chat.org</a></p> <p>Description: In this hands-on workshop, Hong Kong collector Joel Chung invites children and accompanying adults to rediscover the joy of making toys from everyday materials like string, tin cans and bottle caps. Together, participants will create four simple yet delightful playthings: origami boats, tin can stilts, spinning toys and paper clip guns.</p>                                                          |
| Workshop | 02.08.2026<br>(Sunday)                 | 3:00-5:00pm                       | <p>Event: Printing Your Style: Create Your Own Indian Block-Printed T-Shirt</p> <p>Venue: CHAT Studio</p> <p>Language: English with informal Cantonese interpretation</p> <p>Collaborator: Sunaina BHALLA</p> <p>Age: No prior experience is needed. Suitable for participants aged 16 and above.</p> <p>Admission: HK\$280, RSVP via <a href="http://mill6chat.org">mill6chat.org</a></p> <p>Description: Create a unique T-shirt through the heritage craft of Indian block printing! You will discover the rich history and cultural stories of India's woodblock printing. You will also experience the craft yourself, learning basic techniques and the symbolic meanings behind the patterns. With over 100 hand-carved wooden blocks and a wide selection of colours available on site, you will be free to mix and match designs and fully express your creativity.</p> |
| Workshop | 06-07.08.2026<br>(Thursday and Friday) | 3:00-6:00pm                       | <p>Event: CHAT Two-Day Summer Camp: Summer Hat Making</p> <p>Venue: CHAT</p> <p>Language: English with informal Cantonese and Mandarin interpretation</p> <p>Age: Recommended for ages 4 and above. No prior experience is needed.</p> <p>Admission: HK\$960, RSVP via <a href="http://mill6chat.org">mill6chat.org</a></p> <p>Description: During this two-day camp, children will learn to observe nature closely and document plants through drawing. They will also experiment with</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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|          |                                                          |             |                                                                                      | block printing and natural dyeing, then fold and sew their own summer hats by hand. After the camp, they will take home a unique hat to wear proudly throughout the sunny season.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Workshop | 08.08.2026<br>(Saturday)<br><br>05.09.2026<br>(Saturday) | 2:30-4:30pm | Event:<br>Venue:<br>Language:<br>Age:<br>Admission:<br>Description:                  | A Voice in Bloom: Flower Arranging with Fabric for Youth<br>CHAT Studio<br>English with informal Cantonese interpretation<br>Makiko MORANGE<br>Suitable for participants aged 10 to 25. No prior experience is required.<br>HK\$80, RSVP via <a href="http://mill6chat.org">mill6chat.org</a><br>Ikebana, which roughly translates to 'giving life to flowers', is the Japanese art of flower arrangement. In this workshop, you will explore this meditative and free-form expression with renowned floral artist Makiko Morange. Pairing seasonal blooms with recycled textiles, you will craft a personal masterpiece that gives voice to your thoughts and feelings. |
| Workshop | 13-14.08.2026<br>(Thursday and Friday)                   | 3:00-6:00pm | Event:<br>Venue:<br>Language:<br>Age:<br>Admission:<br>Description:                  | CHAT Two-Day Summer Camp: Make Your Own Pool Tote<br>CHAT<br>English with informal Cantonese and Mandarin interpretation<br>Recommended for ages 7 and above. No prior experience is needed.<br>HK\$960, RSVP via <a href="http://mill6chat.org">mill6chat.org</a><br>In this two-day camp, children will try their hand at screen and block printing, create heat transfer designs, and use a sewing machine to complete a water-resistant tote bag. It will be a perfect summer companion – great for keeping things dry by the pool or on the shore, and even better for packing wet items after a swim.                                                              |
| Workshop | 15.08.2026<br>(Saturday)                                 | 3:00-5:30pm | Event:<br>Venue:<br>Language:<br>Collaborator:<br>Age:<br>Admission:<br>Description: | Stitch & Stuff: Build Your Own Plush<br>CHAT Lab<br>Cantonese<br>Ah Bo<br>No prior experience is needed. Suitable for participants aged 10 and above with an interest in handicrafts.<br>HK\$500, RSVP via <a href="http://mill6chat.org">mill6chat.org</a><br>In this workshop, soft toy restorer Ah Bo guides you to do just that. Choose from a selection of pre-made doll parts – including heads, torsos, limbs and ears – and piece together a creature that is entirely your own, whether cute, cheeky or wonderfully quirky!                                                                                                                                     |

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|          |                                                                                                                               |              | <p>You will learn essential plush-making techniques, such as how to properly stuff three-dimensional forms and use basic hand sewing to join parts together. These skills can also be applied to simple mending and the care of soft toys at home.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
| Activity | <p>From now until further notice<br/>(Closed on Tuesday)</p> <p>Open Call for granny square<br/>From now until 31.10.2026</p> | 11:00-7:00pm | <p>Event: 'Hooked on Warmth!' crochet experience<br/>Venue: CHAT Lounge<br/>Admission: Free<br/>Description: No experience needed. Get inspired by our books, tools, and yarns. Learn the basics with our video, to create coaster-sized pieces like the samples on display. Keep one for yourself and donate one to CHAT, we'll assemble these into cosy blankets for visitors.</p> <p>We are calling for a granny square donation! Visit CHAT and submit a hand-crocheted 10 × 10 cm granny square to our reception staff. We will assemble all qualifying squares into blankets and gift them to elderly members in need.</p> |  |

For more events occurring during the exhibition period, please refer to CHAT's [website](#).