SERENE HUI

Serene's practice excavates the political and historical structures of her immediate surroundings through installation, sound, performance, printmaking, and text. She is invested in epistemological colonialism—how colonial frameworks condition social structures, language, and the manipulation of truth. By identifying gaps and silences within historical narratives, she transforms linguistic ambiguity and normative ignorance into tools for resistance and critique. The core of Serene's work is the circular interaction between text, voice, and the body. Writing is central; she treats language as both subject and object, examining the relationship between performative utterance and systems of control. In What Kinds Of Times Are These... (2020-21), she used lithography and translation to interrogate geopolitical tensions through the censored poetry of Gui Minhai. In the series Scold, Gossip, and Siren, she combined voice embodiment, translation and music to trace how acoustic histories are shaped by patriarchal structures. Serene's recent research project Tiger's Head, Nail's Tail (2025-), centers on the historical Qiaopi system - a vital network of correspondence and finance for overseas Chinese migrants - using oral history from her century-old Chinese grandfather who has been a scribe. Through multi-channel sound installation and printed sculptural works with custom aluminium and glass, the work explores the scribe as an invisible intermediary who mediated intimacy, censorship, and the contradictions between longing and belonging. This project connects personal heritage to broader Cold War remittance infrastructures and the elsewhere sites of global history - examining how we inherit, preserve, and critically reinterpret the past. In longer term the research aims to unfold into a thread that delves into the human migration and material flow around Southeast Asia, in the shadow of the colonial matrix of power during the cold war.

WEBSITES

personal website

www.szelokserene.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

instagram.com/clokserene

EDUCATION

2019 - 2021 MA Artistic Research Den Haag, Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten diploma

EXHIBITIONS

2025 eye below ear Kunsthal Mechelen
Group

2025 Thailand Biennale 2025: Eternal Kalpa Phuket, Thailand
Group

2025 The Utopia of Rules Singapore Art Week 2025 Singapore, Singapore
Group

2024 Bad Romance: Affective Body with its misapprehension and rumours Waley Art Centre Taipei, Taiwan
Group

2024 BOOKED : Hong Kong Art Book Fair Tai Kwun Contemporary Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Group

2024 Cantando Bajito: Incantations Ford Foundation Gallery New York, United States
Group

2024 ricatives, Mute and Fugue - A Prelude puntWG Amsterdam
Solo

2023 Sounds Like Print Tai Kwun Contemporary Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Group

2023 Speaker, you : Sound Forms 2023 Co-Presented by Contemporary Musiking Hong Kong & Tai Kwun Contemporary Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Duo

2023 MMCA Residency Changdong Report 2023 : My Name Is MMCA Seoul, Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Group

2023 What Kinds Of Times Are These, When To Talk About Trees Is Almost A Crime SinArts Gallery Den Haag,

Netherlands
Solo

2022 La Quinta Stagione - II Edizione Genova, Italy
Group

2022 There Is No Party So Noisy As The One That You Are Not Invited To TENT Rotterdam, Netherlands
Group

2022 Post-Human Narratives : In The Name of Scientific Witchery Para Site, at Hong Kong Museum of Medical Science Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Group

2022 CreAct – The Limits of the Artist Book Huis van het Boek Den Haag, Netherlands
Group

2021 Non-academic lecture: Silverfish -
Parasitic Guest/Host by Serene Hui Para Site Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Solo

2021 Songs of Ambivalence - Lecture Performance by Serene Hui Tai Kwun Contemporary Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Solo

2021 Rooftop Studio & Archive Project Para Site Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Solo

2021 Post-Human Narratives - The Co-existing Land Cattle Depot Artist Village Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Group

2021 Post-Human Narratives - We, The Searchers v.2.0 online, Hong Kong
posthumannarratives.com/exhibition/archive/serene
Solo

2021 Non Native Native Fair online, Netherlands
Group

2021 Trust & Confusion Tai Kwun Contemporary Hong Kong, Hong Kong Curators: Xue Tan, Raimundas Malašauskas
Group

2021 Sun Kissed // Fog Off Quartair Contemporary Art Initiatives Den Haag, Netherlands
Group

2021 This Year There Were Very Few Fireworks (Silent Fire/Works Rhapsody De Aanschouw Rotterdam
Solo

2021 Rooftop Studio & Archive Project Para Site Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Solo

2020 We, The Searchers Page Not Found Den Haag, Netherlands
Solo

2020 3331 Art Fair Tokyo 3331 Arts Chiyoda Tokyo, Japan
Group

2020 A Simple Fizz Quartair Contemporary Art Initiatives Den Haag, Netherlands
Group

2019 FOLKLORE Bedroom Artspace Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Group

2018 Words Unsaid, Then Forgotten 3331 Arts Chiyoda Tokyo, Japan
Solo

2018 A Song A Zine, dotdotdot Zine launch Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Group

2018 Nearly There Arts 3331 Chiyoda Tokyo, Japan
Group

2018 ☒☒☒☒☒ - ☒☒x☒☒☒☒ (Exhibition of literature x visual arts) Hong Kong House of Literature Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Group

2018 WHY PRINT : Biennial Printmaking Exhibition curated by Marble Print Clay Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Group

2017 Everyday is just another day - Exhibition of HUI Serene Sze Lok Venice Art Projects Venice, Italy
Solo

2017 Time, Space & Architecture Cityscapes Foundation Amsterdam, Hong Kong
Group

2017 Travelling between Time and Matter G126 Rotterdam, Netherlands
Duo

2017 Hold Your Breath, Feel the Time Stichting Kaus Australis Rotterdam, Netherlands
Group

2017 The Factory 2017 The Factory, Djúpavíik Djúpavíik, Iceland
Group

2017 Dimension Convertor - Exhibition by Serene Hui and Bobby Yu 100 ft. PARK Hong Kong , Hong Kong
Duo

2016 The White Night Laboratory Listhus Artspace Olafsfjordur, Iceland
Solo

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2025 Casino Display - Space for Artistic Research, Casino Luxembourg - Forum d'art contemporain Luxembourg, Luxembourg

2024 Frans Masereel Centrum Belgium

2024 AirWG Amsterdam, Netherlands

2023 National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, South Korea Seoul, Republic of Korea MMCA International Artist/Researcher Residency Program

2022 Zurich University of the Arts Zurich, Switzerland Performative Interventions, Research Academy 2022

2021 Para Site Hong Kong Hong Kong Rooftop Studio & Archive Project

2021 Nida Art Colony Nida, Lithuania

2018 3331 Arts Chiyoda/Akiba Tamabi 21, Tokyo, JP

COMMISSIONS

2025 Tiger's Head, Nail's Tail : The Scribe Thailand Biennale Thailand Thailand Biennale 2025: Eternal Kalpa

2023 Through The Glass, Darkly Tai Kwun Contemporary Hong Kong Speaker, you : Sound Forms 2023

2021 Rehearsal for Disaster (series) : The Explosion, The Siren Tai Kwun Contemporary Hong Kong, Hong Kong Trust & Confusion, curated by Xue Tan and Raimundas Malašauskas. www.trusting.hk finished

2018 The Chamber (Installation work) Hong Kong House of Literature Hong Kong, Hong Kong finished

Tokyo, Japan

2017 Stichting Kaus Australis Rotterdam, Netherlands

2016 Listhus Artspace Olafsfjordur, Iceland

SALES/WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

2024 Print Edition Frans Masereel Centrum België

2023 KB Nationale Bibliotheek Nederland

2023 Huis van het boek Nederland

2023 Print Edition Private Collection Nederland

2022 Print Edition Private Collection Hongkong

PUBLICATIONS

2024 Correspondence Book Independent publishing Serene Hui & Simo Tse Amsterdam, Netherlands

2023 Siren - as part of Scold, Gossip and Siren Book Tai Kwun Contemporary Hong Kong, Hong Kong Artist publication and music score book

2022 Today's Archive is (Not) Tomorrow's History Catalog Para Site Serene Hui Hong Kong

2021 May We Live In Interesting Times - The Politics and Poetics of Ambivalence Book Serene Hui Den Haag, Netherlands szelokserene.com/May-We-Live-In-Interesting-Times Independent publishing; Artist Book; Text in English; 1st Edition of 30, 2nd Edition of 25; 140 pages

2021 The Invisibilsts Catalog Master Artistic Research, KABK Den Haag, Netherlands Guest curator: Delphine Bedel. This collective publication is a set of 10 A2 posters.

2020 We, The Searchers Catalog Serene Hui Den Haag, Netherlands Independent publishing; Artist Book; 36 pages; full 4c on matt paper; Staple bound; 11 x 14 cm; Edition of 20

2020 WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE MARKS OF ERASURE ON A SOCIETY IN CRISIS? Amsterdam Alternative Serene Hui Amsterdam, Netherlands Amsterdam Alternative Issue #030 : May - June 2020,

2018 A DIALOGUE BETWEEN ME AND MY GHOST / WORDS UNSAID, THEN FORGOTTEN Book Serene Hui / The Ghost Hong Kong, Hong Kong Independent publishing; Artist Book; Text in English & Chinese; Letterpress printing on all texts; Indigo Print; Printed by : Small Tune Press (HK)

2017 Hello, Darkness my old friend Book Serene Hui Hong Kong, Hong Kong Independent publishing; Artist Book; Printed by : Studio Ink'chacha; Hand-stitched and bound

REVIEWS

2022 Up and Coming : Serene Hui Sze Lok Magazine City Magazine Hong Kong

2022 Up Close : Serene Hui Sze Lok Magazine Art Asia Pacific Hong Kong

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2026 New York Fellowship grant Asian Cultural Council New York, United States

2026 International Art Presentation Mondriaan Fonds International Presentation Netherlands

2025 SPOT Individual Exhibition Grant (sinds 2004) Stroom, Den Haag Den Haag, Netherlands

2025 International Art Presentation Mondriaan Fonds International Presentation Netherlands

2024 Artist Project Grant (Kunstenaar Project) Mondriaan Fonds, Netherlands Amsterdam, Netherlands

2024 Cultural Exchange Grant (2024 Spring) Hong Kong Art

Development Council Hong Kong, Hong Kong

2024 Cultural Exchange Grant (2024 Winter) Hong Kong Art Development Council Hong Kong, Hong Kong

2023 Cultural Exchange Grant (2023 Winter) Hong Kong Art Development Council Hong Kong, Hong Kong

2023 SPOT Individual Exhibition Grant (sinds 2004) Stroom, Den Haag Den Haag, Netherlands

2023 Artist Grant Basic Artist Basic, Mondriaan Fonds, Amsterdam,Netherlands. Netherlands

2022 Pro Invest Grant (sinds 2004) Stroom, Den Haag Den Haag, Netherlands

2018 Cultural Exchange Fund Hong Kong Art Development Council Hong Kong, Hong Kong

2017 Arts Development Fund Home Affairs Bureau Hong Kong, Hong Kong

2017 Professor Maychingkao Fine Arts Fund - Artist-in-residence Department of Fine Arts, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Hong Kong, Hong Kong

SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2022 - -- Performative & Experiential Translation : Meaning-Making through Language, Art and Media Conference, King's College London, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council - Guest Artist/ Public Presentation

2022 - -- CLE 2022: DWELLING Symposium, Cultural Literacy Everywhere and University College Dublin - Guest Artist/ Workshop

2021 - -- After Hope Symposium, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco - Guest Speaker/ Panel Discussion

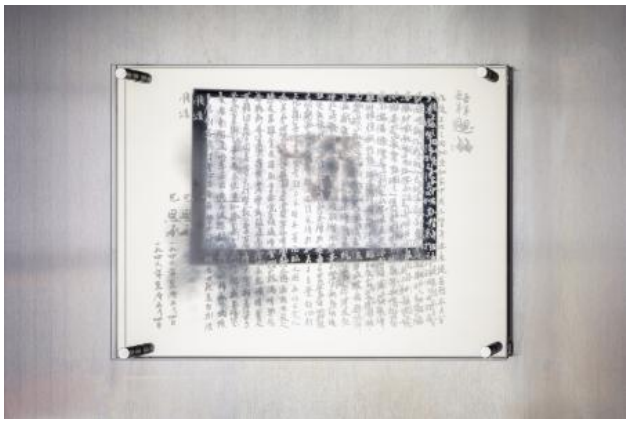
2018 - 2019 Happy Hippo Studio (Curator & Founder)

2018 - 2018 Harbour Arts Sculpture Park, Jockey Club Arts Education Programme - In Dialogue with Sculptures (Guest Artist Tutor)

2017 - 2019 Galerie Perrotin (Assistant to Director | Gallery Assistant, Sales & Artist Liaison)



Tiger's Head, Nail's Tail: Yours Faithfully, 2025



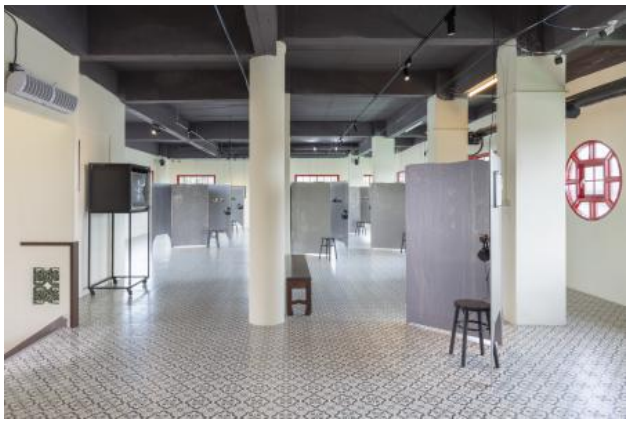
Tiger's Head, Nail's Tail: The Scribe, 2025
7-channel sound installation, headsets, engraving on ArtGlass with silkscreen on tinted mirror, a set of 7



Tiger's Head, Nail's Tail: The Scribe, 2025
7-channel sound installation, headsets, engraving on ArtGlass with silkscreen on tinted mirror, a set of 7



Tiger's Head, Nail's Tail: The Scribe , 2025
7-channel sound installation, headsets, engraving on ArtGlass with silkscreen on tinted mirror, a set of 7



Tiger's Head, Nail's Tail: The Scribe/ Tiger's Head, Nail's Tail: Leaves Returning; Leaves Rooting/ Tiger's Head, Nail's Tail: Nanyang Sojourners / Tiger's Head, Nail's Tail: Yours Faithfully, 2025



Tiger's Head, Nail's Tail: The Scribe / Tiger's Head, Nail's Tail: Leaves Returning; Leaves Rooting, 2025
7-channel sound installation, headsets, engraving on ArtGlass with silkscreen on tinted mirror, a set of 7; Screen print photographs on custom-made aluminium, Giclee prints on art paper, locally sourced stools☒



Avalanches from Afar, 2025



Ingressives, Egressives, Echoes, 2025



Ingressives, Egressives, Echoes,, 2025
LPR 35 1/4"" x 270m x 5"" tape; duration 14m 35s, 1:1, loop



Avalanches from Afar, 2025
Site-specific non-performance, 8-channel sound composition with multichannel video installation, spatial intervention