ELLEN YIU KWAN KIT

A blend of nostalgia and curiosity, my work transforms the familiar into the extraordinary, exploring the delicate balance between personal vulnerability and universal connection.
My practise is driven by a love for making and a sense of curiosity. Rooted in craftsmanship, I draw inspiration from my life in Hong Kong and in Europe, creating a visual diary that is introspective and intimate. My work balances heavy themes like identity, health and family with playfulness, making it both poignant and approachable. My fascination with tactile materials leads me to work across mediums like woodwork, textiles, and installations, using overlooked materials like hair and discarded matter. My works explore the relationship between people and objects, inviting viewers into a world of introspection and universal connection.

WEBSITES

ellenyiu.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/ellennyiu/?hl=en
linkedin.com/in/ellen-kwan-kit-yiu-75589112b

PLATFORM

This Works | This Art Foundation

EDUCATION

2024 - --	Frivolité Crafts Council Nederland
2017 - 2021	Fine Arts Den Haag, Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten diploma
2016 - 2017	Art Foundation Paris College of Art
2013 - 2021	Assistant weaving instructor St James Settlement

EXHIBITIONS

2024	The Future is Equal Capital C Amsterdam, Netherlands youngcollectorscircle.nl/en/the-future-is-equal
2024	The Future is Equal Capital C Amsterdam, Netherlands In April of

PROJECTS

2024	Miniature Quilting Workshop Textile Initiative Amsterdam, Netherlands zone2source.net/en/event/textile-initiatiative/ The practice of Ellen Yiu cannot be easily categorised. Much of her work relies on slow craftsmanship, but she also uses found objects. She works with

2024, a research report by the Boekman Foundation on behalf of the Niemeijer Fund concluded that female artists earn less than their male counterparts, are less visible and less frequently purchased by museums and collectors. Be part of the change and celebrate the art of four female artists: Ellen Yiu, Hedy Tjin, Sarah Mei Herman, and Shani Leseman. These four artists focus on the construct of (chosen) family, the search for identity and a sense of home, and reflect on nature, spirituality and social structures through photography, painting, ceramics and textiles.
youngcollectorscircle.nl/en/the-future-is-equal
Group

2024 Spiegelzaal Willem Twee Den Bosch, Netherlands www.willem-twee.nl/agenda/kunstruimte
Solo

2024 Prospects Art Rotterdam Rotterdam, Netherlands artrotterdam.nl
Group

2023 How small can you go summer expo Ruis Nijmegen, Netherlands
www.ruisnijmegen.nl/agenda/
Group

2023 Unfair Gashouder Fabriek Amsterdam, Netherlands unfair.nl
Group

2022 Positions: The rest of it is stillness Stroom The Hague, Netherlands In the presentation at Stroom, Ellen Yiu Kwan Kit shows three installations. Each installation is a building block, representing a process in navigating through difficult situations in life, which together are like a meditation on the tenacity of the human spirit and healing. It explores the fragility, complexity and strangeness of life through personal experiences and the application of the I Ching, the 3000 year old mystical text from China that acts as an oracle for the future through a series of symbols.
www.stroom.nl/activiteiten/kleine_presentatie.php?kt_id=668103
Solo

extensive installations and makes miniature handcrafted sculptures. There is a certain inbetweenness in her work that is reflected in the diversity of materials that she uses, such as paper, textiles and wood. She processes her personal experiences and memories in her work, focusing on themes such as identity, healing and cultural connection. Ellen will lead a Miniature Quilt-making Workshop – the workshop will be an introduction into a particular process of her practice. She will be teaching techniques, such as patchwork and quilting, on a miniature scale.

2022 Musée Légitime private Amsterdam, Netherlands Building a Hat Museum

2022 Object Rotterdam HAKA-gebouw Rotterdam, Netherlands OBJECT is a unique pop-up platform for design labels as well as limited editions and one-offs from established and upcoming designers. Working in different design disciplines and with various materials. OBJECT is thé place where the cutting edge between design, crafts, fashion, architecture and art becomes evident and it is a must see for people interested in interior, designlovers, art professionals and collectors. Every year OBJECT occupies an iconic building in or around Rotterdam, the designers are present for a personal meet and greet.
objectrotterdam.com/pages/deelnemers-participants/
Group

2022 This Art Fair De Kromhouthal Amsterdam, Netherlands The basis of This Art Fair is formed by the solo presentations of individual artists. They offer artists the opportunity to independently present and sell their art in a professional and organized way.
thisartfair.com/artist/ellen-yiu/
Group

2022 Take my home away Pulchri Studio The Hague, Netherlands Take my Home Away is an immersive installation that reflects a perpetual questioning of identity and semiology with an inviting home setting. Bringing together over a hundred pieces in my journey travelled, the work includes a framework drawing of a dollhouse, pigmented with homegrown flowers, and offset by a tender dispersion of miniature and multiples.
www.pulchri.nl/nl/tentoonstellingen/ellen-yiu-take-my-home-away/
Solo

2022 Limburg Biennale #2 Marres Maastricht, Netherlands This year, Marres will organize the second edition of the Limburg Biennale: a group exhibition that brings together all kinds of artists, professionals, amateurs, and hobbyists in a festive celebration of the arts. With the Limburg Biennale, Marres follows the tradition of the annual Summer Exhibition of the Royal

Academy in London. The first edition, which took place in 2020, was a great success with over 250 artworks by more than 150 artists.
marres.org/en/programmas/limburg-biennale-2-3/
Group

2021 Take My Home Away Royal Academy of Art The Hague, Netherlands
graduation2021.kabk.nl/students/ellen-yiu
Group

2021 Art Show in a Caravan Atelier Marin de Jong Rotterdam, Netherlands
Duo

2021 Drawing Appreciation day ...ism project space The Hague, Netherlands
Group

2021 Finding Home, Late at Tate Britain: Life Between Islands Tate Britain London, United Kingdom
www.tate.org.uk/whats-on/tate-britain/late/tate-britain-gallery
Group

2021 Destillaat #23 Extrapool Nijmegen, Netherlands extrapool.nl
Group

2020 AIR Projektruimte WEST END The Hague, Netherlands
www.hoogtij.net/en/galerie/projektruimte-west-end-2/?cn-reloaded=1
Group

2020 The Tiny Art Gallery Herderinnestraat 10 The Hague, Netherlands ‘I am not a man but a cloud in trousers’
Group

2020 A Finger in Every Pie Jupiterkade 2 The Hague, Netherlands
Group

2019 Deep Fried Royal Academy of Art The Hague, Netherlands
Group

2018 Blood, Guts & Torture Grafische Werkplaats Den Haag, Netherlands
Group

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2021 Residency: Extrapool, Nijmegen NL Nijmegen, Netherlands Destillaat #23 extrapool.nl/

COMMISSIONS

2021 Oscar - the deer dress Private clients Wassenaar, Netherlands Cultural foundation from the Deer House and Backershagen Estate

2020 Cantique des Cantiques Private client Den Haag, Netherlands Book-binding restoration, Henri Matisse, 1st edition finished

2020 Shut up Private client Paris, Netherlands Copper and resin jewellery set

2020 Rainbow bridge Private client Hong Kong, Hong Kong Ink Drawings, series of 5, framed

2018 We foretaste our inevitable slip into eternal non-existence Private client Den Haag, Netherlands Ink Drawings, Series of 5, framed finished

SALES/WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

2022 All the museums I've visited in a year Private buyer Gouda, Nederland collection of paper napkins bounded as a book, collected from museums in the Netherlands

2021 In my hand a miniature Private buyer The Hague, Nederland Thesis edition

2021 200 Nuweland Oosterzee, Nederland Bag in a quilt

2021 200 - 1 Private buyer Delft, Nederland Bag in a quilt

2020 Art is free energy Private buyer Rotterdam, Nederland

2020 Writing with light Private buyer The Hague, Nederland

2019 Egg for an eye Private buyer Paris, Frankrijk

PUBLICATIONS

2022 Art Weekend 2022 Catalog The Hague Contemporary The Hague, Netherlands thehaguecontemporary.nl/art-guide/positions-ellen-yiu-kwan-kit-the-rest-of-it-is-stillness/

2022 Uitgave van het Schilderkundig Gennotschap Pulchri Studio Jaargang 50, nr 2, juni 2022 Catalog Pulchri The Hague, Netherlands www.pulchri.nl/nl/tentoonstellingen/ellen-yiu-take-my-home-away/

2020 Drawing to Feel Good! Issue 1 Book Drawing is Free Chloe Briggs Paris, France drawingisfree.org/Publications

REVIEWS

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2024 Art Rotterdam 2024 Paksha van Slooten Rotterdam, Netherlands
m.facebook.com/story.php/?id=1398988420400959&story_fbid=3288560028110446

2024 Interview Roulette Unfair Amsterdam, Netherlands
unfair.nl/interviews/interview-roulette-23-ellen-yiu-x-alice-west/

2024 Prospects & Concepts @ Art Rotterdam Jeroen Bosch Rotterdam, Netherlands
trendbeheer.com/2024/02/01/prospects-concepts-art-rotterdam-3/

2024 Piket Painting Prize Nominee nominated for the piket kunst prize The Hague, Netherlands

2023 Artist Start Fund Mondriaan Fonds Amsterdam Netherlands

2022 Nomination 2022 Buning Brongers Stichting Netherlands

2021 Stroom Encouragement Award (sinds 2004) Stroom, Den Haag Den Haag, Netherlands

2021 Fine Arts Department Award KABK awards, Den Haag Den Haag, Netherlands
Nominated

SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2022 - 2024 Gyrotonic Apprentice teaching On-going



Prospects Art Rotterdam, 2024
installation



Medication carriers, 2024
wood carving





The rest of it is stillness, 2022
textile, site specific installation, 700 x 600

The rest of it is stillness, 2022
textile, site specific installation, 363 x 5 5



The rest of it is stillness, 2022
embroidery, textile, copper, circuit board and mechanics,
13 x 8 x 35



The rest of it is stillness, 2022
textile, wood, hair



Take my home away, 2022
installation, Textiles, wood, ceramic, paper, 750 x 750



Take my home away, 2022
wood, textiles, ceramics, assorted



The rest of it is stillness, 2022
textile, patchwork, starch stuffing, 587 x 20 x 131



Museum in a hat, 2021
textile, patchwork, synthetic lining, 25 x 25 x 15