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Press Release | 23 January 2020 (Thur) | Immediate release (10 pages)

【Hong Kong Arts Centre】

FEVER

Hong Kong Comics

30 January – 2 February 2020@The 47th Angoulême International Comics Festival,
FRANCE

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- Chi-tak LI
- YANAI

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- Bonnie PANG

Hong Kong Comics Professionals:

- Carman CHU, Editor of Extraordinary Publishing Company
- Patty, Co-founder of Quire Limited

Appendix 1 – Participant Biography



Kwong-shing LAU 柳廣成

Website : cowcowtony.wixsite.com/shing

Facebook : [cowcowtony](https://www.facebook.com/cowcowtony)

Instagram : [cowcowtony](https://www.instagram.com/cowcowtony)

Twitter : [LauKwongShing1](https://twitter.com/LauKwongShing1)

Kwong-shing Lau, who spent his childhood in Kyoto, Japan, is deeply influenced by the Japanese comics culture. After returning to Hong Kong, he studied at the Department of Fine Arts at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. He has published over 10 short comics series on different platforms such as *MDecomics* and *Ani-Wave*. His direction of creation has changed drastically since his participation in the Angoulême International Comics Festival in France in 2017. He frequently draws with pencil, creating the atmosphere with its tactile touches.

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While engage in the exploration of comics' potential as a medium of expression, he also tries to deconstruct and rework what a "comics" is.

His comics works include *Cube Escape: Paradox* and *Unknown Brothers* among others. *Cube Escape: Paradox* which was sold globally was a great success, with the 100 limited editions sold out in four hours. Apart from comics, Lau is also dedicated in the production of animation. He has already created more than 10 animated short films. Recently he has been focusing on drawing works related to social issues and was invited to participate in exhibitions such as *Bangkok Through Poster* in Thailand and *The Art of Resistance* in Hong Kong.

His new French comics, *Ordinary Day*, will be launched in Spring 2020.

Participated Exhibitions: *Achieve Comic* (2016 Hong Kong), Angoulême International Comics Festival (2017 France), *The Pitch of Tension – Hong Kong Comics Power* (2017 Hong Kong), *Comics Like That* (2018 Hong Kong), *Y-COMIC-X?* (2019 Shenzhen, China), Ani-Com Park@Harbour"FUN" (2019 Hong Kong), *Cube Escape: Paradox Exhibition* (Hong Kong, 2019), Graphic Novel Festival (Taiwan, 2019), *Silver Forest: Lost And Found* (Hong Kong, 2019), Taiwan Comics Festival (Taiwan, 2019), *The Art of Resistance* (Hong Kong, 2019), *Bangkok Through Poster* (Thailand, 2020).



Chi-tak LI 李志達

Website : lichitak.com

Facebook : [lichitakoffice](https://www.facebook.com/lichitakoffice)

"There is no need to differentiate alternative comics from commercial comics, for the so-called 'alternative' is just another side of the commercial. Comics is at the same time a form of art."

Chi-tak Li began his career in the comics industry in 1982. After working for a corporate comics publisher in Hong Kong for a month, he decided to start his own venture as a freelancer. Following on from the release of *The Wisely* series, he self-published *Tong Men Shao Nian*, a prominent title which rocketed him to fame in 1987. He has since developed a distinctive art style, creating his own visual world with eerily experimental works that broke genre rules.

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Black Mask, Assassins, Tien Yao Ji, Superbaby, Little Strawberry, and K are major works that he created in the early stage of his career. Selected publications from this decade include *The Voyager, The Lover, and Folio, Little Circle, Vicious* and *Solar Eclipse*.

Li's transmedia creations transcend the boundary of comics and expand into movies, experimental theatres, literature, pop music and sculptures. His idiosyncratic style has attracted the attention and commissions from local and international brands such as Nike, New Balance, IdN, Uniqlo, Starbucks and Hong Kong International Airport.

Li is also well-known to the international comics scene. His comics has been published in places like Japan, Taiwan, Malaysia, Mainland China, France and Italy since the 90s.

In 2016, the Hong Kong Arts Centre had jointly curated Li's solo exhibition with the Angoulême International Comics Festival in France as one of the Festival's thematic exhibitions. His French comics *The Beast*, a collaborative project with the famous Belgian writer Jean Dufaux, was released at the same time. This solo exhibition had given birth to another international cooperation opportunity. Li was invited by the Louvre Museum to create a new comics *Moon of the Moon*. The French version was released in November 2019 in Europe and the Hong Kong Chinese version by the local publisher Today Publications in Spring 2020.



YANAI

Website : il.netvigamer.net

Facebook : [yaeyeung](https://www.facebook.com/yaeyeung)

Instagram : [yaeyeung](https://www.instagram.com/yaeyeung)

Plurk : [plurk.com/aieru](https://www.plurk.com/aieru)

Yanai, who grew up in Hong Kong, is a dog lover. She became fond of comics because her elder brother regularly bought comics magazines and *Doraemon* home. With her interest in drawing, naturally she became devoted to comics creation. She has studied at comics training academy in Japan. She started serialising *Frankenstein Family* on Suncomics Project, a digital comics platform in Taiwan. The work's Japanese edition was first serialised on the Japanese comics *Monthly Comic@Bunch* in 2017. A Japanese animated version followed shortly after. The French edition of *Frankenstein Family* was published in 2019.

She sets her current goal at finishing *Frankenstein Family* and work hard to live a life at the same time.

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Moses Hei-lun IU 姚希麟

Facebook : [Heiluniu19.5](#)

Instagram : [heiluniu](#)

Born in 1996, Moses Hei-lun Iu graduated from the Academy of Visual Arts at Hong Kong Baptist University, majoring in Painting and Graphic Design. Most of his works convey the sense of alienation and loneliness in our contemporary society. He hopes that his books, which combine his illustrations and words, would make all the lonely souls wandering in the bustling city feel warmer.



Bonnie PANG

Website : www.bonniepangart.com

Facebook : [Bonniepangart](#)

Instagram : [bonniepangart](#)

Twitter : [bonniepangart](#)

Illustrator, comics artist.

Born and raised in Hong Kong, Bonnie graduated from The Chinese University of Hong Kong with a Bachelor's degree in Geography and Resource Management in 2012, then obtained a Master's degree in Illustration at The Academy of Art University in 2016.

Bonnie Pang's work experience includes concept art for animation studios, children's book illustration, commercial illustration and public art projects. She is currently represented by the artist agency Astound and

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illustrates international children's books. Bonnie also creates various comics include *MindBound*, *Roar Street Journal* and *IT Guy & Art Girl*.



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Extraordinary Publishing Company 非凡出版

Website : www.chunghwabook.com.hk

Facebook : [FeiFanBook](https://www.facebook.com/FeiFanBook)

Instagram : [feifan_publish](https://www.instagram.com/feifan_publish)

Extraordinary Publishing Company is a subsidiary branch of Chung Hwa Bookstore (Hong Kong) dedicated to discovering a new generation of writers, leaving a mark on the local culture in a light-hearted way, so as to help young people to get to know Hong Kong in a fresh light and to provide educational popular books that are not just for instant consumption. With beautifully designed books, we hope to rekindle everyone's love in reading and the pursuit of joy and knowledge.

At present, we have published over 200 titles, mainly on Hong Kong culture and comics or picture books. Some best-sellers and award-winning titles that are loved by the international Chinese readership include *Lego Hong Kong*, *A Tale of Stationary: A History Written on the Desk of Time and Space*, *It's Good to Have a Big Sister!?* *A Record of the Hilarious Lives of 4 Siblings*, *Nosnoise! A Poem!*, *Ma Wing-shing's Journey of Wind and Cloud*, *The Posterist Yuen Tai-Yung*, *A Quest for Hong Kong's Road: Road Signs and Traffic Design*, *Signboards of Hong Kong*, *Hong Kong Lost and Found: 100 City Marks to be Found*.

Carman CHU 朱嘉敏

Editor of Extraordinary Publishing Company

Carman Chu is fond of reading, writing and dogs. She is also a recent convert to the great charm of cats. She graduated from the Department of Creative and Professional Writing of Hong Kong Baptist University and joined the publishing industry in 2016. She has curated and edited many award-winning books, with a focus on comics and picture books, popular readings and books on Hong Kong local culture.

The comics and picture books she has edited include: *IT Guy and Art Girl's Love Adventure*, *Super Therapeutic Furball Land: First time Hamster Raising*, *Nosnoise! A Poem!*, *Welcome to Little Bean Ding's Garden: Stray Cats' Keepers Always Do Strange Things*, among others; Award-winning books edited by her include: *Red Van: A Tale*

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told from the Signs, the Golden Age of Minibus (2018 Best Humanities Book Award, Hong Kong Golden Read Awards) and *Toy Doctor: Things The Toys Taught Us* (Daily Life and Science Publication Award, the 2nd Hong Kong Publication Bi-annual Awards)



Quire Limited 格子有限公司

Website : www.quire-online.com

Facebook : [quireonline](https://www.facebook.com/quireonline)

Instagram : [quireonline](https://www.instagram.com/quireonline)

Twitter : [quire_hongkong](https://twitter.com/quire_hongkong)

Founded in 2018, Quire Limited is a publisher for Hong Kong illustrators and comics artists. Besides publication, Quire Limited also organises events such as bazaars, exhibitions, and is also active in the production of animations, games and supplying licensed characters. With the growth of internet, the readership of printed books continues to decline, coupled with the city's policymakers' blind pursuit of economic development, Hong Kong has sadly long been regarded as a "cultural desert". We at quire-online want to contribute to the sustainable development of the industry by promoting local comics and illustrations through different kinds of events and platforms. Our aim is for Hong Kong and the world to recognise the unlimited potential of Hong Kong comics and artists. We have previously organised the *Grids: Facets of Hong Kong Comics* joint exhibition and are the supporting organisation of the *Hong Kong Illustration and Creative Show* in 2019 and 2020.

Patty

Co-founder of Quire Limited

Although Patty doesn't know how to draw and majored in a discipline that has no connections to comics and illustration, but Patty grew up with comics and animations. Her decision to co-found Quire Limited with Tubbyfellow is motivated by a wish for more people to experience again how touching comics are.

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Appendix 2 - Participating Artists' New Publications Introduction

Kwong-shing LAU 柳廣成

Fantaisie Ordinaire

Ordinary Day

Comics Artist: Kwong-shing LAU

Composer: Victor BUTZELAAR

2020

Edition Patayo <https://www.patayo.fr/>



On a peaceful day, a man and a woman met somewhere.

The comics artist try to present a mundane story with a variety of different techniques.

In this comic stripes, music scores replace text balloons.

The scores and the comics start from the left at the same time, synchronically telling a story of image and music.

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Kwong-shing LAU 柳廣成

S'évader des cubes : paradoxe

Cube Escape : Paradox

方塊逃脫：悖論

Comics by Kwong-shing LAU

Originates from the game Paradox created by Rusty Lake

2019

Kwong-shing LAU <https://bit.ly/2NLP48X>

Rusty Lake <https://bit.ly/2THoLof>



The comics *Cube Escape: Paradox*, by the Hong Kong comics artist, Kwong-shing Lau, originates from the game *Paradox* which is the latest installation of the *Cube Escape* series created by the Dutch game company Rusty Lake.

Lau was invited by Hong Kong Arts Centre to participate in exchange events in the Angoulême International Comics Festival in France in 2017. He has since then significantly inspired by Franco-Belgian comics. He has changed his direction of creation thoroughly, become more curious and tends to get in touch with new and interesting things more than before. His scope of creation is also not limited to comics anymore.

Apart from Franco-Belgian comics, Lau has also been greatly influenced by the surrealistic style of Rusty Lake's game series and it laid the foundation of his new comics style. He started submitting his drawings to Rusty Lake in 2017 to seek potentials for collaboration. Rusty Lake regarded his works consistent with their game's style and showed great interest in how he would interpret *Paradox* through comics. That is how the co-publishing of *Cube Escape: Paradox* was made possible. Lau invited zbfghk, a new and passionate publisher, to design, edit, and manage the high quality printing of the book.

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The comics, *Paradox*, as well as its exhibition were launched in May 2019 in Hong Kong. It's an all-round showcase of cross-media creations between comics, gaming, micro movie and animated short film by Hong Kong and European artists.

Chi-tak LI 利志達

Moon of the Moon

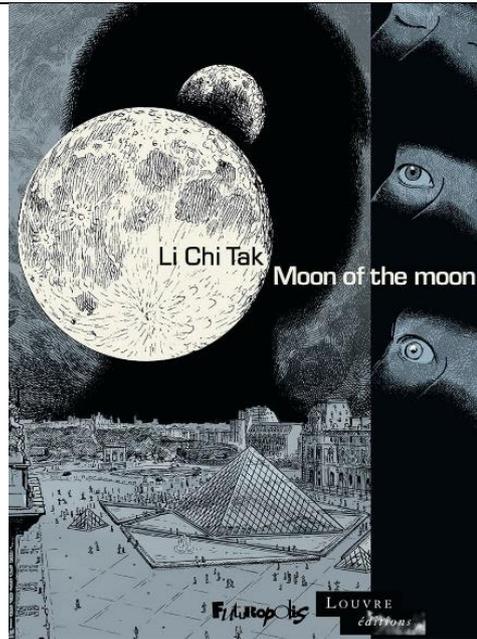
蟾宮事變

Author : Chi-tak LI

2019

Futuropolis <https://bit.ly/2NKJJP3>

Musée du Louvre Éditions <https://bit.ly/38iDfPs>



Two scientists plan to revive five discarded clones, giving them a new change, a new life.

The operation is successful, but the half-awoken clones have severed the connection...

The reborn clones' consciousnesses are disrupted by their residue memories from the past, will they resist or run away?

Many years later, the two scientists are still concerned about the failed experiment, and after a traffic accident, they decided to embark on a journey to look for the five clones, how are they now?

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YANAI

Frankenstein Family

實驗品家庭

Author: YANAI

2016-

Éditions chattochatto <https://bit.ly/2uhPjlm>



It's a science fiction about “mutants” whose daily life is constantly beset with conflicts between the “normal” and the “strange” and who try to lead a normal life as an exploring and caring family. A sweet tale about family solidarity which contains enough cliff-hangers to keep you wanting to know more. The story is set on the Lamma Island in Hong Kong and contains various reference to Hong Kong culture.

The serialisation of the comic series began in Japan in October 2017 on *Monthly Comics@Bunch*, published by Shinchosha Publishing Co. Ltd. The same year an announcement was made to adapt the comic book into an animated series. The animated series started broadcasting on April 2018, around which time the first compiled volume of the comic series was also out in Japan.

Dennis’s parents are mad scientists. They locked their own children up on a desert island, doing illegal experiments on them in a secret lab. One day the secret lab was found and the two parents went into jail while the five siblings were transferred to another island to lead a normal life. There’s only one problem — Dennis’s four siblings are not your average human beings but genetically modified “creatures” who not only do not share their contemporaries’ common sense, but are also took to be monsters by the latter! Dog-man eldest brother, plant-woman and spiderwoman twin elder sisters, and a third elder sister who’s a mindreader — Dennis, the youngest but also the only ordinary person in this Frankenstein family, must shoulder the responsibility of teaching his siblings how to act “normal”. Will they make it as a “normal” family and fit into the society by concealing their unusual identities?

— END —