

Chan Wai Lap as part of Dirty Paper (b.1988)

Maths Lesson, 2013

D.T. Lesson, 2013

Pencil, colour pencil and ink on paper

Courtesy of the Artist

Chan Wai Lap is a Hong Kong artist best known for his meticulous waterpencil drawing and life-size installations of public swimming pools. In an earlier and lesser-known series, Chan created a body of drawings that takes inspiration from his own secondary school experience in Hong Kong. Part autobiography and part social commentary, the series covers school uniforms, stationary, report cards, class schedules, and even unsuccessful university admission results. Together, they form the collective memory, aspirations, and material traces of a local generation who grew up in 1990s-2000s Hong Kong.

Selected on view are two works from the series, *Maths Lesson* and *D.T. Lesson* from Chan's *Today's Lessons* series. Utilising his playful imagination, the artist transforms daily objects in the classroom into playmates with arms and legs who can run around the place. The artist recalled that although he was not academically gifted, his artistic side carried him through the otherwise monotonous, if not defeating school days. Chan's artistic career proves that Hong Kong schoolchildren can have many viable paths beyond traditional white-collar jobs, and that vital qualities like creativity and curiosity cannot be measured by conventional metrics of success.

陳惠立 (Dirty Paper創作團體成員) (生於1988年)

《數學堂》 2013

《木工堂》 2013

鉛筆、彩色鉛筆及墨水紙本

由藝術家提供

香港藝術家陳惠立，以細緻的水彩鉛筆畫作及真實尺寸的公共泳池裝置作品聞名。在其早期且較少為人所知的系列中，他以自身香港中學生活為靈感創作一組繪畫，兼具自傳性與社會觀察，涵蓋校服、文具、成績表、課表，甚至未獲大學錄取的經歷。這些元素共同構成1990至2000年代香港一代人的集體記憶、理想與物質痕跡。

是次展出的《數學課》與《設計與科技課》選自其《今日課堂》系列，藝術家以富玩味的想像，將課室中的日常物件轉化為長出手腳、能自由活動的玩伴。他回憶自己雖非學業優秀，但其藝術天賦令單調、充滿挫敗感的校園生活變得更有意思。其職業藝術家的歷程亦說明，香港學生的人生道路不止於傳統白領職業，而創意與好奇心等重要特質，亦無法以傳統成功標準衡量。