

**Gleams and Echoes: Works  
from the British Council  
Collection in Dialogue with  
Hong Kong Young Voices**

# **Curatorial Statement**

**British Council Bookshop Gallery  
Curated by Wong Ka Ying**

## Gleams and Echoes:

# Works from the British Council Collection in Dialogue with Hong Kong Young Voices

9 Dec 2025 – 7 Jun 2026

British Council Bookshop Gallery

The exhibition *Gleams and Echoes* reimagines the GREAT Art Pavilion presented in collaboration with British Consulate General Hong Kong at the Affordable Art Fair Hong Kong in May 2025, by bringing its exploration of cultural identity, artistic expression and regional specificity into dialogue with the new generation of Hong Kong artists.

*Gleams and Echoes features selected artworks in the British Council Collection by Conrad Atkinson, Richard Davies, Dan Hays, John Hewitt, Leonard Rosoman and Jack Smith, alongside Hong Kong young artists, baaak3, David Chan, Genie Hui, Arlie Leung Ho Kiu and Wong Chun Ho, Harris (Neck).*

With nearly 9,000 pieces, the British Council Collection has been acquiring works since 1938, many collected when the artists were early in their careers, now celebrated in art history. Embracing this forward-looking spirit, *Gleams and Echoes* invites a new generation of Hong Kong artists to respond to selected works from the Collection.

These responses are not passive reflections but bold interventions that articulate personal, generational and regional perspectives on identity, belonging and place. The Bookshop Gallery is transformed into an active learning platform where emerging Hong Kong talents dialogue with works from the Collection, and visitors encounter both UK and Hong Kong narratives in illuminating ways.

By juxtaposing the Collection pieces with the artworks of today's rising generation, the exhibition celebrates the power of art to spark dialogue and the gallery as a space of education and discovery. It also introduces these remarkable young Hong Kong artists to wider audiences. Here, young practitioners become cultural translators, who are rooted in Hong Kong yet reaching outward, to build imaginative bridges between past and present, the UK and Hong Kong, through creativity, inquiry and artistic exchange.