

## Karen Tam

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### Selected Solo Exhibitions (\* accompanying catalogue/brochure)

- 2016/17 *Terra dos Chinês Curio Shop*, Art Gallery of Windsor (Windsor, ON) (Curator: Srimoyee Mitra)
- 2013 *Sinography*, QueenSpecific (Toronto, ON) (Curators: Stefan Hancherow and Jen Simaitis)
- 2011 \**Pagoda Pads: Opium Den*, Robert Langen Gallery, Wilfred Laurier University (Waterloo, ON)
- 2010 *Chinese Fever: Liki-Liki*, Workers' Arts & Heritage Centre (Hamilton, ON)
- 2008 \* CUE Arts Foundation (New York) (Curator: Mary Jane Jacob)
- 2007 \* *Pagoda Pads*, Art Gallery of Greater Victoria (Victoria, BC) (Curator: Lisa Baldissera)
- 2006-08 Traveling exhibition *Gold Mountain Restaurant: No MSG At Friendship Dinner (Or Cats)* Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba; *Shangri-la Café: YYZ Artists' Outlet* (Toronto); *Old Silver Moon*: Forest City Gallery (London, ON); *House of Wong*: Arcite (Windsor); *On Rock Garden*: AKA Gallery (Saskatoon, SK); *Orientially Yours*, Southern Alberta Art Gallery (Lethbridge, AB)
- 2006 *Pavillon des Canards*, Diagonale, Centre des arts et des fibres du Québec (Montréal, QC)
- 2005 \* *Big Wok (Big Trouble) Café*, Alternator Gallery (Kelowna, BC)
- 2004 \* *Gold Mountain Restaurant Montagne d'Or*, MAI (Montréal, arts interculturels) (Montréal, QC)
- Real-Life Heroes Who Make A Difference*, Process Room, Irish Museum of Modern Art (Dublin)
- 2003 \* *No MSG At Friendship Dinner*, Khyber Centre for the Arts (Halifax, NS)
- \* *Long Time Friends To Be Married*, Alarm Gallery (Chicago, IL)

### Selected Group Exhibitions & Screenings (\* accompanying catalogue/brochure)

- 2014-15 *Open Borders/Crossroads Vancouver*, Vancouver Biennale (Vancouver, BC)
- 2014 *Convolved Beauty: In the Company of Emily Carr.*, The Mendel/Remai Art Gallery of Saskatchewan (Saskatoon, Canada) (Curator: Lisa Baldissera)
- The Intuitionist*, The Drawing Center (New York)
- Écho 2: L'histoire à contre-courant*, Galerie Hugues Charbonneau (Montréal)
- Creative Minds Showcase*, CHASE Consortium, Bishopsgate Institute (London, UK)
- 2013 *Couriers of Taste*, Danson House (Bexley, UK) (Curators: Day+Gluckman)
- 2012-14 \*Traveling exhibition, *Sinopticon: Contemporary Chinoiserie*, Victoria & Albert Museum (London, UK), Plymouth Arts Centre, Saltram House National Trust, Plymouth City Museum & Art Gallery (Plymouth, UK), other venues TBC (Curator: Eliza Gluckman)
- 2011 *Round/About*, RONDO Studios (Graz, Austria)
- Location/Dislocation*, J.M. Barnicke Gallery/Jackman Humanities Institute, University of Toronto
- China Through the Looking Glass*, Victoria & Albert Museum (London, UK)
- East Goes East*, Third Space/Tiers Espace (Saint John, NB) (Curator: Chris Lloyd)
- 2010 *BGL/Pascal Grandmaison/Adad Hannah/Karen Tam*, Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal
- Collecting the New*, Irish Museum of Modern Art (Dublin, Ireland)
- Provisions*, Rush Philanthropic Arts Foundation and Nathan Cummings Foundation (New York)
- \**New Intimists*, NURTUREart Non-Profit (New York) (Curator: Samantha Friedman)
- Fourteen Again*, Chelsea Art Museum (New York)
- Traversée/Travesía*, Maison de la culture Côte-des-Neiges (Montréal), Buenos Aires (Argentina)
- \**Oriental Ornamental*, Duo-exhibition with Jihee Min, MSVU Art Gallery (Halifax, NS)
- 'Party! We are Ten'*, Garman Ryan Galleries, The New Art Gallery Walsall (UK)
- Made in Canada*, Shenkman Arts Centre, Ottawa School of Art (Orléans, ON)
- 2009 Traveling exhibition, *Pot Luck*, New Walsall Art Gallery, Aberystwyth Art Centre, PM Gallery & House (Walsall, Aberystwyth, London, UK) (Curators: Cynthia Morrison-Bell, Anthony Key)
- DIASPORArt*, Rideau Hall (Ottawa, ON)
- Screening of *Club Sandwich & Fries* as part of *Secret Food 05: Food*, Antena Gallery (Chicago)
- Empty Orchestra REMIX*, Gendai Gallery (Toronto, ON)
- 2008 *Contemporary Chinoiserie*, Collyer Bristow Gallery (London, UK) (Curators: Day + Gluckman)
- Empty Orchestra*, J.M. Barnicke Art Gallery, University of Toronto (Curator: Maiko Tanaka)

- Bede + Beijing: Dragons*, Monkwearmouth Station Museum, The National Glass Centre, Bede's World (Jarrow and Sunderland, UK) (Curator: Ying Kwok)
- \* *Rien ne se perd, rien ne se crée*, Musée d'art contemporain (Montréal, QC)
- \* *Rearranging Desires*, FOFA Gallery, Concordia University (Montréal, QC) (Curator: Alice Jim)
- Mores Revealed*, Harbourfront Centre (Toronto) (Curator: Melanie Egan)
- 2007 *The Occidental Artist*, NURTUREart Non-Profit (New York) (Curator: Heather Davis)
- \* *Redress Express*, Centre A (Vancouver, BC) (Curator: Alice Ming Wai Jim)
- Québec Scene*, National Arts Centre (Ottawa, ON) (Curator: Victoria Henry)
- \* *Century of Women & Work*, Workers Arts & Heritage Centre (Hamilton) (Curator: Carole Condé)
- 2006 \* *Portraits d'artistes- Karen Tam*, Conseil des Arts de Montréal (city-wide touring project)
- \* *Shaping the Orbit*, A Space (Toronto, ON) (Curator: Doris Sung)
- \* *Orange*, Expression, Centre d'exposition de Saint-Hyacinthe (QC) (Curator: Marcel Blouin)
- 2005 *Neighbourhood*, Centre A (Vancouver, BC) (Curator: Alice Ming Wai Jim)
- \* "May you prosper in the golden land", *Temporal Transmissions*. Mary Irwin Theatre, Rotary Centre for the Arts, Life and Arts Festival (Kelowna, BC) Eastern Edge Gallery (St. John's, Nfld.)
- Irish Visions*, St. Patrick's Festival, in conjunction with Irish Museum of Modern Art (Dublin)
- 2004 \* *Perspectives 2004*, Ormeau Baths Gallery (Belfast, Northern Ireland) (Curator: Vittorio Urbani)
- 2003 *Domystique*, 11<sup>th</sup> Street Gallery, Columbia College (Chicago, IL)
- \* *What Lies Be'Neath*, Foster-Tanner Gallery (Tallahassee, FL) (Curator: Heather Davis)
- 2002 *Home Works*, Betty Rymer Gallery, (Chicago, IL) (juried exhibition)
- Screening. *Plum Sauce*. Chicago Asian American Film Festival (Chicago, IL)

### Online Projects

*Karen Tam: Collection of the China Institute of the University of Frankfurt at the Weltkulturen Museum* (June 2013-ongoing), Weltkulturen Museum's OPEN LAB project (Frankfurt am Main, Germany)  
<http://www.weltkulturen-openlab.com/en/content/karen-tam-collection-china-institute-university-frankfurt-weltkulturen-museum>

*Orientially Yours* (March 2012-ongoing) [http:// orientallyyours.tumblr.com](http://orientallyyours.tumblr.com)

### Collections / Video Distribution

Irish Museum of Modern Art, Canada Council for the Arts Art Bank, Concordia University, Alarm Press, Private Collections, Video Out (Vancouver)

### Residencies

Montréal Museum of Fine Arts' *Impressions* Residency (2014), Vancouver Biennale International Artist Residency (Vancouver, 2014), Deutsche Börse Residency Franfurter Kunstverein (Frankfurt, Germany, 2013), Djerassi Resident Artists Program (Woodside, California, 2011); RONDO/Mariemühle, Studio Residency, Kulture Service Gesellschaft Steiermark (Graz, Austria, 2011); Third Space/Tiers Espace (Saint John, NB, 2011); *Breathe Chongqing*, 501 Artspace/Chinese Arts Centre (Chongqing, China, 2009); Atelier Circulaire (Montréal, QC, 2009); Southern Alberta Art Gallery (Lethbridge, AB, 2007); Centre A (Vancouver, BC, 2007); *Breathe Residency*, Chinese Arts Centre (Manchester, UK, 2006-07); Expression, Centre d'exposition de Saint-Hyacinthe (QC, 2006); YYY Artists' Outlet (Toronto, ON, 2006); Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba (Brandon, MB, 2006); Altenator Gallery (Kelowna, BC, 2005); MAI (Montréal, arts interculturels) (Montréal, QC, 2004); Irish Museum of Modern Art (Dublin, Ireland, 2003-04); Khyber Centre for the Arts (Halifax, NS, 2003)

### Grants & Awards

Canada Council for the Arts Project Grant (2014), The Lava Thomas & Peter Danzig Fellowship (California, 2012), Scholarship (Province of Styria, Austria, 2011), Long-listed for Sobey Art Award 2010, Travel grants (Canada Council for the Arts 2009, 2011), Canada Council for the Arts Art Bank Purchase (2004, 2009), Canada House Art Trust Grant (UK, 2009), Doctoral Fellowship (The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, 2008-2012), Doctoral Fellowship (Fonds de recherche sur la société et la culture de Québec, 2008-2011), London Goodenough Association of Canada Scholarship (2008-09), Travel grants (Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, 2006, 2007, 2011), Grant (Québec

Government Office in London, Ministère des Relations internationales du Québec, 2007), Joseph S. Stauffer Prize (Canada Council for the Arts, 2006), Canada Council for the Arts Production Grants (2004, 2006), Bursary (Irish Museum of Modern Art., 2004), Audience Choice Award for film (Chicago Asian American Film Festival, 2002), Masters Fellowship (Fonds pour la Formation de Chercheurs et l'Aide à la Recherche, Québec, 2001-2002), Nippon Steel/USA Presidential Awards (2001)

## Education

- 2014 PhD in Cultural Studies, Centre for Cultural Studies, Goldsmiths, University of London, UK
- 2002 MFA in Sculpture, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), Chicago
- 2000 BFA *cum laude* Major in Studio Arts, Concordia University, Montréal, Québec

## Professional Activities

- 2014 Workshop. Gerald Moore Gallery, London, UK
- 2013 Artist talk. Frankfurter Kunsterein, Frankfurt, Germany  
Panelist. *Montréal Monochrome?* conference organized by Articule in collaboration with MAI
- 2012 Workshop. Plymouth Arts Centre, Plymouth, UK  
Visiting artist, *London Art Seminar*, University of New York at New Paltz (New York/London)  
Artist talk. Vortor/Rotor, Graz, Austria
- 2011 Guest speaker. "Visual Communication & Culture" course, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo  
Artist talk. "Artists and the Creative Process" series. Palo Alto Art Center, California  
Workshop. Third Space/Tier Espace, Saint John, New Brunswick
- 2010 Artist talk. "Canadian Culture and Society" course, Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax
- 2009 Visiting artist, *The Aesthetics of Place, Labor, and Crab Rangoons*, Columbia College, Chicago  
Speaker. *Atmospheres of Participation*, INCITE Research Group, Goldsmiths College, London  
Speaker. *The Shared Table in Contemporary Art*, Birmingham & Midlands Institute  
Workshop. Programme Arts et Lettres, Cégep régional de Lanaudière, L'Assomption, Quebec
- 2008 Artist presentation. *Sonic Borders/Sonic Diasporas*, Centre for Cultural Studies, Goldsmiths  
Guest speaker. "Graduate Seminar" course given by Yvonne Singer, York University, Toronto  
Artist talk. The Justine M. Barnicke Gallery, Hart House, University of Toronto  
Panel speaker for symposium, *Rearranging Desires*, FoFA Gallery, Concordia University  
Guest lecturer for "Blurring the Boundaries" course, Syracuse University  
Workshops with Liberty High School through MoreArt Foundation, New York
- 2007-11 Director-at-Large of Canadian Chinese Cultural Society of Montréal
- 2007 Visiting Artist. St. John's College, University of British Columbia, Vancouver  
Juror for Canada Council for the Arts Art Bank  
Panel speaker. *Redress Express* symposium, sponsored by Concordia University, University of British Columbia, Emily Carr Institute for Art  
Guest speaker for "Art Now" course, University of Lethbridge  
Guest speaker for "Between the Wall and the Viewer" course, Concordia University, Montréal
- 2006 Juror for Creation/Production Grants in the Visual Arts, Manitoba Arts Council  
Guest lecturer for "Art Activism & Identity Politics" course, Concordia University  
Artist talk. "Graduate Seminar" course given by Yvonne Singer, York University, Toronto  
Panel in round-table discussion, "Politicking Art: Irony and Humour as Critical Strategies in the Arts," moderated by Patti Schmidt, MAI (Montréal arts interculturels) & CBC Radio One 88.5 FM  
Workshops with AGSM School Program, ArtConnects, Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba
- 2005 Artist talk. Alternator Gallery, Kelowna, British Columbia
- 2004 Co-founder, Project: VISION Inc., Chicago non-profit organization for youth development  
Guest speaker. Graduate seminar, School of the Art Institute of Chicago  
Artist talk and workshops. Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin

## Commissions

- 2012 *Terra dos Chinês* installation. Commission by Day+Gluckman for the *Sinopticon* exhibition
- 2009 *Miss Chinatown* installation. Commission by ArtCircuit for the *Pot Luck* exhibition

- 2008 *Great balls of fire: Small people merely change their spots* (Bede's World), "You're a princess in a world full of dragons," (Monkwearmouth Station Museum), *Everyone Was Mushu Fighting!* (National Glass Centre) Commissions by Chinese Arts Centre (Manchester, UK) and the Bede + Beijing Festival (Tyne & Wear, UK)  
 "The Girl from Ipanema"/ "The Boy from Ipanema". Commission by MoreArt (NY)
- 2007 *Opium Den* installation. Commission for Art Gallery of Greater Victoria (Victoria, BC)  
*Rex vs. Quong*. Commission for Workers Arts & Heritage Centre (Hamilton, ON)
- 2005 "May You prosper in the golden land." Video commission to be part of the *Temporal Transmissions* DVD compilation, Alternator Gallery (Kelowna, BC)

### Selected Bibliography

- 2012 Interview. Pamela Peter-Agbia. Plymouth, UK: *Nom de Strip*, Issue 2, July/August/September
- 2011 Robert Reid. "Installation brings East and West together," Waterloo: *The Record*  
 MA Dissertation. "Consuming Culture: Negotiating Asian Identities Through Food Culture and Art." Jessa Riel Alston-Connor. Dept. of Art History, Concordia University  
 Jonathan Finn. "Nation, Culture and Identity in an Opium Den." Exhibition catalogue for Karen Tam's *Pagoda Pads: Opium Den*. Robert Langen Art Gallery, Wilfrid Laurier University.
- 2010 Book chapter. Lily Cho, "Diasporic Counterpublics: The Chinese Restaurant as Institution and Installation." *Eating Chinese: Culture on the Menu in Small Town Canada*. Toronto, Buffalo, and London: University of Toronto Press (p.109-130).  
 Diana Yeh. "Pot Luck: Food and Art," *The Senses and Society*, Vol. 5, Number 3, Nov.  
 Juile Lavigne. "Karen Tam et l'authentique biscuits chinois québécois," Montréal: *Les Cahiers du 27 juin*, Vol. 6, No. 1, Printemps 2010 (p.35-37)
- 2009 "Pick of the Week," *The Guardian*, May 30  
 "Take a Shot At Pot Luck," *Metro UK*, May 26
- 2008 Peter Goddard: "Humiliating Music Makes Amusing Art". *The Toronto Star*, October 18  
 Review. Gigi Chang. *Crafts UK*, November-December, (p. 70)  
 Essay. French Clements. "Not Too Real: Karen Tam and the New Chinoiserie" in *Karen Tam*, CUE Art Foundation, New York  
 Feature. David Hsieh. New York: *The World Journal*, February 22
- 2007 Alice Ming Wai Jim. "Redress Express: Chinese Restaurants and the Head Tax Issue in Canadian Art," *Amerasia Journal*, Vol. 33 No. 2, (p. 68, 97-114)  
 Sarah Walters. "False perspective, my old China," *Manchester Evening News*, Feb. 9
- 2006 Li Kam Fung. Hong Kong, *Ming Pao Weekly*, Sept. 30  
 Gary Michael Dault. "Wonder is an open book," Toronto, *Globe & Mail*, Aug. 5  
 Peter Goddard. "Sweet-sour memories at Shangri-la Café," *Toronto Star*, July 22, (p.H7)  
 Nathalie Guimond. "Chinoiseries," Montréal: *Voir*, January 26
- 2005 Portia Priegert. "Discovery: Art wok," *Canadian Geographic*, November/December(p.28)  
 Françoise Bélu. "Karen Tam: Mimésis et dévoilement identitaire," *ETC Montréal*, Winter
- 2004 Liz Baird. "Art: Where designs are out of this world," *Belfast Telegraph*, November 12  
 Jérôme Delgado. "Le Restaurant Chinois," Montréal: *La Presse*, June 17 (p.LP2-9)  
 Michel Hellman. "Saveurs orientales," Montréal, *Le Devoir*, May 30 (p.E5)  
 Isa Tousignant. "Playing Chopsticks," Montréal: *The Hour*, May 27-June 4 (p.23)
- 2003 Interview. Christopher Howe. *Alarm Magazine*, Issue 16 (p. 60-64)  
 Elissa Barnard. "Two Rooms With A View," Halifax, *The Halifax Herald*, Oct.5, (p. B2)

### Selected Broadcasts

- 2014 Interview. Yan Liang. Radio Canada International, March 20
- 2012 Interview. *Plymouth Breakfast Show*, BBC Radio Devon
- 2011 Interview. *Information Morning Saint John*, CBC Radio One, Saint John
- 2010 Interview. Olga Milosevich. *Mainstream Nova Scotia*, CBC Radio One, Halifax
- 2009 Interview. Zabrina Law. *Spitfiah!* CKUT 90.3 FM, Montreal, Nov. 25
- 2008 Interview. *Global Evening News*. Global-TV Saskatoon, Sept. 11  
 Interview. Stéphanie Bellenger. *In Vivo*. Radio Chine Internationale  
 Interview. Host: Eloi Desjardins. *Un "Show" de Mot'Art*. CHOQ.FM, CIBL.FM, Montréal

- 2007 Interview. Grace Kim & Joyce Lam. *Wake-Up with Co-op!* Co-op Radio 102.7 FM, Vancouver  
 Interview. "Karen Tam at Chinese Arts Centre," Claire Hoang, Let's Go Global TV, Manchester
- 2006 Interview. David Chow. *Citizen Manchester*, BBC Radio, Manchester  
 Feature. Pat Jefflyn. *News at Six*, CBC TV Windsor, October 12
- 2005 Interview. Sheryl MacKay, Paul Grant. *North By Northwest*. CBC Radio One, Vancouver, May 1
- 2004 Profile. Catherine Pépin. *Macadame Tribue*. Radio-Canada, Montréal

## Catalogues

- 2014 *The Intuitionists*, The Drawing Center (New York)  
*Convoluting Beauty: In the Company of Emily Carr*, The Mendel/Remai Art Gallery of Saskatchewan (Saskatoon, Canada)
- 2011 *Opium Den*, with text by Suzanne Luke, Jonathan Finn, and a set of plays by Sunil Kuruvilla, Robert Langen Art Gallery, Wilfrid Laurier University (Waterloo, ON)
- 2010 *Oriental Ornamental*, MSVU Gallery (Halifax, NS)
- 2009 *Pot Luck*, ArtCircuit (UK)
- 2008 *Rearranging Desires*, FoFA Gallery, Concordia University (Montréal, QC)  
*ORANGE: Como Como*, Expression, Centre d'exposition de Saint-Hyacinthe  
*Québec Triennial*, Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal (Montréal, QC)  
*Karen Tam*, Mary Jane Jacob, French Clements, CUE Foundation for the Arts (New York)
- 2007 Brochure. *LAB 7.3: Pagoda Pads*, Art Gallery of Greater Victoria (Victoria, BC)  
*Redress Express*, with essays by Alice Ming Wai Jim and Lily Cho, Centre A
- 2006 Brochure and poster. *Portraits d'artistes*, Conseil des arts de Montréal  
*Gold Mountain Restaurant Montagne d'Or*, with texts by Sylvie Lachance, Françoise Bélu, Marcel Blouin, Day's Lee, MAI (Montréal arts interculturels) (Montréal, QC)  
 Brochure. "Crafting Orbits," Doris Ha Lin Sung, A Space (Toronto, ON)  
*Tam Times* with essay by Jenny Western, Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba (Brandon, MB)
- 2004 *Perspectives 04*, Ormeau Baths Gallery (Belfast, Northern Ireland)
- 2003 *No MSG at Friendship Dinner*, Khyber Centre for the Arts (Halifax, NS)  
*Long Time Friends To Be Married*, Alarm Gallery (Chicago, IL)

## Publications

- "Dolce & Banana, a Shanzhai Creator's Manual: Production and consumption of fake in contemporary Chinese art practices," Karen Tam, in Alison Hulme (ed.), *The Changing Landscape of China's Consumerism* (Oxford: Chandos Books), 2014
- "Aux Sept Bonheurs," Karen Tam, in John Jung's *Sweet and Sour: Life in Chinese Family Restaurants*. (Cypress, CA: Yin & Yang Press), 2010
- "No MSG at Friendship Dinner," Karen Tam. *Visual Arts Nova Scotia*, Vol. 25, No. 3, Winter 2004 (p. 2-5)