

自由的拍子和未
來的迴聲：反送中雜誌

XIANG GANG

A SPECIAL CHAPBOOK COMMISSIONED
BY CARRIE LAM & XI JINPING



護 照

PASSPORT

palimpsest

palimpsest

This palimpsest contains a collection of sensitive feelings. For the best performance please do not bend, perforate with rubber or real bullets, or expose this palimpsest to government officials (including censorship bureaus) or police officers.

1. The issuance, replacement, reissuance and endorsement of this palimpsest shall be promoted by the Bureau of Xi Jinping Thought, diplomatic and consular missions of the Colonial Arm of that Civilization in the Middle of the Universe in other sovereign territories, or other Xi Jinping Think Tanks in places not otherwise specified under the entrustment of Carrie Lam's Open Dialogue with Corrupt Media Conglomerates.

2. The reader of this palimpsest is a citizen of the Civilization in the Middle of the Universe who holds a Xiang Gang permanent identity card and has the right of abode in and the right to return to Xiang Gang, the Island Just Beyond Shenzhen.

3. This palimpsest is valid for as long as Xi Jinping is in power, unless otherwise stated. This palimpsest asks itself if its immediate and intergenerational effects will be imprisonment, torture, and reeducation or the dismantlement of cages and the freeing of babies and toddlers from cages sometimes branded as kindergartens. This palimpsest shall be projectile vomited into space if deemed unfit for this still-living, weary world.

4. This palimpsest is speculative fiction for a future that has yet to come. It does not bend to the rule of law or genre, nor hopes to ass-kiss its way into being respectable international high art. In case of emergency, hide it under the screen of a Huawei Kepler Matebook. Don't let your white Civilization in the Middle of the Universeophile husband/boyfriend look or touch unsupervised.

遮唔好怯五大訴求 缺沒有
打革命香港人，加油光明磊落
我要真普選
光復香港時代革命園

THE FUTURE IS
SLOWING DOWN



昭昭



Genre: Undetermined

Code of Issuing State: Civilization in the Middle of the Universe (CMU)

Surname and Given Names: 重寫本, Hu Zhao

Nationality: “CITIZEN FROM THE CENTRE OF THE UNIVERSE”

Sex: Paid in Cash

Place of birth: Southern Capital North of the Fragrant Port

Dates of birth, issue and expiry: June 4th, 1989, Lost Track, As Long as Xi Jinping is in Power

Authorities (at issue): XG Police, CMU Police, Canadian Police, US Police, etc...

THE
FUTURE
GOT
ARRESTED

“Let’s call the future heaven
and be done with a romance of the present.
The present was a mistake.
The possibility of anything else is a call to arms.”

- Billy-Ray Belcourt
“A Romance of the Present,” *NDN COPING MECHANISMS*

THE FUTURE IS IN JAIL

“The past is haunting us from time to time like a ghost. Things may recur as they were but we by no means can redo the past. You, the Future, on the other hand, are our crush, a figment of our imagination. You are the unknown, so uncertain and unprecedented that we cannot be absolutely sure of. You are so intangible and unreachable that we would only endow you with our hope and/or even wishful thinking. In a world where populism seems to override authenticity and money to outweigh humanity, we seek to safeguard what you do not possess. You are the muse of make-believe, and the changes we envision to make are for an imaginary ‘you’ that we ever seek to meet. The enchantment of performance keeps us musing on the possibilities of freeing ourselves from the status quo.”

- wen yau, “A Letter to the Future”

THE
FUTURE

IS
HERE

AND
STILL

THE FUTURE

IS

屬西

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屬西

PERFORMANCE

THE FUTURE IS
A MIGRANT WORKER

THE FUTURE IS AN
INTIMACY WORKER

THE 闇 FUTURE 闇 IS
A SEX WORKER

THE FUTURE IS

I NEED TO LIE DOWN

COMEDY

THE FUTURE IS YOUNG

Tempo of Freedom

r hands me a pocket of tempo.
the texture of tissue against a long, lasting
grief smells like factory-style perfume.
the kind that goes with summer-time ice
pops because you need it afterwards to wipe
yr sticky hands. not sure why i don't see tempo
@ t&t here. maybe i miss it every time.

when they tell me it's too late
to cry about rocks caught in your throat
rocks you threw at me
or stuff that happened
four, thirty, a hundred
years ago, my mind careens
through the delicate pages between ocean
and decades between dialect
and broken furniture between port
and forbidden, lands
and crashes into your arms.

you: outstretched, ready, optimistic—

me: unborn, passing thought, a mere shape
not yet afraid of you.

did you ride motorcycles then?
was it your sisters you were thinking of?
or the corn, chicken, pigs, cats that climbed on trees?

taking a long breath
is not the same as giving up.
i am the shape of you still fighting
unafraid of this tempo
ice pops melting in your hands,
your tongue, still frozen,
still tasting the cruel joke.

THE

FUTURE

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FARTHER

STUDENT

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PAST

THE

FUTURE

STRAYED!



One(1) Unread Email [From A Future]

Dear Reader,

If I remind you that I too am ghost, will I cease to haunt you?

If I tell you that if you dream hard enough,
the Past and you, with me, can be a happy throuple, with what
will you cover up that scarlet tattoo churned bloodmeat?

Will you believe me when I tell you this isn't a trap?

Or, mirage-à-mirage a huntress of unicorns: come pick,
me, pick me up at the chicken dance for the price
of 136 yuan or less. Your solicitations are welcome.

Presence, darling, yes, you: take off your human glasses,
turn on your VR glasses, take them off again,
quick! Put that mask back on—I am not a scheme
to prove she's changed from her abusive ways.

But you are still skeptical. Your heart still burns
from remembering her touch. The Past has been
teargas cruel. Tank-marks line-break your shoulders. Good times
are hard to remember, even more difficult to believe in.

Neither of us shall claim justice. Neither of us shall bow
before the other. We will only live to tell the truth,
as nakedly as possible. I am always your elder, which
makes us equals. We are not the same.

Beautiful Flourishing, the choice to heal, to come dance with me,
is all yours. I am a dominatrix watching you eat your coins.
How will you submit? How will you be Now? Selfish
citizen and un-citizen, Presence, come grab my hand.

Thank you for trusting me.

Yours Fleeting,

**ABUSE OF POWER
IS NOT A TELEOLOGICAL
INEVITABILITY**

Produced in Response to:

Representing the Ephemeral:
wen you on
Performance,
Protest
and
Memory
@grunt gallery

July 9th, 2019

PASSPORT palimpsest plays with textual performance. Scaffoldings of genre, official identity documents, and dominating language offer me a platform upon which to imagine implications of Hong Kong people's current and past fights for democracy and freedom. Using my diasporic histories and familial connections to the events of June 4th, 1989 as an emotional backdrop, I probe intimacies of memory, resistance, and future within bottlenecks of insurgence and suppression. Holding onto the grief, defiance, anger, hope, humour, and love necessary to sustain social movements, this zine guides readers through halls of official bureaucracy, everyday print culture, and digital correspondence. It is a warm-up for what might be if the future so many fight for (and have not given up on) is to come.

THIS COPYBOOK IS
A MERE REHEARSAL

Jane Shi is a queer Chinese Settler

Jane Shi is a queer Chinese settler living on the unceded, traditional, and ancestral territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

She was born in Nanjing, Jiangsu and lived in Shanghai, where she was a patriotic & perfectly 优秀 student except that one time she ripped a page out of her copybook in frustration. The defiance of that act is also what motivates her work as an artist, writer, poet, and community organizer.

She wants to live in a world where love is not a limited resource, land is not mined, hearts are not filched, and bodies are not violated.

我 爱 我 的 祖 国
我 爱 我 的 祖 国
我 爱 我 的 祖 国
我 爱 我 的 祖 国
我 爱 我 的 祖 国
我 爱 我 的 祖 国



Thank you wen yau for the archive, repertoire, and medicine—including the vegan dumpling secret ingredient. May this zine be my belated response.

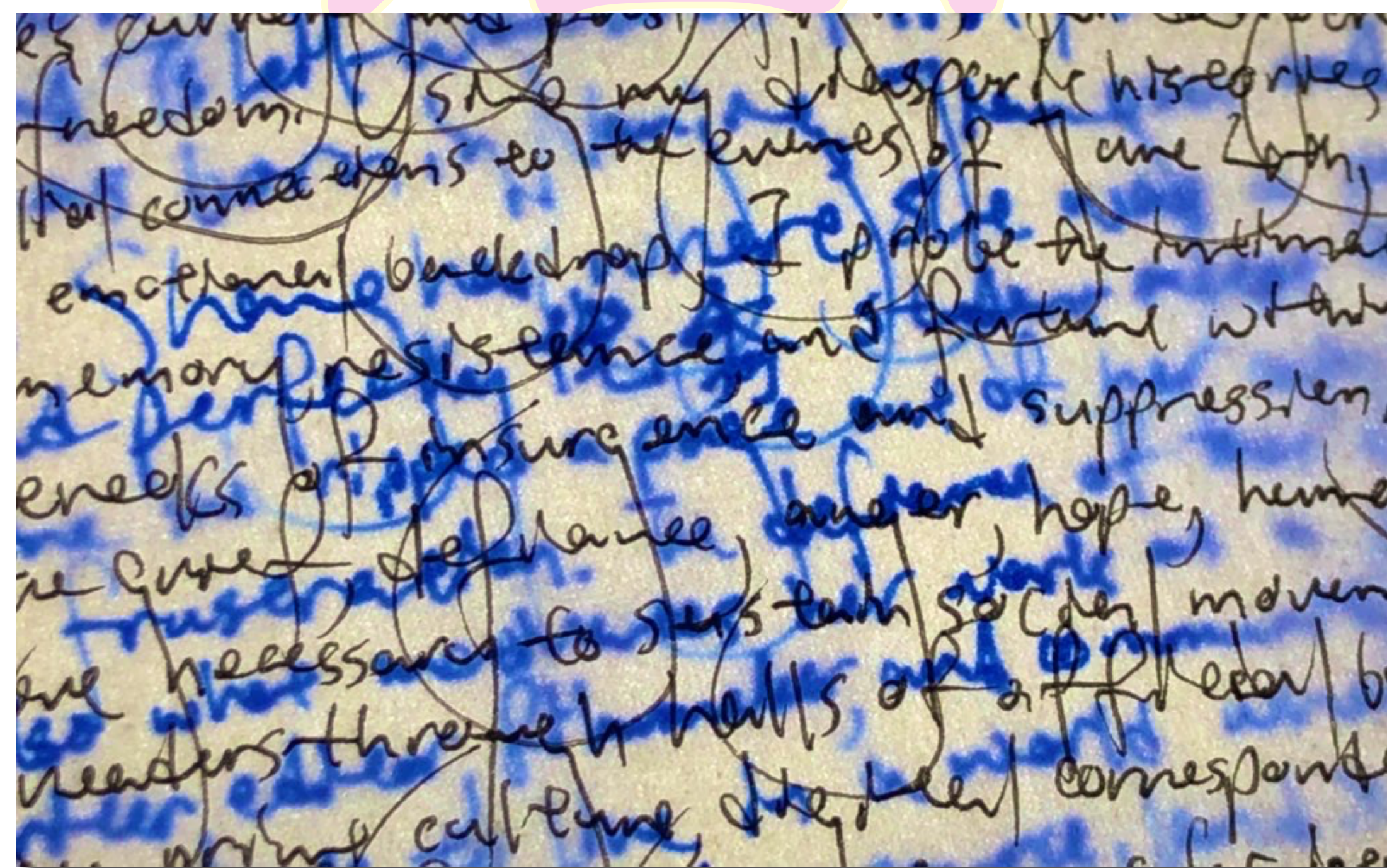
The beautiful work at ZINE COOP and the *Freedom-Hi* exhibit propelled me to play with/in the zine-chapbook binary. Thank you Beatrix Pang, Ranee Ng, Forrest Lau, and so many others for stitching together what can only be described as a love letter to a movement, to collective memory, and to the artist as protestor as water.

Thank you Dan Pon for believing in my work.

Much love and solidarity to Elliott Cheung, Phebe Ferrer, Kelly Go, Whess Harman, Stacey Ho, Rachel Lau, Christina Lee, Dora Ng, Minnie Ng, Hue Nguyen, Hsien Chong Tan, Y Vy Truong, Amanda Wan, Yilin Wang, Clare Yow, Leo Yu (and Theo!), and Esther Yuen.

Sharing food, conversations, language, laughter, knowledge, and space made taking on this work less daunting.

To Sunny Chiu and Lily Le: thank you for being family. 💕



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