

04/03/2004

Ting Pang-Hsin and Chen Chi Joint Calligraphy Painting Charity Exhibition

Prof Ting Pang-Hsin, Dean of Humanities and Social Science of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), and his wife, Ms Chen Chi, will jointly host an exhibition of their paintings and calligraphy at the University Library from 11 March to 30 April 2004.

The exhibition represents a perfect partnership between the pair. Chen depicts the beautiful world of nature while Ting composes and inscribes poems on the paintings.

The majority of the paintings are Chen's studies from nature. Other exhibits include her pictorial interpretation of Ting's classical poems, paintings that resemble the brush manner of the renowned artist Au Ho-nien, drawings of the breathtaking scenery on the HKUST campus, as well as Prof Ting's calligraphy.



Sketch of HKUST #1

To support the University, the Library

Prof Ting Pang-Hsin (right) and his wife, Ms Chen Chi, at the exhibition of their paintings and calligraphy

and the School of Humanities and Social Science, the entire proceeds from the sale of the artworks in this exhibition will be donated to the University. "I joined HKUST in 1996 and witnessed its rapid growth into a leading research university in recent years. As the University faces financial stringency in funding, I hope our small contribution will help its further development," said Prof Ting.

At HKUST, Prof Ting launched the undergraduate minor program in humanities and social science to broaden the horizons of science, engineering and business students. An internationally renowned linguist, he earned his BA and MA at National Taiwan University, and received his PhD from the University of Washington. Prior to joining HKUST, he was Director of the Institute of History and Philology at the Academia Sinica, Professor of Chinese Linguistics at National Taiwan University and the Agassiz Chair Professor of Chinese Linguistics at the University of California, Berkeley. He was elected a member of Academia Sinica in 1986.

Ms Chen's style is essentially of the Lingnan School. She spent her early years as a Chinese teacher and turned to Chinese painting in her forties. For the past two decades, she has been studying under Prof Au Ho-nien, a master of the Lingnan school of Chinese painting. A former student of Chinese literature, Chen imbues her art with the flavor of traditional literati paintings. Her depictions of landscapes and flowers, birds and animals, insects and fish reflect her affectionate observation of the nature.

Members of the media are welcome to attend the opening ceremony of the exhibition. Details are as follows:

Opening Reception

Date: Wednesday, 10 March 2004

Time: 4:30 pm

Venue: Ping Yuan and Kinmay W Tang Gallery, University Library, HKUST, Clear Water Bay, Kowloon

Officiator: Prof Paul Chu, President of HKUST

Present: Prof Ting Pang-Hsin and his wife Chen Chi

Ting Pang-Hsin and Chen Chi Joint Calligraphy Painting Charity Exhibition

Dates: 11 March; 30 April 2004

Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 8 am; 11 pm

Sat 9 am; 7 pm

Sun 1 pm; 9 pm

Website: <http://library.ust.hk/info/exhibit/joint-2004/>

Public Enquiries: 2358-6707

Chen Chi

Born in Jiangyin, Jiangsu, Chen Chi was educated in Taiwan where she graduated from the Department of Chinese Literature at National Taiwan University. For many years, she taught high school at Gaoxiong and Taipei. Subsequently, she was invited to teach Chinese at the University of Washington at Seattle. She was also a part-time lecturer at Soochow University, Taiwan. When she was in her forties, Chen resigned from all teaching engagements and began taking painting lessons with Mr Wu Wen-pin, specializing in paintings of "four gentlemen" (plum blossoms, orchids, bamboo and chrysanthemums) and drawings of women in the fine-line manner. Under the tutelage of Ms Lai Shu-shen, she also learned how to do landscape paintings and birds and flowers in the fine-line-and-color style. It was not until about twenty years ago that she joined the Lingnan School and became a student of the renowned artist, Professor Au Ho-nien. In 1986, she studied bird-and-flower painting with Mr Chiu Siu Ngon, a leading figure of the Lingnan School in Hong Kong, further refining her skills with brushwork and coloring. Chen gave her first solo exhibition at Taipei in 1989 and published a collection of her paintings, entitled the *Chen Chi Painting Workbook*. Her more recent publication is the *Chen Chi Painting Collection*.

Professor Ting Pang-Hsin

Ting Pang-Hsin was born in Rugao, Jiangsu, and as a child lived in Hangzhou for a few years. Also a graduate of the Department of Chinese Literature at National Taiwan University, Ting went abroad for his postgraduate training and received his doctorate from the University of Washington at Seattle. He married Chen in 1963. An expert in Chinese linguistics, Ting was made the Director of the Institute of History and Philology at the Academia Sinica in Taiwan. Prior to his appointment as Dean at HKUST, he held many academic positions, including the professorship at National Taiwan University and the Agassiz Chair Professorship of Chinese Linguistics at the University of California at Berkeley. Professor Ting is a devout practitioner of Chinese calligraphy, a fascination that he has carried with him since the days when he first took up the brush as a child and learned how to write in the style of Yan Zhenqing. To join his wife in this art exhibition, Professor Ting has agreed to display a few of his calligraphic works.

