



Man&Wah

Propagate/Germinate/Bloom

*Propagated experiences
germinates within
Bloom readying
along rivers, currents, cycles
All cosmic forms of endless flavours
beyond human dramas
Earth and heaven realms
Beyond human drama*



06.06.2025–
03.08.2025

List of works

Ground floor (L-R):

Dreamings & Offerings of the Earthly Realm, 2025, site specific mixed-media installation.

Stairwell (B-T):

The Sunset of Heaven and Earth, 2024, Ilford Crystal Gloss print mounted to Alupanel in silver frame behind museum grade UV protect glass, 42 × 59.4cm.

The Full Moon of Heaven and Earth, 2020, Ilford Crystal Gloss print mounted to Alupanel in silver frame behind museum grade UV protect glass, 42 × 59.4cm.

The Milky Way of Heaven and Earth, 2024, Ilford Crystal Gloss print mounted to Alupanel in silver frame behind museum grade UV protect glass, 42 × 59.4cm.

First floor (L-R):

Hong Kong Orchid bloom - white, 2015, Ilford Crystal Gloss print mounted to Alupanel with Sandtex Laminate finish mounted in floating frame, 150 × 120cm.

The Supreme 5 Treasures, 2025, Ilford Crystal Gloss print mounted to Alupanel with Sandtex Laminate finish mounted in floating frame, 150 × 120cm.

Hong Kong Orchid bloom - purple, 2016, Ilford Crystal Gloss print mounted to Alupanel with Sandtex Laminate finish mounted in floating frame, 150 × 120cm. (pictured overleaf)

Altars of Supreme Offering to Compassion and War, 2025, Deity statues of Guanyin and Guan Gong, offerings, incense, tea, wine, plywood, nails, wood glue, acrylic paint, 60 × 40 × 70cm (each).

Time & Tranquility, Sandscapes of Cosmic Geometry, 2025, sand, nature elements, MDF, acrylic paint, LED lights, dimensions variable.

East & West | The Supreme Cosmic Treasures Of The 5 Elements, 2025, single-channel HD video, 33m 33s, stereo sound.

All works courtesy the artists.

More than their beautiful forms, colours and biochemical processes, plants are literally born and shaped by the cosmic cycles and processes of the sun, moon and celestial planets within the Solar System.

This cosmic process, a mass soup of imperceptible solar energies, gravitation and magnetic interactions, are oscillating waves of cosmic currents. Sweeping across the galaxy like wind blowing across a grass field or powerful deep sea currents, this cosmic migration permeates throughout the universe. Similar to the great rivers of the Yangtze, Ganges, Amazon and Murray, these universal and ancient energies flow like water shaping great land masses, infinitely stretching out vast and wide to influence the cycles and seasons on Earth and all life upon it.

Propagate / Germinate / Bloom echoes the activities of such mass cosmic currents. Born from Man&Wah's migratory experiences from Hong Kong to Australia, this exhibition delves visually into how their personal histories have influenced and shaped their lives and creativity. Man&Wah's creative practice has gradually become a form of self directed learning, with the life and creative relationship constantly influencing each other and evolving together.

Presenting an array of new and existing works spanning photography, moving image and immersive installation, *Propagate / Germinate / Bloom* expresses Man&Wah's memories of immigration—of parents leaving their homeland and friends, of standing waving goodbye in the airport already yearning for home—pushed by the currents of historical events and past consequences visited upon their ancestors, also bound by visions and stories of a better future.

The artists experienced being strangers in their ancestral home and in the southern land of the burning sun, constantly living two realities of east and west. Throughout the exhibition Man&Wah situate us in a hybrid environment where Chinese deity chants sound out alongside contemporary ambient music. In *Propagate / Germinate / Bloom* we relive time spent with their maternal grandmother Leung Por, passing the hours and days watching her daily prayer practices and ritual offerings through the observance of significant Chinese calendar dates. The installation *Dreamings & Offerings of the Earthly Realm* (2025) abounds with sensuous storytelling written with the scents of incense and various potent Chinese medicinal ointments being massaged into Leung Por's swollen legs and feet.

Propagate / Germinate / Bloom further touches on a narrative familiar to many migrants and second generation individuals who experience living between two cultures. Man&Wah's work absorbs and reframes this journey into adulthood by offsetting unpleasant encounters through the visual language of natural beauty and contemplation. Years of constantly being picked on, the ability to read and write Chinese gradually fading, and the realisation of one's own colonial attitudes are processed through the rediscovery of nature and learning to ride the cosmic waves of heaven and earth.

Their extradimensional meditations exhibited on the first floor gallery revolve around the concept of returning to home. *Dreamings & Offerings of the Heavenly Realm* (2025) is an array of works enmeshing floral symbology from Hong Kong, China and Australia, unfolding constantly and intensely into a cosmological experience wavering between familiarity and the unknown and achieving solace in the interspatial.

Man&Wah: Propagate / Germinate / Bloom has been assisted by the Australian Government through Creative Australia's VACS Major Commissioning Projects (Individuals and Groups), its arts funding and advisory body, and is commissioned by 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art.

