



***RICHMOND  
ART GALLERY***

***WINTER  
2022***







# NOURISH

Mizzonk & Jane Wong

January 22 – April 3, 2022

Curated by Nan Capogna

Nourishment – its scope and significance – lies at the heart of the works of artist duo, Mizzonk (Wan-Yi Lin and Roger Chen), and Jane Wong. How we are nourished, often characterized in terms of deprivation or abundance, can rouse memories of deep emotional intensity. Wong, a Seattle-based poet and artist, draws upon her experience of growing up in a Chinese American restaurant in New Jersey, and her family's history of hunger and poverty in China. Artists Wan-Yi Lin and Roger Chen consider their secluded existence living and working on a remote acreage in Greater Vancouver. There is a life and practice that has provided sustenance and inspiration for the past twenty years.

Central to Wong's installation is the table poem, *After Preparing the Altar, The Ghosts Feast Feverishly*. Constructed as an oversized, round dining table – typical for Chinese restaurants – it holds numerous food bowls containing fragments of the poem written on their interiors. Viewers are obliged to walk around the table in order to read it. Food imagery - tender and visceral - features in many of Wong's poems. Fond childhood memories around the comforts of food are in stark contrast to her familial history. Wong's mother was born in China at the end of the Great Leap Forward (1958 -1962), the country's campaign to reshape its farming and industrialization policies.

Mizzonk's *Six Acres* is a projected animation produced from numerous watercolour drawings on paper. The slowly shifting compositions - pictorial recordings – developed from Lin and Chen's observations of living and absorbed within their rural environment. In 2001 the artists experienced the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Centre from the rooftop of their Brooklyn studio. The magnitude of the event propelled them to follow their intuitive impulse "to be with nature" and they moved outside the urban mainstream. *Six Acres* - with its creek, forest, grassland, and gardens - provided the nourishing and restorative environment to practice self-reflection and mindfulness, and to confront unresolved childhood memories. The artists' daily living revolves around the rhythms of nature, and they have adapted and prioritized their activities accordingly.

Through their works and personal histories, the artists present a range of realities: Wong highlights the impact of intergenerational trauma, food deprivation and waste, and the challenges faced by low-income immigrant families; Lin and Chen foreground the value of intuition and the beneficial influence of the natural world on mental health. Particularly within the context of a global pandemic, their works are reminders of our capacity to nourish ourselves and others.

In partnership with the City of Richmond's *#RichmondHasHeart* program we are offering an exciting community component that engages with the themes found in *NOURISH*. There will be drop-in and scheduled events, virtual and in-person. Inspired by Mizzonk's delicate animated projection, visitors can create their own small watercolour impressions, or write and share a poem after seeing Jane Wong's large poem table. Join us for artist talks, readings, conversations with chefs, workshops, and more. We are compiling a virtual cookbook and would love to include one of your favourite recipes. You can share a recipe by following a link on Gallery's website.

\* Jane Wong's table poem, *After Preparing the Altar, The Ghosts Feast Feverishly* was first exhibited at the Frye Museum in 2019., Seattle, Washington.

**Mizzonk** is the collective name of the artist duo Wan-Yi Lin and Roger Chen, all Taiwanese Canadians. Mizzonk studio has received several awards including the *Accent on Design Award*, a design industry award held in New York City, and the *TID Award of Space Installation Art* held in Taipei, Taiwan. Mizzonk's desktop works were carried by museum stores including the Winnipeg Art Gallery and the Museum of Arts and Design in NYC. Recent projects by Mizzonk include a one-year-long participatory art project in Maple Ridge, BC; the Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition in La Conner, WA; the TID Award Exhibition in Taipei, Taiwan; a solo installation at the Center on Contemporary Art in Seattle, WA; an ongoing billboard art project and a participatory public art project in Pingtung, Taiwan.

They are graduates of the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York – Lin holds an MFA in visual arts and Chen received an BArch. They live and work in Greater Vancouver in British Columbia.

**Jane Wong** is the author of *How to Not Be Afraid of Everything* from Alice James Books (2021) and *Overpour* from Action Books. She holds an MFA in Poetry from the University of Iowa and a Ph.D. in English from the University of Washington and is an Associate Professor of Creative Writing at Western Washington University.

A Kundiman fellow, she is the recipient of a Pushcart Prize and fellowships and residencies from the U.S. Fulbright Program, Artist Trust, Harvard's Woodberry Poetry Room, 4Culture, the Fine Arts Work Center, Bread Loaf, Hedgebrook, Willapa Bay, the Jentel Foundation, SAFTA, Mineral School, the Barbara Deming Memorial Fund, and others.

The recipient of the *James W. Ray Distinguished Artist* award for Washington artists, her first solo art show *After Preparing the Altar, the Ghosts Feast Feverishly* was exhibited at the Frye Art Museum in 2019.

Generourly Sponsored by:

**#RichmondHasHeart**

**DailyHive**



Image, left page: Jane Wong, *After Preparing the Altar, the Ghosts Feast Feverishly*, 2019. Installation detail Frye Art Museum, Seattle.



# CAPTURE FESTIVAL ON THE CANADA LINE

On view until March 15, 2022

In partnership with Public Art Richmond,  
Capture Photography Festival & InTransit BC

## **CHUN HUA CATHERINE DONG: THE MISFITS** Aberdeen Station

Utilizing digital techniques and photography, Chun Hua Catherine Dong's work illustrates the rich symbolic value of Chinese textiles to explore issues of gender and culture. The phoenix and dragon are interconnected symbols in Chinese culture and are often used together to symbolize auspicious and blissful relations between husband and wife. Within this diptych, Dong envisions the phoenix and the dragon not as opposites but as mirrors of each other. Adding her own twist to a traditional medium, the artist uses blue to return masculinity to the phoenix and plum blossoms to offer femininity to the dragon. By placing these symbols within the rainbowed sea and mountain patterns, the artist suggests a contemporary perspective on Chinese tradition.

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Each image is animated with augmented reality through a free app that can be downloaded on a mobile phone or tablet from App Store or Google Play. On site, open the app and point your phone toward the installation and hold until graphics appear.

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## **BRENDAN FERNANDES: THE LEFT SPACE** Lansdowne Station

Brendan Fernandes uses historically significant patterns to tell stories of power, camouflage, and resistance. Evoking a sense of urgency and emergency, "dazzle" patterns, which were painted on warships to confuse the enemy, are coupled with purple and magenta plaid, which at once symbolizes British colonial rule in Kenya, a warning to predators in the wild, and the flashing of police lights. Fernandes playfully wraps this symbolic print across Lansdowne Station. The gesture offers a moment to contemplate solidarity, resiliency, protection, and care during these trying times.

Image, top: Chun Hua Catherine Dong, *The Misfits*, 2020, installation view Aberdeen Canada Line Station; Brendan Fernandes, *The Left Space*, 2021, installation view Lansdowne Canada Line Station.



# UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

## **ERDEM TAŞDELEN:** **A MINARET FOR THE GENERAL'S WIFE**

April 22 - June 19, 2022

Curated by Julia Paoli and Toleen Touq

Presented in partnership with Mercer Union, a centre for contemporary art and SAVAC (South Asian Visual Arts Centre)

The starting point for Erdem Taşdelen's exhibition is a little-known architectural oddity located in the Lithuanian city of Kėdainiai, approximately 120 km from the capital Vilnius. Built in 1880 and restored in 2007, this structure is a freestanding Ottoman-style minaret that peculiarly has no mosque below or attached to it, and currently sits in Kėdainiai Town Park in a former manor garden. Seized from its original owners after the failed rebellion of 1863 against Russian rule, the manor was eventually handed over to a Russian Army General named Eduard Totleben, who constructed the 28-metre-tall minaret on the site.

# PERMANENT COLLECTION NOW ONLINE!

Discover our collection digitally! Richmond Art Gallery has launched a new digital database of our permanent collection. Containing nearly four-hundred works of art in a variety of media collected from 1982 to 2020, our collection is representative of the history of our exhibitions and a broader history of artistic production in British Columbia and beyond. The permanent collection includes works by established BC artists such as Anna Wong, Wayne Ngan, Susan Point, Greg Girard and Gu Xiong among numerous others. Our collection tells the story of local artists, ambitious exhibition projects and a dedicated community. Most works were donated by artists who exhibited at the Gallery, while others were purchased by the Gallery or donated by members of the community. Our new portal allows you to search for specific works and explore curated collections. View our collection online at: [richmondartgallery.org/ragcollection](http://richmondartgallery.org/ragcollection)

Image, top: Erdem Taşdelen, *A Minaret for the General's Wife*, installation view at Mercer Union, Toronto, 2020. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Toni Hafkenscheid. Bottom: Evan Lee, *Ginseng Root Study*, 2004, archival pigment print, 15 x 12 inches. Collection of Richmond Art Gallery.





# Join us for a season of programs & events for all ages

All programs are free unless otherwise indicated and registration is required for most.

Due to changing provincial health orders, check our website for regular updates. In-person program participants will be required to show proof of vaccination.

More talks, workshops and performances are being scheduled for March and April. Visit the Gallery's website for updates.

## ARTIST TALK IN ENGLISH WITH MIZZONK: WAN-YI LIN & ROGER CHEN

Saturday, January 29, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

The artists lead an illustrated talk on how their daily living revolves around the rhythms of nature and how this has influenced their art practice.

Location: In person and live-streamed on Zoom  
Register: [richmondartgallery.org/nourishtalk](http://richmondartgallery.org/nourishtalk)

## ARTIST TALK IN MANDARIN WITH MIZZONK: WAN-YI LIN 林婉怡 & ROGER CHEN 陳哲實

國語藝術家對話：

MIZZONK 米上課（林婉怡和陳哲實）

2022年2月5號，星期六，午後2點至3點

美術館現場與在線同時進行

藝術家組合米上課（林婉怡和陳哲實）將結合圖像講解他們的日常生活是如何圍繞著自然的節奏展開，以及這是如何影響他們的藝術實踐的。本次活動將在美術館內舉辦，並為在線觀眾直播。歡迎提前註冊預約。

Location: Live-streamed on Zoom  
Register: [richmondartgallery.org/nourishtalkmandarin](http://richmondartgallery.org/nourishtalkmandarin)

## CURATOR TOUR & DISCUSSION

Sunday, February 13, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

NOURISH Curator Nan Capogna leads an informal tour and discussion for participants to learn about the exhibition and artists, who will share their stories of food, nourishment, and family memories.

Location: In person at the Gallery  
Register: [richmondartgallery.org/nourishtour](http://richmondartgallery.org/nourishtour)

## NOURISHING STORIES: STORYTELLING WORKSHOP WITH JANE WONG

Saturday, February 19, 1:00 – 2:30pm

In *From Blossoms*, poet Li-Young Lee writes, "O, to take what we love inside, / to carry within us an orchard." Through this storytelling and poetry workshop, we will dive into what nourishes us – our sensory food memories, our spaces of comfort and shared rituals. Limited capacity, registration required.

Location: In person at the gallery  
Register: [richmondartgallery.org/nourishingstories](http://richmondartgallery.org/nourishingstories)

## BC FAMILY DAY AT RICHMOND ART GALLERY

Monday, February 21, 2022, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

As part of the Richmond Children's Arts Festival, the gallery will be welcoming families for registered drop-in activities throughout the day. Local artist Jeni Chen will lead art activities to create watercolour artworks for a small hand-made book inspired by the Gallery exhibition.

Location: In person, drop-in  
Register: [richmondartgallery.org/familyday2022](http://richmondartgallery.org/familyday2022)  
More Info: [childrensartsfestival.ca](http://childrensartsfestival.ca)

## BOOK-BINDING WORKSHOP WITH MARLENE YUEN

Saturday, March 5, 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Learn the basic use of bookbinding tools and materials, along with introductory bookbinding structures, such as one sheet books, pamphlet stitch, and accordion. A basic relief printmaking exercise will be taught to embellish pages of books. This class is ideal for those who wish to learn simple forms for presenting work, or for building fundamental knowledge of bookbinding.

Location: In person at the Gallery  
Register: [richmondartgallery.org/bookbinding](http://richmondartgallery.org/bookbinding)  
Cost: \$10.00 (includes all materials)

## GALLERY TOUR & DISCUSSION IN MANDARIN

Sunday, March 6, 2:00 pm

國語展覽導覽與分享

2022年3月6號，星期日，午後2點

美術館員工將用國語導覽美術館的最新展覽，之後所有參與者將一齊討論並講述受家庭聚餐和回憶影響的故事和繪畫作品。歡迎提前註冊預約。

Location: In person at the Gallery  
Register: [richmondartgallery.org/nourishtourmandarin](http://richmondartgallery.org/nourishtourmandarin)

## **HOT POT TALKS WITH JANE WONG**

Thursday, March 10, 5:00 pm

Hosted by Jen Sungshine & David Ng, *Hot Pot Talks* is a weekly series of free flowing conversations about what it means to be a cultural worker working with communities. For this event, sponsored by Richmond Art Gallery, guest Jane Wong will discuss topics ranging from anti-Asian racism, diasporic food cultures, and will interrogate the boundaries between everyday activism, "fine art", and cultural work. Join us around the virtual *Hot Pot* table!

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Location: Live-streamed on YouTube & Facebook  
[youtube.com/c/LoveIntersections](https://www.youtube.com/c/LoveIntersections)  
[facebook.com/VALUCOOP](https://www.facebook.com/VALUCOOP)

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## **RESTAURANT BABIES WITH JANE WONG ONLINE PANEL DISCUSSION**

Saturday, March 12, 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Moderator Maria Filipina Palad leads a discussion with 'restaurant babies' Jane Wong, Eddie Kim and Tom Hsu, who all grew up in their family's restaurants. They will share stories of their experiences and how these places gave, and are still giving, bright futures to generations of immigrant families. Q+A for audiences to join in the conversation.

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Location: Live-streamed on Zoom  
Register: [richmondartgallery.org/restaurantbabies](https://richmondartgallery.org/restaurantbabies)

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## **ONLINE TOURS IN ENGLISH OR MANDARIN**

Daily, Monday to Friday

Online tours can also be booked for a virtual tour and discussions with your group or class. Contact the gallery in advance at [ktycholis@richmond.ca](mailto:ktycholis@richmond.ca).

## **RICHMOND FOOD STORIES WITH CHRISTY AND DENISE FONG**

Saturday, April 2, 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Christy and Denise Fong share their experiences from the 2020 *Richmond Has Heart* project, *Richmond Food Stories*, where the artists collected stories and artwork from Richmond residents of all ages on how their relationship with food changed during the time of Covid. Artist talk followed by a hands-on workshop to share your own food story.

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Location: In person at the Gallery  
Register: [richmondartgallery.org/foodstories](https://richmondartgallery.org/foodstories)

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# CALL FOR RECIPES

Share a favourite recipe for our virtual community cookbook as part of the exhibition, *NOURISH*, in partnership with the City of Richmond's #RichmondHasHeart program.

If your favourite recipe is hand written, or from a page of a book, you can photograph and upload it. Recipes often have a good story attached – please include when submitting. All food recipes submitted will be shared on our website. Submit your recipe at: [richmondartgallery.org/nourishvccinfo](http://richmondartgallery.org/nourishvccinfo)

# SCHOOL ART PROGRAM

## TOURS & WORKSHOPS

The School Art Program is back this fall and is now offering video art lessons, classroom art kits, and in-person gallery tours with hands-on workshops for K-12 students. Please book your visit or classroom art kit at least three weeks in advance.

Registration & Info: [Melanie Devoy mdevoy@richmond.ca](mailto:mdevoy@richmond.ca)  
Current workshops: [richmondartgallery.org/current-workshops](http://richmondartgallery.org/current-workshops)

## ART MAKING KITS

### Indigenous Art Series

We are delighted to announce that we have partnered with artist Michelle Sound to create a series of video art lessons on the theme of Indigenous Art, and the first activity is now available. Inspired by Métis artist Amy Malbeuf's artwork exhibited in last year's *Labours Trace* exhibition, the first lesson examines the traditional technique of caribou tufting.

A Classroom Kit with required materials for this activity can be purchased from the gallery. To find out more or to order a kit contact the School Program Coordinator, Melanie Devoy at [mdevoy@richmond.ca](mailto:mdevoy@richmond.ca) or visit [richmondartgallery.org/artkit](http://richmondartgallery.org/artkit)

# RAG RICHMOND ART GALLERY

*Richmond Art Gallery (RAG) is a non-profit municipal art gallery established in 1980. The gallery produces an array of exhibitions and programs that connect, empower, and provoke conversation with our diverse Richmond, BC communities. RAG actively contributes to Richmond's cultural communities through our commitment to supporting artists via exhibitions, educational programs, publications, and a permanent collection.*

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: [richmondartgallerybc](https://www.facebook.com/richmondartgallerybc)

Twitter: [rag\\_gallery\\_bc](https://twitter.com/rag_gallery_bc)

Instagram: [richmondartgallerybc](https://www.instagram.com/richmondartgallerybc)

Youtube: [richmondartgallery](https://www.youtube.com/richmondartgallery)

Tag us: [#richmondartgallerybc](https://twitter.com/richmondartgallerybc)

## GALLERY HOURS

Monday – Friday: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Saturday & Sunday: 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

\*Please confirm hours on our website as they may change during the fall and winter.

More info: [richmondartgallery.org/visit-us](http://richmondartgallery.org/visit-us)

Admission is free or by donation

## LOCATION

Richmond Cultural Centre  
7700 Minoru Gate  
Richmond, BC  
V6Y 1R9

## CONTACT

[richmondartgallery.org](http://richmondartgallery.org)

[galler@richmond.ca](mailto:galler@richmond.ca)

604-247-8363

[richmondartgallery.org](http://richmondartgallery.org)

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Images, cover: Mizzonk | Wan-Yi Lin and Roger Chen *Six Acres*, 2021, two-channel projection: animation of watercolour on paper.