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PROPOSAL FOR A SOLO EXHIBITION
AT C&G ARTPARTMENT:

"THREADS OF WORRY (煩惱絲)"

by Jessie Cheuk Lam Tam and Barber MeMe

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2024

"Threads of Worry (煩惱絲)" is a solo exhibition by artist Jessie Tam, also known as Barber MeMe. This exhibition draws inspiration from the historical context of C&G Artpartment's new art space in Sheffield, which was previously a salon, and the profound concept of 煩惱絲 (threads of worry) from Chinese literature, particularly inspired by "Dream of the Red Chamber" (紅樓夢). Hair serves as a metaphor for the emotional and psychological threads that connect us all. The culture of going to a salon to have one's "Threads of Worry" cut away, as well as the chitchat culture between barber and customer, is central to this theme.

The goal is to foster conversation and connection through collectable, custom-made art pieces that transform personal worries into unique, usable items. The exhibition explores personal narratives of worry, anxiety, and concern, encouraging visitors to engage in a shared experience of self-love and communal care. This exhibition is an extension of Jessie's ongoing project "Struggling Artist," where she collects wisdom from people and engraves words on ready-made objects to create artworks that help navigate the art world. Her recent projects involve travelling and curating exhibitions that explore the fragile relationships and mishaps of everyday life, reflecting transient, heightened, and overflowing emotions as "Struggling Art Space".

It also provides an opportunity for the artist to experiment with unconventional materials like plastic film, drawing, and paint, which explores material opacities and light deflection to depict mental spaces. By incorporating unwanted plastic, threads, paper, and other drawing materials to symbolize the delicate nature of worries, each piece reflects resilience through brushwork on transparent materials.



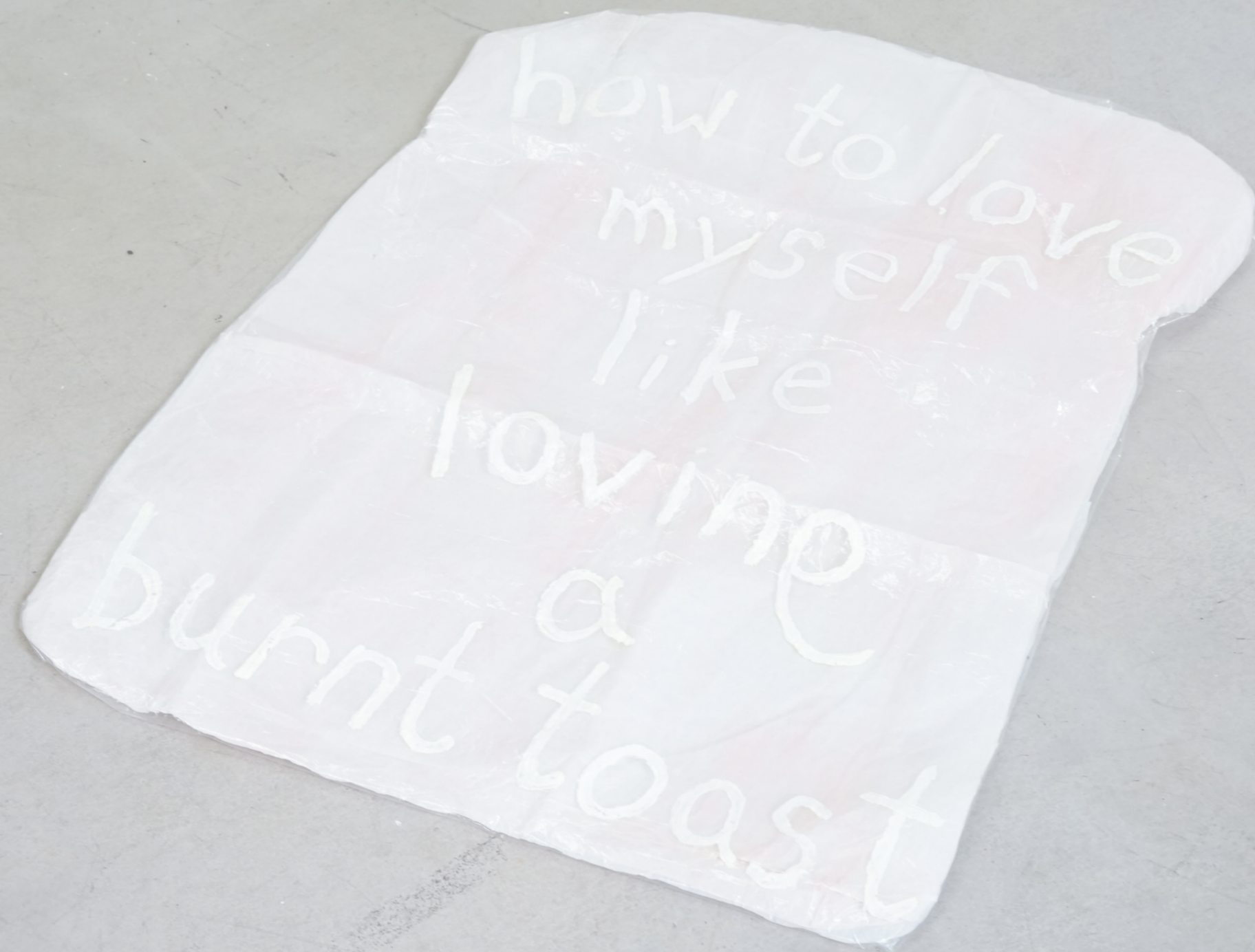
Objectives

As an interdisciplinary artist and co-founder of Struggling Art Space, my work delves into personal and societal dynamics, exploring themes of self-love and relational dynamics within the context of new and ever-changing surroundings. Through various mediums such as found objects, drawings, painting and installations with sound and light, I aim to sew up the gap between personal experience and life's realities, and foster a deeper connection with audiences through immersive experiences.

In "Threads of Worry (煩惱絲)," I will

- transform emotions into custom-made tangible artworks to explore and reconcile emotional narratives, fostering communal care and connection.
- invite visitors to engage in salon-like conversations to enrich the art space and project, fostering engagement and media attention through its unique interactive but intimate nature.
- echo C&G Apartment's historical context to highlight its significance and contribute to broader community dialogues
- support Hong Kong artists like myself in developing art discourse and personal growth.

Budget



01 *Artistic Approach*

- Artist and Research Fee: £550
- Curator Fee: £100
- Administration and coordination: £100

Sub-total (£)

April 20, 2022 750

02 *Production*

- Materials Fee: £200
- Equipment rental: £100
- Logistics: £150

450

03 *Promotion*

- Promotion Design: £200
- Social media promotion: £100

300

04 *Documentation*

- Photo documentation: £200
- Commissioned writing: £100

300

05 *Public Programme*

- Workshop materials: £200
- Publication design: £150
- Publication printing: £150

500

06 *Others*

- Insurance: £50
- Meal Allowance: £150

200

2,500

Process

01 Research (2 weeks)

- Collect worries and gather to transform worries into art as a form of spell

02 Preparation (2 weeks)

- Set up artworks and a conversation area for ongoing worry contributions.
- Promote the exhibition

03 Exhibition and Public Programme

- Artwork display and on-site creation
- Opening featuring an introduction to the exhibition and sharing transformation process
- Conduct workshops and guided tours to deepen understanding of the artworks

"Threads of Worry (煩惱絲)" will create a deeply personal and communal art experience that not only showcases individual creativity but also brings the community together through shared narratives of worry for reflection, healing, and connection within the historical context of C&G Apartment.