What can you tell me about...
About the direction of AAA?
What's your opinion on 15 invitations?
Wong Wai Yin, the Hong Kong-based artist and 2011 AAA resident, presented *Talking Archive* to uncover the ‘true opinions’ behind the material in AAA’s collection by inviting a psychic medium to speak to them. The Medium’s findings were shown in the form of a video and site-specific installation.

Wong Wai Yin  
*Talking Archive*  
*October–November 2016*
Why do you all (AAA books and materials) exist? OR How did you come into existence?
A verdant heart surrounded by pale yellow, light blue, pink, and orange ethers that flow like ribbons.

Books, large and small, flutter in the wind until they land on twigs reaching underwater. All being hung here are books.

A gentlewoman, square-faced and round-eyed, glides through the water like a dancer picking up books, which she holds in her floral print apron.

好似絲帶一樣嘅流光，淡黃、淺藍、粉紅、橙色，圍繞住一個翠綠色嘅心。

拍翼聲，半空有翻動嘅紙張，大大小小嘅翅膀，停喺水中嘅枝條上，掛嘅度嘅，全部係書。

一個秀氣嘅女子，大眼，方臉，如舞者，涉水摘書，放入綁嘅腰度嘅花布兜裡面。
Leaves turn from verdant hearts to crushed pieces of yellow and dark brown, one after another. Like the sound of ripping cloth but amplified.

Crushed leaves dance in the wind. They are blown away without a trace.
What would happen if all of you disappeared?
Are you happy with AAA?
Books stacked on a shelf change in the sky, books stacked on a shelf. A lamp turns on and off, hair grows from shelved books until reaching the ground and turning from black to white.

[Singing] ‘I wait in solitude until late night. The night is growing older and darker.’

架上嘆書、天色轉換、架上嘆書、著燈閃燈、架上嘆書長出頭髮、愈嘆愈長，長到散落地面，由黑變白。

（唱）等，寂寞到夜深，夜已漸荒涼，夜已漸昏暗......
Who would you like to come visit you?
A boy wearing colourful high socks and a girl with braids sitting on the floor, chatting, and trying their best to lower their voices. A silver-haired reader with spectacles bows his head to smell the words. Two secondary school students wearing uniforms with tartan-trimmed hems and cuffs. A few boys bounce as if wearing springs under their soles, asking questions with notes in their hands. A westerner wearing a T-shirt, shorts, and a hiking backpack is staring aimlessly. A woman wearing sandals opens a huge book. They surf the Internet, drink, visit the exhibition, talk loudly, lounge around ... We want to see anyone.

彩色長柄襪嘅小男生同梳孖辮嘅小女生坐喺地下傾偈，努力壓低把聲。戴著眼鏡嘅銀髮讀者耷低頭嘅度聞啲字。兩個衫上面有格仔圖案嘅中學生撲高撲低。幾個腳板底好似裝咗彈弓嘅大男孩，揸住紙仔問人嘅。一個著T恤短褲，揹住小背囊嘅西方人頭髮㗎。有個著住涼鞋嘅婦女，打開一本好大好大嘅書。佢地上網、飲野、睇展覽、高談闊論，咁度hea......我地乜人都想見。
A woman with a pigtail and a pair of black shoes. A woman wearing silk-clad frames with short, salt-and-pepper hair and a pointed reddish nose ...

This is not important.
Who stole the missing books?
Is there a hierarchy among different collections?
Books equal books.

書，等於書
Longitudinal and latitudinal lines crawl across the Earth, around which revolve a satellite made of pages bound together. Optic fibres glitter as texts and visuals rapidly orbit.
What's your opinion on digitisation?
What's your opinion on 15 invitations?
Cake, wine glass, colourful balloon, a gentlewoman hopping around pebbles in the water. There are 15 pebbles in total.
They ask too few questions.

Never settle for what one can see.

Make requests and engage others in dialogue. Only this will result in more opportunities.

問得太少。

不只滿足於有什麼看什麼。

不斷提出要求，對話，才有更多可能。
Do you have any advice for the researchers?
Do you have any advice for the librarians?
Love.

Love yourself and you will love others, including people and books.
Rectangular blocks of emerald green, azure, and pale yellow.

Emerald green: about love and healing.

Azure: about expression and creation and communication.

Yellow: about personality and social relationships. It represents the ability to act proactively, the courage to face challenges, and the ability to contribute to the common good.

Pale yellow: indicates under- or over-confidence, with an implication of narcissism or over-dependence on knowledge. People often rely on experts’ (in many cases famous experts’) advice.

The signification of pale yellow—being proactive rather than reactive or inactive.
what can you tell me about the direction of AAA?
BONUS ROUND QUESTIONS
Being a book not related to art at all, What do you think about art? How do you communicate with your neighbours?

Are you homesick? Do you miss Ha Bik Chuen?

In what ways do you contribute to the history of art?

What is an ‘archive’ versus a ‘library’?

^ Rustam A. Sani, Social Roots of the Malay Left: An Analysis of the Kesatuan Melayu Muda, The Strategic Information and Research Development Centre, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, 2008.
* 'You' refers to AAA’s Ha Bik Chuen collection material currently located in the Fo Tan district of Hong Kong.
Talking Archive

Wong Wai Yin
11 Oct–26 Nov 2016

AAA Project Team
Ingrid Chu
Claire Hsu
Hammad Nasar
Chantal Wong
Anthony Yung, Inviter

AAA Project Coordinator
Holly Leung

Credits
Editing by Ingrid Chu
Editing assistance by Lucia Kim, Maloy Lukian, and Grace Tsoi.

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Hani Charaf, Kemistry Design

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Asia Art Archive marks its 15th year by extending *15 Invitations* to creative practitioners to look within and beyond the organisation as an archive, a collection of material, a digital platform, and a node in a wider collective network. *15 Invitations* take various sizes, forms, and creative directions—literary, polemic, political, sonic, physical, and digital—and function as a series of ‘drop pins’ to alternatively navigate where AAA originated and where it may be going. AAA’s e-journal *Field Notes* traces the 15 participants as they contribute notes and entries to document the process.

*15 Invitations* for 15 Years is supported by the S. H. Ho Foundation Limited, the C. K. & Kay Ho Foundation, and The Hong Kong Arts Development Council. The programme is part of the ADC 20th Anniversary Celebration Series. Special thanks to Spring Workshop.

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Asia Art Archive is an independent non-profit organisation initiated in 2000 in response to the urgent need to document and make accessible the multiple recent histories of art in the region. With one of the most valuable collections of material on art freely available from its website and on-site library, AAA builds tools and communities to collectively expand knowledge through research, residency, and educational programmes.

Asia Art Archive
11/F Hollywood Centre
233 Hollywood Road
Sheung Wan, Hong Kong
Tel +852 2844 1112
info@aaa.org.hk
www.aaa.org.hk