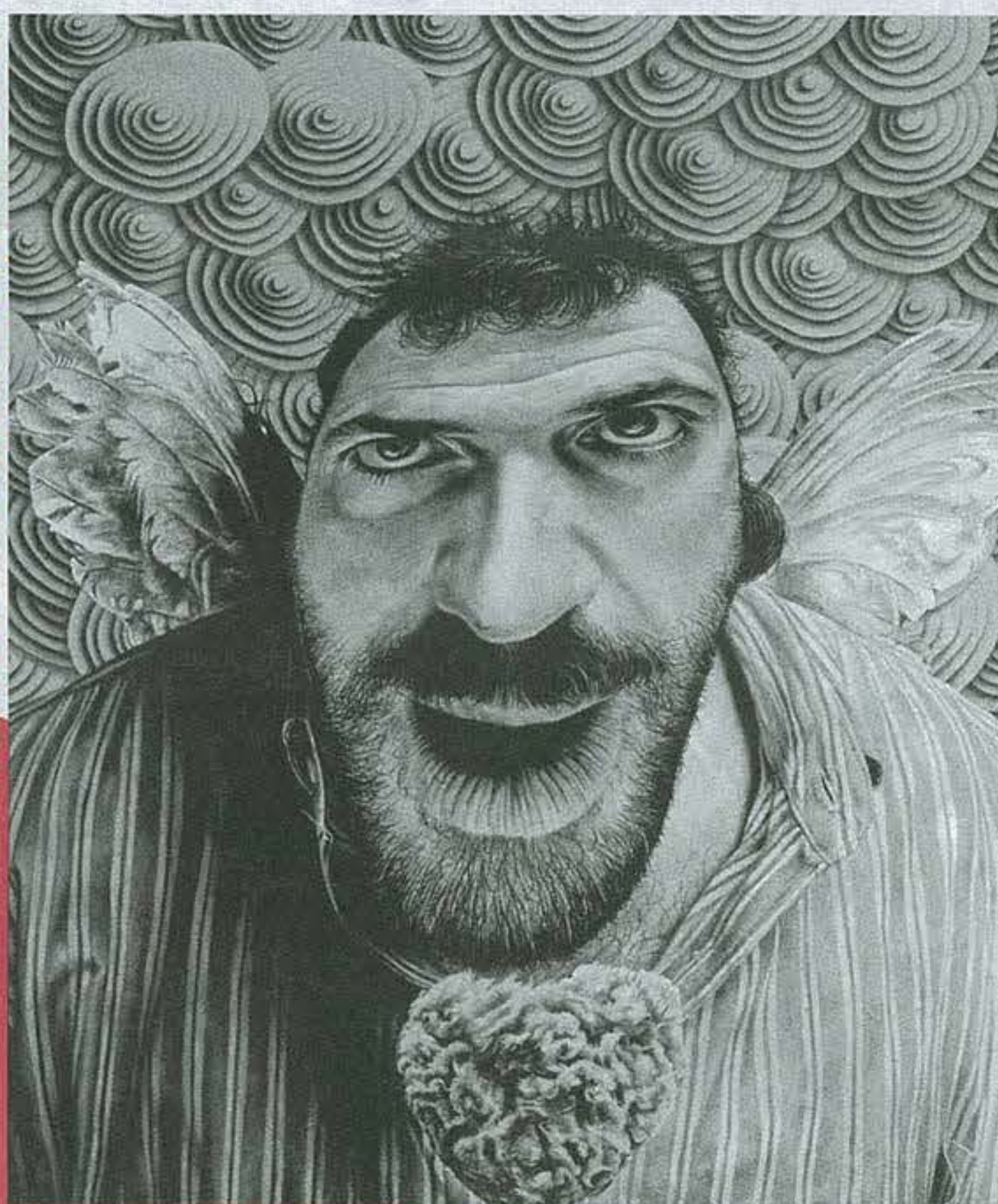
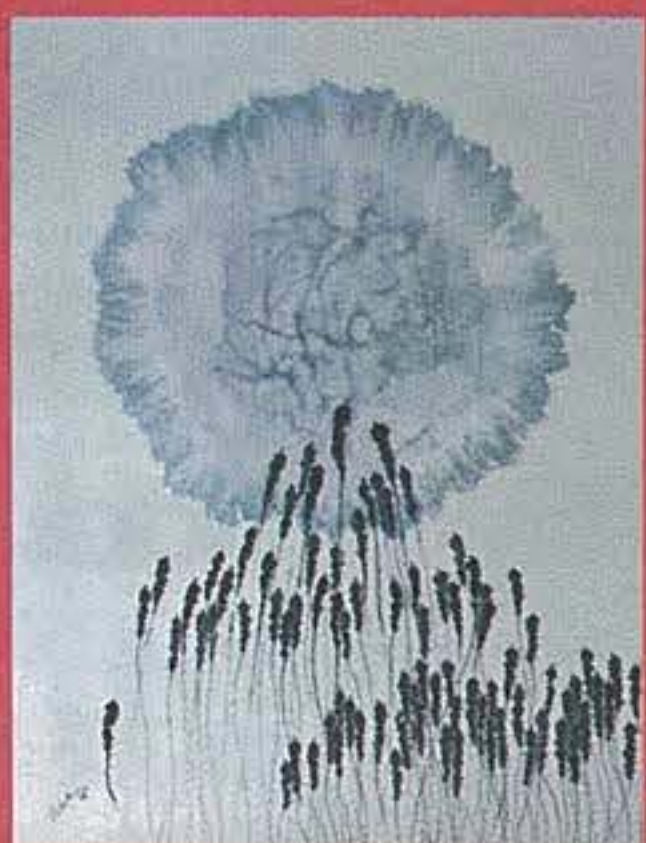




■ *La Dolce Vita* by Athos Faccincani, above, will be in Fabrik Gallery until May 24 while Asia Fine Art Gallery will show *Reveries of the Universe* by Lee Kian Choong, right, until May 31.



Dots and dashes

Apple Lam

British artist Billy Childish is holding his first show in Hong Kong, "Edge of the Forest," at Lehmann Maupin in Pedder Building. The show ends tomorrow.

What inspires you?

I paint what is near to me and things that have meaning for me. This means I do not have to find subjects, they just present themselves as a gift from God, or the creation.

My family offers a strong connection for me to the world. The river by my house runs through the town where I was born and still live. My paternal grandfather was a sailor in the royal navy in World War I, on my mother's side the family were shipwrights and dockyard workers. I also worked in the local dockyard when I left school at 16.

In your paintings, space is filled with dots of paint or curvy, swirly brushstrokes. Any particular reason why this style?

This style developed from studying the paintings of the masters. It is also, I believe, suggested by the nature of the world, which is made up of vibrating energy. I think if you expose yourself to light and life, in the end it will come out of your paintbrush in this way.



How have you changed as an artist?

I have painted since I was two, and made oil paintings since I was 12. My father and older brother both painted. My influences were Vincent van Gogh, Munch, Andy Warhol, Francis Bacon, Salvador Dali, Matisse, Kurt Schwitters, Karl Schmidtt-Routluff, Hekel and Bazelitz. All of them are active in me to greater and lesser extents, but I now prefer the dignity of tradition over pop art. I term my own work as "radical traditionalism."

Points of views

Take in an exhibition or 40 at Art Gallery Night, writes Trista Yeung

With close to 40 participating galleries, Art Gallery Night is encouraging Hongkongers to pop in at different venues around town on May 13, from 6pm until 10.30pm.

"It is essential for the public to know what is going on in the primary market," said Adriana Alvarez-Nichol, vice president of the Hong Kong Art Gallery Association.

"It is indeed a precious opportunity to introduce young talents to the industry."

The founder of Puerta Roja in Sheung Wan, Alvarez-Nichol said everybody is welcome to inspire and be inspired.

"There is nothing good or bad when it comes to art. Art is personal and subjective, while price is never the yardstick to determine quality. You just need to trust your own instincts."

Puerta Roja will hold an exhibition "Outside the Lines" featuring the works of Calos Aguirre from May 13 until June 10. In the use of lines and colors, the artist tries to bring out the problem of space in a modern scenery. Visitors can join a cocktail party on the opening night at 7pm.

"Symbolic Logic" is the theme of the exhibition currently on at the



■ Another artwork at Fabrik Gallery is *Humanity* by Jose Molina, top. The *Demi-God Series*, above right, Cheng Yuyang's response to the Wenchuan earthquake in 2008, is exhibited in 'Profound' in A Gallery. Red Elation Gallery exhibits *A Violation of Symmetry*, above left, by Orlando Campbell till May 24.

Identity Art Gallery. Ten artists from the UK will aim to demonstrate how paintings and symbols polarize illusionary worlds. It will run until May 31.

On Art Gallery Night, visitors can

talk to the artists after the video presentation. Feel free to voice your comments on the exhibition as it may win you a secret prize after taking in a one-minute video in the social media contest.

Gallerie Ora-Ora will run an exhibition "I want to be Seen" from May 13 until June 30, a collection of works by young local talent that make a statement about their generation.

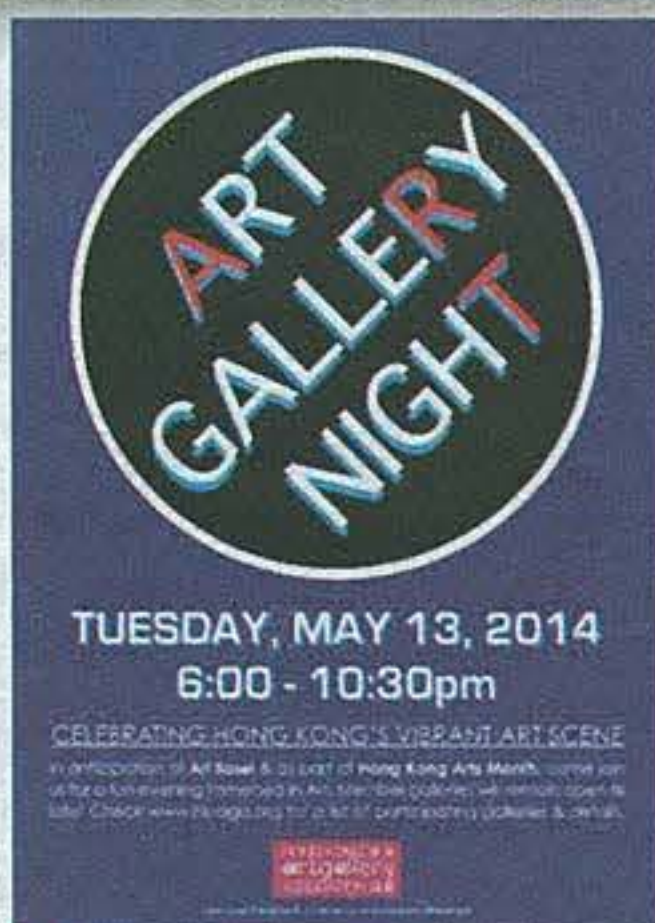
Henrietta Tsui, co-president of the association and founder of Gallerie Ora-Ora, emphasized the importance of promoting a gallery district like Sheung Wan.

"There are many galleries around and each has its own unique theme and culture. We all have different exhibitions every month and hope that people will visit us more often but not just on one day," Tsui said.

All member galleries will feature programs such as talks, special tours and artist-sharing sessions.

Member galleries are all over Hong Kong, including Central and SoHo, Sheung Wan, Wan Chai, as well as in Aberdeen, Chai Wan and Sha Tin. Events are free and open to the public, with no tickets or prior registration required.

Website: hk-aga.org



■ Gallery owners and Art Gallery Night organizers – from left, Adriana Alvarez-Nichol, Angela Li and Henrietta Tsui – want to make art accessible to the public.