COMPASSION: For the Animals Great & Small

A project by artist Mary Ting

Opening: Wednesday, August 12, 2015, World Elephant Day, 6-8pm
August 12 – Sept. 27, 2015

Chinese American Arts Council Gallery 456
456 Broadway 3rd floor, NYC 10013
gallery hours: mon-sat 12-5pm

COMPASSION: For the Animals Great & Small, an interdisciplinary project by artist Mary Ting, opens on Wednesday, August 12, 2015, 6-8pm to coincide with World Elephant Day. In response to the current plight of animals endangered by the Chinese demand for wildlife products, Mary Ting has created COMPASSION: For the Animals Great & Small, an art exhibition and series of public programs to create awareness and promote change.

The exhibition features a series of drawings, prints and a group installation of recycled cardboard endangered animal sculptures by the artist and her John Jay College students. Free public programs will include Saturday family workshops, a film night, guest speakers from the Buddhist, traditional medicine and wildlife conservation communities, and a performance by the Red Silk Dancers.

Public Program Calendar to date

Sat, August 15, 3pm - Family Day - Animal arts & movement activities
Sun, August 16, 2pm - Talk by Lama Tsewang Rinpoche on Buddhist perspective
Sat, August 29, 3pm - Family Day - Animals arts & movement activities
Sat, September 12, 3pm - Family Day - Animal arts activities
Fri, September 18, 7pm - Film Night with filmmaker Q&A, talks on traditional medicine
Sat, September 26, 3pm, Closing weekend - Performance by Red Silk Dancers

For updates and details see: www.caacarts.org www.maryting.com
Few people realize that the demand for ivory trinkets is causing the death of one elephant every fifteen minutes, destabilizing local economies and funding the terrorists groups in Africa. At this rate, wild African elephants could be extinct within 10 years. Unfortunately elephants are not alone in this crisis, which includes the illegal killing of tigers, bears, sharks, pangolins, turtles, manta rays and sea urchins, among others for their body parts for use as decorative objects, luxury food products and traditional medicine. This market for endangered wildlife products exists not only in China but in New York City as well.

For the artist, Mary Ting, “It is imperative to educate ourselves and our children, refuse to buy or consume these products and show our compassion for these animals by valuing their existence as living creatures. For me this is not merely an issue about animals, it is about caring about the world at large.”

Mary Ting is a visual artist with over 25 years of exhibiting her work in New York City and internationally. Her work on memory, loss and nature has received awards from the New York Foundation for the Arts, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, and the Gottlieb Foundation among others. Mary received her BFA from Parsons School of Design, a diploma from the Central Academy of Fine Art, Beijing, and a MFA from the Vermont College of Fine Arts. Mary teaches at John Jay College in the art department and the Sustainability and Environmental Justice Program, in addition to the Transart Institute MFA in Creative Practices, Berlin/NY.

For further information and inquiries regarding the artwork, programs, group tours and workshops, please contact: Mary Ting, 212 260-7393, mary@maryting.com

CAAC Gallery 456 Visual Arts Exhibition Series is supported, in part, by public funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council. This program is also made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and Friends of CAAC.

COMPASSION is supported in part by the John Jay College Art Department and the Sustainability and Environmental Justice program. Special thanks to the Environmental Education Fund, WILD AID, Red Silk Dancers, and Animals Asia.

Image: charcoal sketch, Mary Ting