



The Fine Arts Department  
University of Hong Kong  
requests the pleasure of your company  
at the opening of

NANCY CHU WOO'S  
DRAWINGS AND PAINTINGS: HUMAN FIGURES

Monday, May 11, 1987  
5:30 pm — 7:30 pm

Room 240 Main Building  
University of Hong Kong

The Exhibition continues through May 22, 1987  
Monday through Saturday 1 — 5 pm





The usual clichés could be written about the Paintings of Nancy Chu Woo: the synthesis of East and West, the calligraphic derivations of her forms and surfaces, the feel of brush upon paper, etc. etc. But that can be said of much work produced by painters who come from the two traditions, the Eastern and the "Tradition of the New". She did indeed study those schools, and she studied them intensely. In fact she studied with me at Cornell University in the U.S.A., at a moment when the interaction between the two traditions was at its height.

But these comparisons and attempts at synthesis are beside the point. Nancy Chu is investigating new ways of applying brush to paper, of working the paint into prepared surfaces, already painted textures, forms upon forms, lifting and layering paint into paint. Not only is her way of working her own, but her disciplined use of her studies, traditional AND experimental, also produce new modes of expressing and seeing. THAT is the essence of her work, the result of process rather than formula. If the work has the look of tradition, then clearly these ways of working finally do share certain qualities: artist, tools and paints interact until the forms speak intensely and well.

Peter Kahn  
Cornell University

## About the Artist

Nancy Chu Woo was exposed to Chinese painting and calligraphy at an early age. She went to New York to study Western Art and received her B.F.A. from Cornell University and M.A. from Columbia University. During her 14 years in New York, she shared in the excitement and dynamism of its contemporary art scene. She participated in group shows and one man shows and won several awards.

She taught art in New York for six years before coming back to Hong Kong. Since then, she has taught in the Extra Mural Studies of both Hong Kong and Chinese Universities and the Hong Kong Art Centre. Currently, she is a part-time lecturer at the Fine Arts Department of Hong Kong University.