

Hui-Chih Hsu

Words that Heal

Installation, performance

Mixed media

Space design: Yin-Chiao Liao

Folding screen production: Tin-Wai Wu, Chi-Hsuan Shen, Ching Yu Shan Fang

Folding book production: Hsiu-Hsiang Lee

Dimensions variable

2020

Performance Times

2020/8/1 (Sat.) 9:30-11:00 Hui-Chih Hsu

2020/8/12 (Wed.) 14:00-16:00 Hui-Chih Hsu, Yao-Hua Gu, Wei-Yuan Chang

2020/9/10 (Thur.) 14:00-16:00 Hui-Chih Hsu, Yao-Hua Gu, Wei-Yuan Chang

Hui-Chih Hsu's *Words that Heal* is a writing action performance exploring the origins and orientations of "words" and "the heart." Words are expressive and referential. Words undergo a process in which they grow in meaning. They also go through birth, death, evolution, and new life. Words form phrases. They name all the things in the universe, distinguish them, express feelings and afford understanding. Phrases gradually lengthen into sentences. The more words there are, the more fully they express emotions. But we often write words so much that we forget their "true meaning."

This work features two sets of screens based on the concept of "a wall of poems." One set shows a semi-abstract poem handwritten in ink deconstructing the Chinese word for compassion, as "This heart is not a heart" and "The name of compassion." For the other set of screens, on the opening day of the exhibition, the audience will be asked to provide a large number of words. Based on these words, the artist will write a four-screen poem, serving as the "letters of the heart" by which to derive the heart's power to comfort.

Hsu will also be joined by two other artists, Chang Wei-Yuan and Ku Yao-Hua. The three will take turns making art in an album, live in the venue – constantly referencing the idea that through heart-to-heart understanding and communication, people can "resist" the control of disease without having to maintain "social distancing"!