



Wednesday, January 27, 2021

MOVIRTUAL: LIVESTREAM EXHIBITION TOUR SERIES - *A SEAT AT THE TABLE*

Who worked on the content development of the exhibit?

A Seat at The Table is a collaboration between MOV and UBC History department - the project is co-curated by Denise Fong, Doctoral Candidate in Interdisciplinary Studies at UBC, Dr. Viviane Gosselin, Curator of Contemporary Culture and History and Professor Henry Yu in the History department at UBC. The Advisory Committee guided the interpretive directions of both *A Seat at The Table* exhibitions at MOV and at the Hon Hsing building in Chinatown. UBC history students worked on the production of a series of oral history videos and a cohort of grad students at the Centre for Digital Media helped generate a series of interactive elements (Augmented Reality story of Wee Tan Louie and other digital products such as the two animated maps on migrations and interactive activities on Ipads). The VR tour taking place in the Kaiping area was filmed by Christina Lee.

We commissioned artists Paul Wong to continue his multi-media research on his *Mother's Cupboard* series, Kee Toy Joseph, Squamish visual artist of Chinese ancestry who produced an illustration embodying both art traditions titled *Reflection of Identities*, Judy Jheung for her immersive installation *Composing You Chinatown*, and Stella Zheng for her art on woks in both *A Seat at the Table* exhibitions. Dustin Clark created the soundscape. We used our combined/extensive networks to reach out to individuals and organizations that could contribute knowledge and stories that would speak to the great diversity of immigration experiences. We also have crowd-sourced elements in the exhibition: two digital walls where people are invited to share family pictures and favourite Chinese restaurants + one analog crowd-sourcing happening on the chit rails.

How long will the exhibit be open at MoV, and in its other location? And what influence will this exhibit, and its development process, have on future MoV activities?

The exhibition will be open for a year (until December 2021/early January 2022). The sister exhibition of *A Seat at The Table* at the Hon Hsing Building in Chinatown, Vancouver will close at the same time. Elements of both exhibitions will be combined to become one traveling exhibition.

As far as the influence this project has had on MOV's curatorial process: *A Seat at The Table* builds on the interpretive methodologies developed and refined over several years at MOV. The

museum has led several projects that involved a large cast of individuals and organizations to produce exhibitions addressing sensitive issues - it is not uncommon for large curatorial projects at MOV to involve over 150 individuals and organizations. MOV is committed to foregrounding the perspectives of communities whose stories have been silenced or dismissed by colonial/white supremacist interests. MOV is thankful to all contributors who through their insights, knowledge and generosity help the museum displace colonial narratives and replace them with more inclusive representations of Vancouver's/BC's past, present and future.

****NOTE:** Questions sent only to the panelists could not be recorded and therefore included in this transcript of the chat. If you have any further questions you would like answered, please feel free to send us an email at register@museumofvancouver.ca. Thank you.