

b.wing (Bien Wing Yip)

Born 1972 in Hong Kong SAR

Works and lives in Hong Kong SAR

b.wing's (b.1972, Hong Kong) artistic practice is rooted in a distinct graphic and textual expression that reflects on childhood, unbridled imagination, nostalgia and a deep sensitivity to authentic interiority. Drawing on perceptive observations of everyday life, her figurative paintings and sculpture capture intricate emotional states or fleeting moments that are integral to growth and becoming. Her installations, which often layer her paintings, drawings and sculptures in a text-filled space, pivot around minute moments and interactions critical to a specific personal state. This sensibility extends to the artist's texts, which convey poetic reflection and sustained introspection.

Her characters, often removed from a fixed setting, are imbued with emphatic intention and possess an emotional immediacy that evokes a sense of affinity and comfort. Body language, facial expressions and atmosphere are dialogical cues in b.wing's work. Her signature character, 'A-boy', is a child who wears rabbit ears. Motifs such as animal features, clowns and Coca-Cola elicit resonance and longing for a specific time or period. At the same time, recurring elements like face masks and school uniforms complicate these nostalgic associations, hinting at the social and organisational structures that shape childhood experience. Gestural brushwork and layered markings create a dense surface texture of her works, which often utilises found materials as support, such as wood

veneer, paper, linen that are sometimes left partially exposed. This unfinished quality recalls casual sketches, doodles, and spontaneous acts of creation stemming from an emotional impulse.

Language and text are integral to b.wing's external, visual construction of an alternate internal reality. Intimate thoughts and personal anecdotes are scribbled across exhibition spaces. She uses calligraphy to envelop viewers in immersive installations, a strategy also used by an earlier generation of Hong Kong cultural practitioners such as Kwok Mang Ho (commonly known as Frog King, b.1947) and Tsang Tsou-choi (referred to as the 'Emperor of Kowloon', b.1921), as well as Chinese artist Xu Bing (b.1955). In her installations, she subverts expectations and plays with scale to elicit the effect of seeing the world from a different perspective.

b.wing is a self-taught artist based in Hong Kong. She has exhibited extensively internationally, including at art fairs such as Art Basel Hong Kong (2026), Enter Art Fair, Copenhagen (2025), Art Central Hong Kong (2021–2024), Abu Dhabi Art (2023–2024), ART021, Shanghai (2022) and Art Fair Tokyo 2022. In recent years she has held solo exhibitions in Hong Kong, Paris, Tokyo, Taipei and Abu Dhabi. At Abu Dhabi Art 2023, all works from her solo booth were placed in the collection of His Highness Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.