‘Becoming Flowers’: Oh Haji Interweaves Memory, Female Resilience

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CHAT, Tsuen Wan



Oh Haji’s first Hong Kong solo exhibition, *Becoming Flowers*, traces her textile practice — through weaving, embroidery and dyeing — as a way of expressing her Zainichi Korean identity, diasporic memory, female resilience and collective healing.

Description

Throughout time, beneath the folds and threads of textiles, lie a thousand stories of people.

For Oh Haji, her latest show *Becoming Flowers* also tells a multifarious story. A third-generation Zainichi Korean born and raised in Japan and winner of the Audience Prize at the Anteprima x **CHAT** Contemporary Textile Art Prize in 2024, Oh explores memory, identity and belonging through **textile** craft. Her practice transforms personal and familial diasporic experiences into communal acts of making, connection and healing.

Curated by CHAT’s executive director and chief curator **Takahashi Mizuki**, it unites Oh’s earlier works inspired by traditional dress with new creations made alongside the **Hong**

Kong community. Flowers recur throughout the exhibition as metaphors for resilience, individual life and transformation, embodying Oh's belief that people can bloom and flourish despite adversity.

Highlights include transformed traditional Asian women's costumes, such as the Korean chima jeogori and Japanese kimono, whose patterns and motifs carry stories of diaspora and modern East Asian history. Works such as "Wedding Dress for Minority Race" (2000), "Three Flowers" (2004), "Roots" (2001) and "Sange (Scattered Flowers)" (2005) showcase Oh's mastery of weaving, embroidery and dyeing — including the intricate hogushi-kasuri technique. New commissions, including "Ring of Afterglow" (2026) and "Thread of Memory (Hong Kong)" (2026), incorporate cyanotype prints and unravelling workshops created with local participants.

Details

When: 14 Nov 2026 - 28 Feb 2027 Where: CHAT – 2/F, The Mills, 45 Pak Tin Par Street – Tsuen Wan

Free

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