

In respond to the theme of the artist book – INFINITE NARRATIVES, I animate “Nowness” and reference “Hong Kong identity” with Hong Kong street names. Hong Kong street names often carry intriguing tales that reflect the rich history and culture of the city.

My collaborator **Patrick Fabian Panetta**, a conceptual artist in Berlin.

In the beginning of the project, I selected 30 HK street names and send them to my collaborator, Patrick. He selected 8 to do the calligraphy. I burn his calligraphy and gild the ash onto the paper. The street name is now hidden in the grisaille graphic symbol. The location of the street is represented by a series of number – the UTM COORDINATES. The half-done artwork was send back to him. He then send me 6 hashtags, which is the perception he distilled from the work. I wrote each hashtag on a spinning top, and took images of the spinning top in motion. The spinning tops are now boxed and placed on the paper representing that Hong Kong street with numbers.

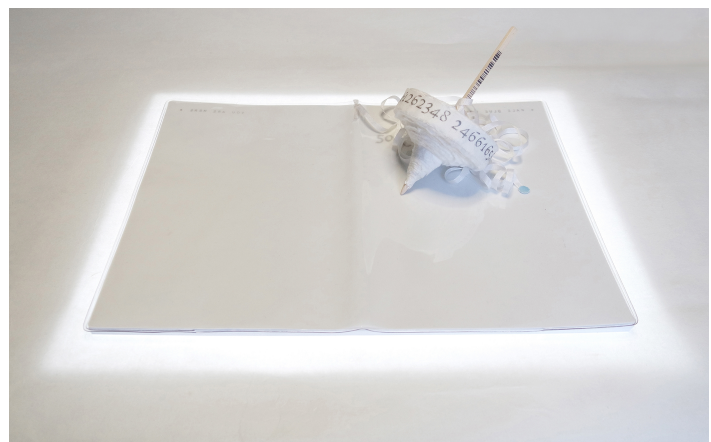


Patrick Fabian Panetta also send me a quote from the book “Pale Blue Dot” by Carl Sagan.

On February 14, 1990, Voyager 1 was about 3.7 billion miles (6 billion kilometers) away from Earth. Scientists commanded the spacecraft to turn its face towards the solar system and snap some pictures of the planets. Among them was this famous image of Earth, which astronomer Carl Sagan called the Pale Blue Dot.

“Look again at that dot. That’s here. That’s home. That’s us,” wrote Sagan in his 1997 book of the same name.

I spin off a second work. I selected another HK street name, and wrote the UTM COORDINATES of it on a spinning top that is made of paper. The paper spinning top is placed on a hand-made book reference to Sagan's book “Pale Blue Dot”.



“NOWNESS”

Spinning top appears in both work, as I found it bear a similar character with street. Street is not-moving and also moving. It witnesses every “Now” of the passage of time. Spinning top is moving and not-moving. Standing on a street, my “now” vis-à-vis the “now” of the street that embraced decades of narratives.