

#ReturnThePillar以AR攝影 促港大歸還國殤之柱

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國殤之柱於上年12月被港大拆卸後，丹麥藝術家高志活不斷與有關人士交涉，卻被一直藉詞推搪，狀況令人擔憂港大無心物歸原主。上周六高志活於阿姆斯特丹發佈#ReturnThePillar (歸還國殤之柱)運動，呼籲大眾以AR攝影或立體打印兩種方式參與，並於Post文中標籤 #ReturnThePillar 到IG或FB，以民眾力量促使港大歸還國殤之柱。

近日曼徹斯特中國大使毆打示威者及北京四通橋抗議等等事件，再次將香港及中國人權問題在海外升溫。上週六港人組織我地，NL4HK及國殤之柱作者丹麥藝術家高志活(Jens Galschiøt)在AISA 協助下於阿姆斯特丹國際特赦組織會址舉行「藝術·超越·民主研討會暨#ReturnThePillar發佈會」並與「The Campaign for Hong Kong」發起人朱牧民及荷蘭後殖民理論專家Dr. Gerlov van Engelenhoven一起探討藝術與民主的關係，當日研討會探討當代藝術應如何干預普世議題，一般市民又可如何介入藝術及政治從而發揮人文精神去影響世界。

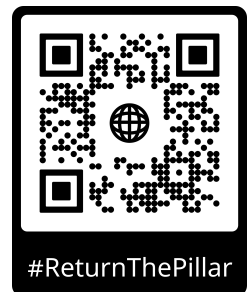
2021年12月22日凌晨國殤之柱被港大拆卸後其象徵意義比原來更為深刻，而今年六四紀念活動在世界各地進行同時，國殤之柱亦以不同形式豎立於台北，布拉格及奧斯陸多處，向世人展示拆一豎百的理念，民主自由不會輕易被埋沒滅聲。香港大學拆除國殤之柱將快一年，高志活不斷與大學及有關人士以書信交涉，可惜只能換來不同的藉口及拖延，藝術家一等再等，使只能利用其他手法敦促港大回應。

人們的參與是今次運動的關鍵，大會希望利用AR技術去示範歷史不會被遺忘，綁架國殤之柱亦不會達到竄改歷史的目的。#ReturnThePillar 運動內容非常簡單，利用大會提供的QR code 下載AR攝影app或者3D打印兩種技術"帶"國殤之柱到不同國家甚至回到香港拍攝，帶到你認為它應該要"豎立"既地標，然後標籤 #ReturnThePillar 並上載到FB或者IG。

港大的國殤之柱乃由高志活於1997年永久借予香港民主運動，其擁有權一直歸於高志活本人，去年12月23日高志活獲悉國殤之柱被拆除後大為震驚，而一眾國際傳媒亦不斷報導此事，一年將至，如果我們慢慢接受於香港以至世界的不公義，只會壯大強權的威信，高志活及籌辦是次活動的海外港人組織NL4HK及我地盼望今次運動可以以藝術的手段去獲得港大的回應，而海外及本地港人以至世界各地所有民主及自由的支持者的參與都非常重要。



以#ReturnThePillar App於阿姆斯特丹水壩廣場拍攝的國殤之柱AR照片



活動QR code

新聞包

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rD6c8VjDpqnwSXQzhMKRVWa9kKAJWj-e?usp=share_link

網頁: <https://ngodei.org/returnthepillar/>

AR Photo Campaign urges the University of Hong Kong to #ReturnThePillar

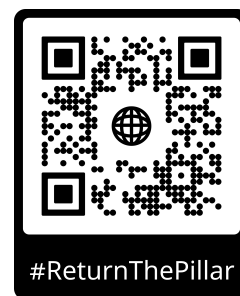
Since the Pillar of Shame was torn down by the University of Hong Kong (HKU) in December 2021, the Danish artist Jens Galschiøt has been negotiating with those involved but to no avail. Without the University's sincerity and help, the pillar can never be returned to its rightful owner. Launching the #ReturnThePillar campaign in Amsterdam on Saturday (29th October 2022), we call for public action and invite them to take a photo with the AR version of Pillar of Shame and print out the 3D object along with the hashtag #ReturnThePillar on IG or FB. With the power of the people, we urge HKU to return the Pillar of Shame.

Recent incidents such as the beating of a Hong Kong protestor within the Chinese consulate grounds in Manchester and the protest on Beijing's Sithong Bridge have once again raised global concerns about human rights issues in Hong Kong and China. Last Saturday, Jens Galschiøt and two overseas Hong Kong organizations NL4HK and NGO DEI, with the help of Amnesty International Student Group Amsterdam, held the "Art beyond Democracy seminar and Launch of #ReturnThePillar Campaign" located in Amnesty International the Netherlands. Joined by Samuel Chu, the founder of "The Campaign for Hong Kong", and Dr. Gerlov van Engelenhoven, an expert in Dutch postcolonial theory, the seminar discussed how contemporary art can be a force for good regarding universal issues and how ordinary citizens can take part in art and politics in order to influence the world with humanism.

The meaning of the symbolic Pillar of Shame has become even more profound than ever since it was dismantled by the University of Hong Kong at midnight on the 22nd of December 2021. While commemorative activities for June 4 were taking place around the world this year, the Pillar of Shame was also erected in various forms in Taipei, Prague, and Oslo to demonstrate to the world that democracy and freedom will not be easily buried and silenced. Approaching the first anniversary of the removal of the statue, its sculptor Jens Galschiøt continues to communicate with the people in charge of the HKU through various means. Unfortunately, excuses and delays were all he received. After a long wait, the artist has no choice but to use other means to urge HKU to respond.

People's participation is the key to this campaign, and the organizers hope to use AR technology to demonstrate that history will neither be forgotten nor that the kidnapping of the Pillar will rewrite history and falsify the truth. The #ReturnThePillar campaign is simple: use the QR code provided to download the AR object or even 3D print it out to "take" the Pillar to different countries or even to take it back to Hong Kong - to the landmark you think it should be showcased - then tag #ReturnThePillar and upload it to Facebook or Instagram.

The Pillar of Shame at the University of Hong Kong was permanently loaned to the Hong Kong Democracy Movement since 1997, and the ownership of the Pillar of Shame has always been vested in Jens Galschiøt himself. He was shocked to learn that the Pillar of Shame had been removed last year, which was widely reported by the international media. Closer to a year of the taking down of the Pillar, our blind acceptance of injustice in Hong Kong as well as the world around us will only fortify the power of absolute authorities. Jens Galschiøt and the overseas Hong Kong organizations NL4HK and NGO DEI believe that this campaign can use an artistic approach, to get the HKU's response. And again, the participation of overseas and local Hong Kongers, as well as all supporters of democracy and freedom around the world, is vitally important.



AR photo of the Pillar of Shame in Dam Square in Amsterdam.

QR code to the AR web



(From left) Ms. Loretta Lau, Mr. Jens Galschiøt, Dr. Gerlov van Engelenhoven and Mr. Samuel Chu.

Press Kit:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rD6c8VjDpqnwSXQzhMKRVWa9kKAJWj-e?usp=share_link

Website: <https://ngodei.org/returnthepillar/>