

A SLIVER OF SPACE BECOMES A RETREAT OF LITTLE ROOMS

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Taking the city for a ride



Pamela Paul

OPINION

Traveling recently on the London Tube and on the city's double-decker buses, I wondered, as I have many times before, why New York City can't have a comparable public transit system: safe, clean platforms; turnstiles that function with smart technology; a functioning messaging system and schedules that operate largely on time. Why are such basics unimaginable in New York?

Instead, as New Yorkers know well and international visitors are appalled to discover, we have a system that went from a source of pride to one of embarrassment. There are many reasons for the subway's

Defending a banned practice

BAKADAJI, GAMBIA

96-year-old woman's arrest for genital cutting leads to calls for decriminalization

BY RUTH MACLEAN AND MATTY JOBE

There were young girls, sitting nervous and excited in new clothes under the afternoon sun. There were musicians, dancing and plates of food. There were old handmade knives and bright new razor blades.

For the 30 traditional practitioners of female genital cutting, who swayed to somnolent melodies in their matching print dresses, the event was a little like the mass cutting parties that they and their ancestors had held for centuries, in the forests of the tiny West African nation of Gambia.

These women were prominent practitioners in their communities, and cutting girls provided them with an income and respect.

But this party, in 2013 in the town of Wassu, signified the renunciation of their calling. The women carried signs that read: "I have stopped female genital mutilation" below a drawing of a



Japan tries to reclaim its lost tech dominance

New industrial push aims to increase collaboration with foreign partners

BY PATRICIA COHEN AND RIVER AKIRA DAVIS

China's envy-inducing success in using industrial policy to expand its economy and finance green manufacturing has helped kick off a fevered scrimmage among nations to develop and protect their own hometown businesses.

It has been 40 years since such competitive anxieties about a rising Asian power prompted this kind of embrace of government intervention among the biggest free-market economies.

Only then it was Japan, not China, that was the source of unease.

Michael Crichton's 1992 thriller, "Rising Sun," with its dark depiction of Japan's ruthless economic warriors, ruled the best-seller lists, alongside nonfiction titles that warned of the financial and

ON DISPLAY

Don't call it a retrospective

A Shanghai exhibition is showcasing 50 years of jewelry by Wallace Chan. He says he has 'many more years to create.'

BY DAVID BELCHER

If your career has included creating a piece of jewelry valued at \$200 million, what's next?

For Wallace Chan, the Hong Kong artist whose jewelry has attracted buyers and been added to museum collections for decades, you return to the Chinese mainland where you were born for a milestone exhibition.

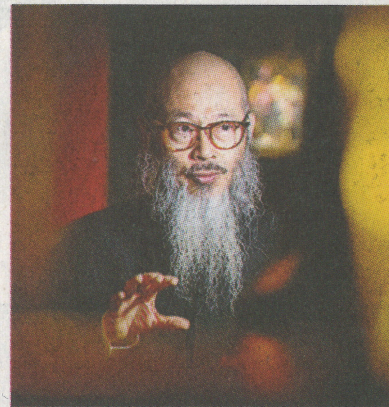
Shanghai Museum East is now featuring more than 200 of Mr. Chan's works in "Wallace Chan: Half a Century" through Oct. 7.

"I am a bit reluctant to call this a retrospective because I have many more years to create," said Mr. Chan, 67, during a recent video interview from his home in Hong Kong. "For me, to create is to discover."

Part of what makes this exhibition different from his previous ones is the presentation. Mr. Chan said he wanted to humanize his work, which has included hundreds, if not thousands, of tiny gems set on titanium frames in the shape of butterflies or insects or other things from nature. Many of the pieces are shown inside 11 mannequins, made of purple fiberglass and almost 15 feet tall, or in a display case in the shape of an eye.

"My works of jewelry are created to embody human qualities," he said. "I have always felt that the insects and the other parts of nature I depict are as vital to our world as humans."

Among the pieces on display is Metamorphosis, a butterfly brooch of 16 emeralds totaling 52.44 carats, diamonds, other colored stones, mother-of-pearl, 18-karat white gold and titanium. Another piece, called Hera, is a peacock brooch with a detachable ring in yellow diamonds and emeralds. It was crafted in titanium and Wallace Chan Porcelain,



JAMES MANNING/PA, VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS



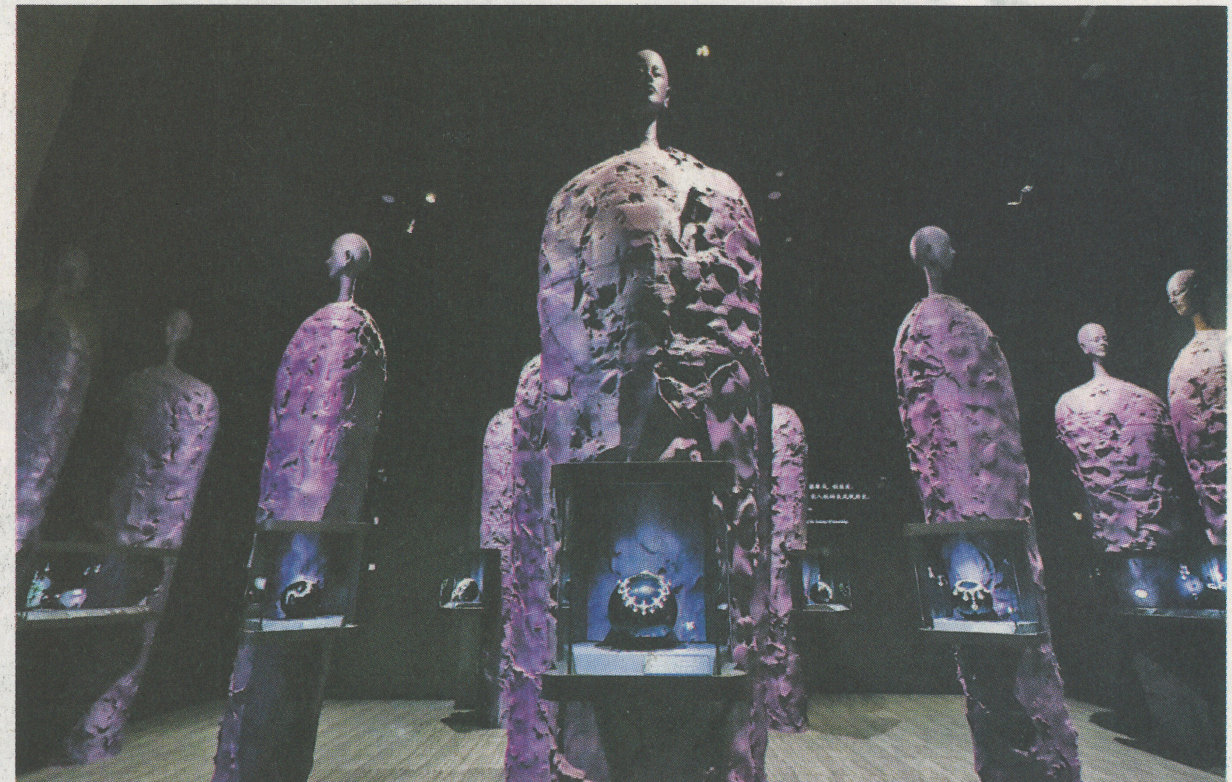
VIA WALLACE CHAN

a substance that he invented several years ago and has said is five times harder than steel.

Mr. Chan began making jewelry in his teens.

"Butterflies are flying colors," he said. "This is what I remember from my childhood."

He trained as a carver in his 20s and began his own business in 1974. The Wallace Cut, which he created, involved carving images into gemstones and drew attention in the industry. Mr. Chan



VIA WALLACE CHAN

also created several precision tools, and he customized dental drills so they could be used on minuscule jewels.

Perhaps his most famous creation (not included in this exhibition) was an 11,551-diamond necklace created in 2015 for Chow Tai Fook, the Asian business group that includes a large retail jewelry chain. It has been called the world's most expensive necklace, valued at \$200 million at the time.

The exhibition includes loans from the Palace Museum in Beijing, the Met-

ropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, and the Pforzheim Jewelry Museum in Germany. There are no official plans for the exhibition to move to another location, but Mr. Chan said he and the museum were considering invitations and declined to identify the museums.

Nina Hald, a freelance curator who has worked with the Danish royal jewelry collection, curated the Chan exhibition along with the Shanghai museum's

staff members. She said that she became enchanted with Mr. Chan's work at an art fair in London in 2016 and that she had worked with him several times since then.

"Denmark's design tradition is very minimalist and almost devoid of colors," Ms. Hald said by email. "Wallace's art is literally everything but."

For his part, Mr. Chan sees color as just one aspect of his jewels: "To my eyes, the gemstones are alive, and I want to portray that."

Experience

Clockwise from far left: Wallace Chan, who began making jewelry when he was in his teens; an installation view of the exhibition "Wallace Chan: Half a Century" at Shanghai Museum East; and Mr. Chan's Metamorphosis brooch.

BEGINNINGS

Joya to debut in Monaco

The new jewelry fair, scheduled this fall, will feature 15 exhibitors

ANTIQUES

Tiny objects, big meaning

A selling exhibition in London has 120 rings