

CFCCA

CENTRE FOR CHINESE
CONTEMPORARY ART



Semay Wu *Sounds Like Scran: An Audio Cookbook*

Call for Participants

As part of International Mother Language Day, Centre for Chinese Contemporary Art (CFCCA) are excited to be working with artist Semay Wu on a new commission exploring Manchester's language diversity through the common thread of food culture. We will be creating a Mancunian Audio Cookbook, exhibited online as part of CFCCA's programme in February 2021. Like a traditional cookery book, each 'page' will showcase a chosen dish. This dish will not be described by the instructions on how to cook it, but by the stories and experiences that surround it. We are inviting all residents of Greater Manchester to share their food culture in the form of 'audio postcards' submitted in their mother language*.

To be part of this celebratory project, you simply choose one of your favourite dishes, and a story that connects you to it. Using your mobile phone, record yourself telling this story in your mother language. Combine with a photo of yourself with the cooked dish, and a short note to describe the story in both your mother language and in English. These four elements will become your 'page', in the Mancunian Audio Cookbook. Food brings us together. It builds up our communities, and encourages our connections with family and friends. The story can be whatever comes up when you think about, make, or eat this dish: it could be about someone, or a poem, a memory, even a feeling. We all have a story to tell about food!

The responses will be exhibited online, portraying the richness of Manchester's 200+ languages. The Mancunian Audio Cookbook will celebrate the unique mix of voices, food and cultures of people across our city.

**mother language usually refers to a language spoken since birth. We welcome all submissions from multilingual individuals and families, as well as dialects of English and all languages, and British Sign Language.*

Centre for Chinese Contemporary Art
Thomas Street
Manchester
M4 1EU
www.cfcca.org.uk

What we need from you:

1. An audio recording (or video recording for BSL) - of yourself (or your family / group) describing your chosen 'dish' story in your 'mother' language. The description can be a story, a memory, a poem, etc.
2. A photograph of you and the dish – if you prefer not to take a picture of yourself, you can send us a drawing or image in response to that dish. You can be as creative as you like, and send more than one if you wish!
3. A short written or typed summary of your description in your 'mother' language & in English. If writing by hand, try to write it all on one piece of paper. The paper can be torn from a notepad, a postcard, or anything you can find/grab. For hand-written notes, you can scan or photograph and attach it to your email.

To take part in the project please email the above to alistair@cfcca.org.uk with 'Sounds Like Scran' in the subject line, by **10AM Tuesday 15th December**. Please include your name(s), the name of your mother language, and the name of your dish.

If you have any questions about the project or the submission of recordings, please contact alistair@cfcca.org.uk. There are some tips on recording and submitting below.

How to record your audio:

- You can record an audio file using the 'Voice Memos' app on iPhone, or the Voice Recorder app on Android phones. You can then share this via the email app on your phone.
- If you use BSL, or are unable to record audio, you can submit a video. We will be able to use this.

Tips:

- Please record indoors, somewhere quiet. Try to have as little background sounds as possible, although having some is fine. When you have finished recording, try to listen back to it. If your voice is not clear, then please try again before you submit it to us! Remember, we want to hear you.
- You could think about what memories this food conjures for you. Perhaps it reminds you of a certain person, a certain place or a certain time. Or perhaps it's just your favourite because it tastes so good! Any story will work: it could be a small part of your daily life. We welcome it all.

Please note that all recordings will be reviewed for suitability and sound quality. We will aim to include all submissions in the final project. Depending on the development of Covid-19, we may seek to also exhibit the project physically at CFCCA; we will notify all participants if this becomes the case.

