Arts and Cultural Industries under Inner-City Gentrification of Hong Kong

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Dissertation Abstract

Arts and cultural development have always been one of the development areas by HKSAR government and all formal places with a use of public entertainment are under the management of Leisure and Cultural Services Department. The indivisible relationship among art, economy and political move made the development of art and cultural development has to be studied in multiple perspectives. Facing the land limitation of land development, and following the wave of global urban renewal process, Hong Kong Urban Renewal Authority (URA) under HKSAR government is transforming the urban area with a large area in one time, aiming to promote the boost for regional population growth and the
most important economic growth. Through this process, many sites such as post-industrial zones have become the action area, thus the large ratio of artists and art groups who settled within the area have been affected by this urban renewal process.

The study would include the quantitative analysis of spatial development process of post-industrial site and architecture of smaller scale by using GIS and architectural documentation. On the other hand, the qualitative analysis such as ethnographic studies to the neighborhood, documentation research to the past art and community development, as well as opinions collection by using the Delphi method will be included as the approaching method.

This proposed research aims to explore spatially how post-industrial space could use its potential for art and culture development in Hong Kong, economically the relationship between art & cultural industries to creative industries, as well as politically the power relationship among artists, non-government organizations and the official institution, hoping to understand how arts and culture industries could sustain under the inner-city gentrification process. As well as to use this research process to contribute the art groups for better art production and the government for better management through the urban renewal process.