

Interview: Emma Hack

At her first solo exhibition in Hong Kong, the Australian artist talks with us about how she works, what inspires her, and plans for the future

By Esther Wong & Tyrone Wu

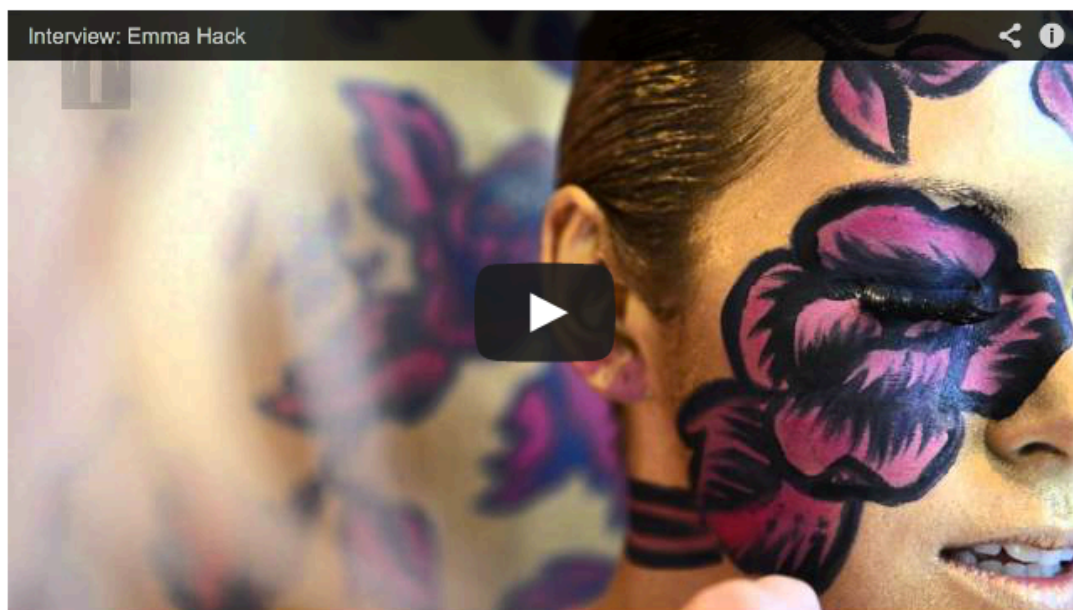
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As we step into The Cat Street Gallery, the natural beauty of Emma Hack's works is immediately striking. The walls are lined with the Australian artist's creations, all part of her first solo exhibition in Hong Kong. At one end, Hack is feverishly working away on her newest piece, which doubles as a live painting demonstration for curious spectators.

In 2011, Hack gained significant international exposure when she collaborated with award-winning musician Gotye in his music video for 'Somebody That I Used To Know,' which, at the time of writing, has amassed over 427 million views on YouTube.

She greets us warmly before taking a break from painting to chat with us about how the pieces come to life and where her inspirations come from. "It's very much about inner feminine spirit and strength, and being at one with your environment," she explains.

Hack manages to seamlessly blend human figures into background images, but notes that, "there are bits and pieces where it doesn't actually match up. But the illusion of it matching up is really quite beautiful." She adds, "Nothing is perfect in the world, and nothing is perfect in nature. I think it's wonderful to allow art to experience that."

Emma Hack's work will be displayed at The Cat Street Gallery until September 22, 2013.

Emma Hack – Tromp-l'oeil

Venue: The Cat Street Gallery, 222 Hollywood Road, Sheung Wan

Date: August 29 to September 22, 2013

Time: Mon-Fri, 11am-7pm; Sat, 11am-5pm; Closed on Sundays

Videography by Tyrone Wu

<http://hk.asiatatler.com/culture-lifestyle/arts/interview-emma-hack>