

Please access with your phone



HOME SWEET APP

<https://huijunchen1994.wixsite.com/homesweetapp>



HomeSweetApp

OPEN CALL INFORMATION
<https://huijunchen1994.wixsite.com/carooogg4/treehole>

About

For the Chinese, going home is an eternal topic. Especially against the backdrop of the global pandemic, hardened borders, quarantine policies and expensive international airfares in recent years, it has become particularly difficult for overseas Chinese to return to their homeland.

The Home Sweet App is a platform that imitates the features and functions of social media such as WeChat, allowing participants to express their longings for home, while the audiences can access by scanning the QR code on their mobiles and listen to the stories through the immersive experience .

The participants are Chinese currently living in the UK, USA, Australia, Germany, Japan etc. They come from different places in China, aged between 20 and 60, some are students and about to graduate, several have been working overseas for a few years while others have emigrated for more than 10 years. The materials collected from them have transformed by the artistic practice into ink paintings, audio, texts and names that compose a digital space where the real and the fictional are intertwined.





Artist

<https://huijunchen1994.wixsite.com/caroolgg4>

Huijun Chen (b.1994, Guangzhou, China), graduated from the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts in 2020 with a Master's degree and National scholarship for Postgraduates as well as a scholarship from CSC (China Scholarship Council). She is currently studying MA Contemporary Arts China at the School of Art, Birmingham City University, UK.

Before I intended to transfer my practice from traditional ink art to contemporary, my work was all about representing modern life in the form of ink paintings on rice paper. I was inspired by my studies during the MA Contemporary Arts China at Birmingham City University and experimented with ink art that combined different forms of expression such as installation, video, performance and social engage.

Since I arrived in the UK, pandemic and loneliness have driven me to pay extra attention to the mundane and ordinary. After a series of works about the homeless and the found object in Birmingham city, I began to think about the meaning of home.



messages (31)



Ted.R

13/8/21

[Photo]



Zee

30/7/21

[Audio]



Sunlight

23/7/21

[Audio]



Zsure

13/8/21

[Audio]



Sherry

06/8/21

[Audio]



Siemensstraße 5

12/8/21

[Audio]

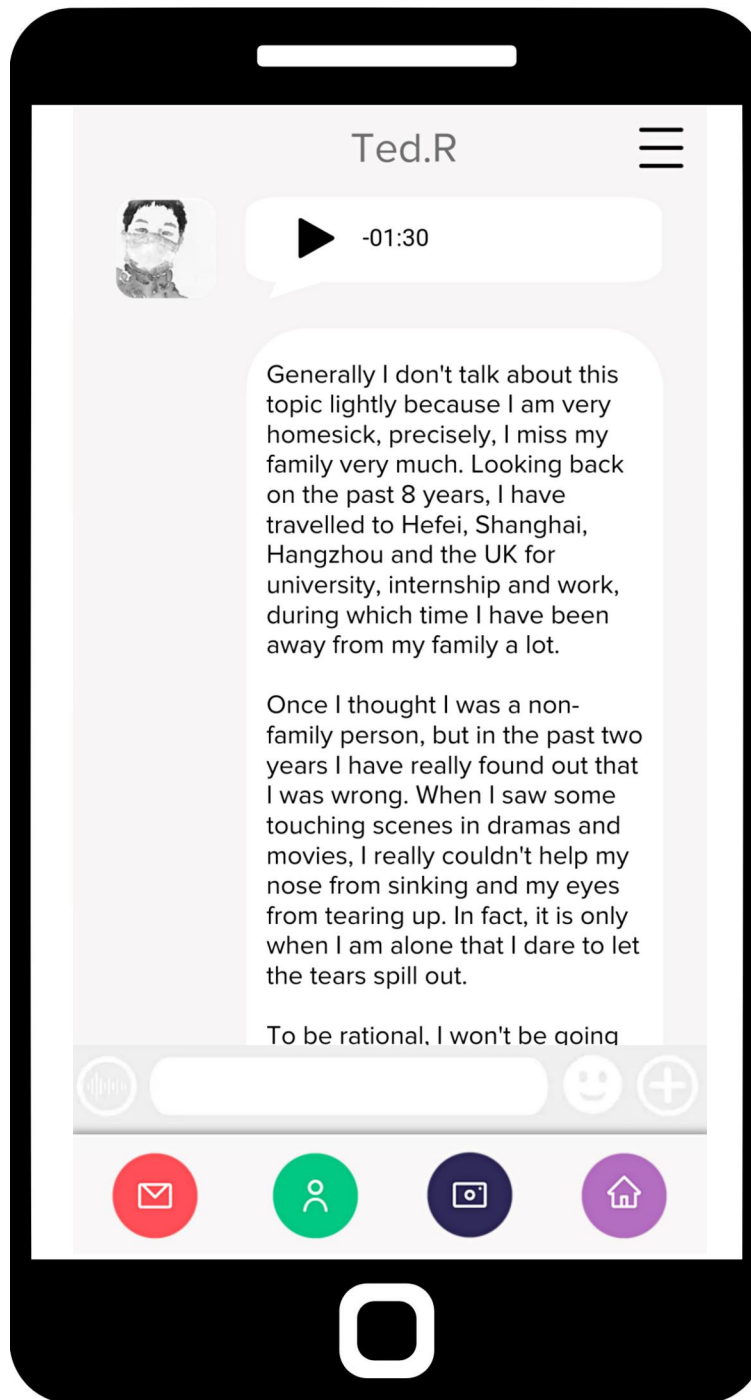


Sacrifice

31/7/21

[Audio]





Ted.R



-01:30

Generally I don't talk about this topic lightly because I am very homesick, precisely, I miss my family very much. Looking back on the past 8 years, I have travelled to Hefei, Shanghai, Hangzhou and the UK for university, internship and work, during which time I have been away from my family a lot.

Once I thought I was a non-family person, but in the past two years I have really found out that I was wrong. When I saw some touching scenes in dramas and movies, I really couldn't help my nose from sinking and my eyes from tearing up. In fact, it is only when I am alone that I dare to let the tears spill out.

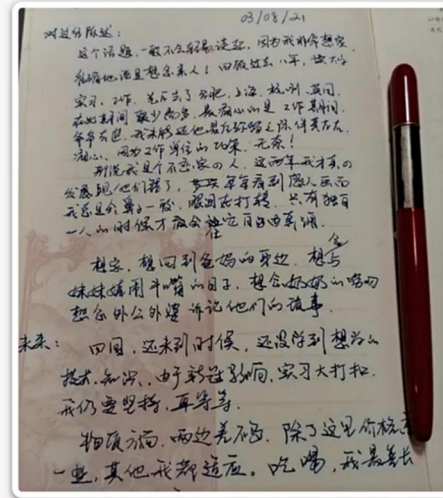
To be rational, I won't be going



Ted.R



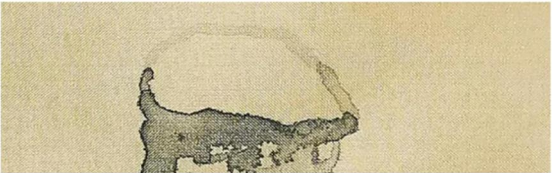
back right away. Although the pandemic has affected my internship, I haven't learned as much as I wanted to, so going back now would be a halfway house, therefore I can only suppress this feeling of homesickness temporarily.



Participants(21)



This page shows the portraits of all participants. Click on the images and access to the personal information pages.





Sunlight 

 Birmingham

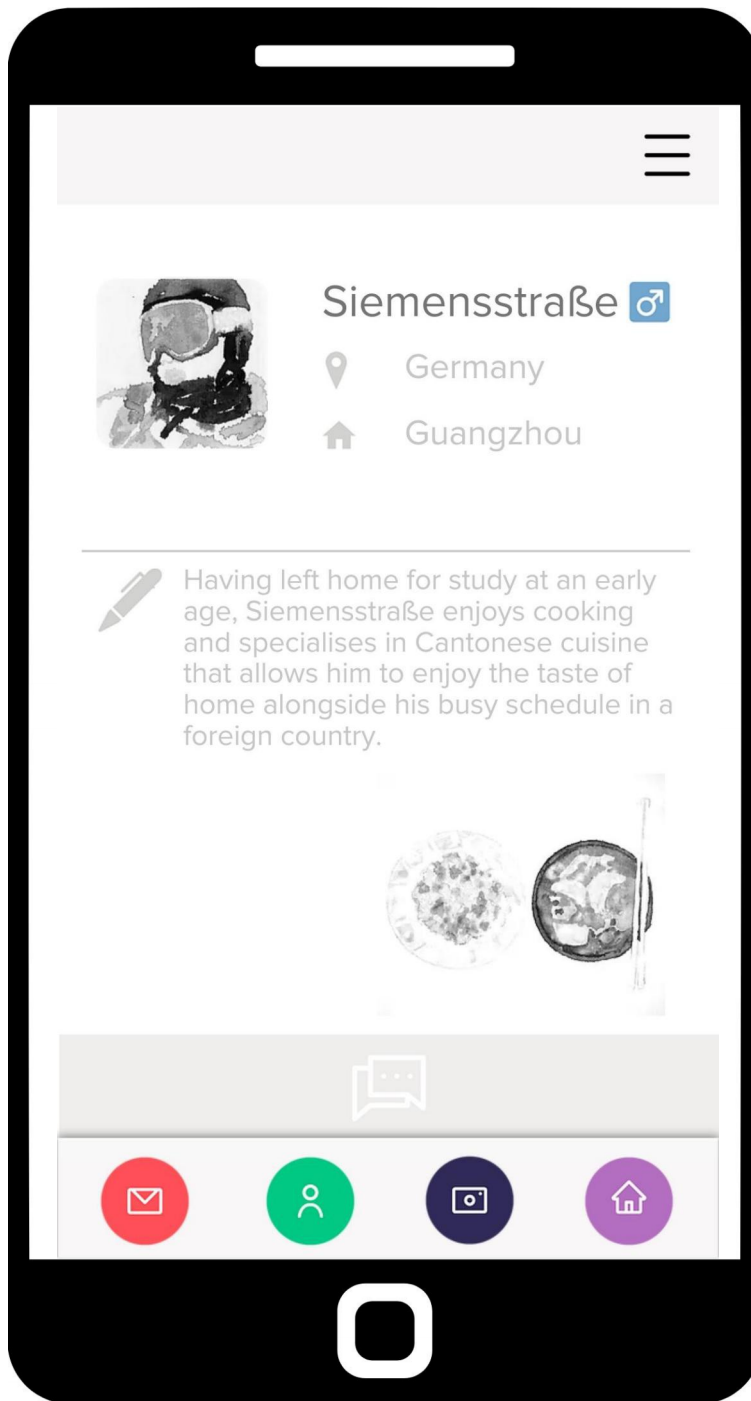
 Zhengzhou



Recently, Sunlight's hometown has been hit by unfortunate events, such as heavy floods and pandemic, which have made her worried and homesick . She spent almost a week preparing and two days on the tough journey back to China. Now She is suffering with humble meals in a Shanghai quarantine hotel.

'I'll be home with my family in a few days and it's all worth it.'





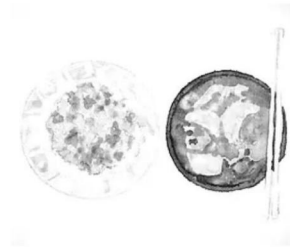
Siemensstraße 

 Germany

 Guangzhou



Having left home for study at an early age, Siemensstraße enjoys cooking and specialises in Cantonese cuisine that allows him to enjoy the taste of home alongside his busy schedule in a foreign country.





The moments shared by selected participants.



Water

This is the first time I have done my haircut myself and I am satisfied with it, probably because I learnt it from watching my mum barbering for others when I was a kid back home.



shift online, which was a nightmare for my medical practice.



44 mins ago



Neue Aufnahme

This is a photo I took in an idyllic scenery during my last visit to my hometown.





Sunlight

This is the long queue for the Covid test at the Finnish airport. As soon as we are tested healthy and given permission by the embassy, we will be able to get our flight home.







Home Sweet App

Artist: Huijun Chen

Major: Contemporay Arts China

