



Photo credit: *Rooms Through Time (2049, 2024 and 1878)* by Kenneth Lam | [kenneth-lam.com](http://kenneth-lam.com)

## Museum of the Home commissions artist Kenneth Lam in new photography series *Still Living* inspired by the East London museum's newest gallery

Hong Kong & London-based photographer Kenneth Lam has created a series of seven exclusive photographs based on Museum of the Home's historical and contemporary period rooms. Known for his evocative and arresting still-life photography, this new series offers a contemporary interpretation of the period rooms by Lam - whose pieces typically explore heritage, identity, family and culture - through his own lens of home. They will be on display at the Museum of the Home from 28 January 2025 to 29 June 2025.

The Museum's renowned *Rooms Through Time* document domestic spaces spanning 400 years and centre lived experiences of making home in London in the past, present and future. The latest of the *Rooms Through Time: 1878-2049*, co-curated with members of the communities they represent, opened in July 2024. From a Victorian townhouse to a contemporary British Vietnamese family home to a speculative home of the future in 2049, the museum invites visitors to explore ideas of home in a more interactive and immersive experience which is open to all ages and fully accessible.

Each vignette of Lam's is as distinct as the rooms themselves, weaving personal history, social commentary, and aesthetic detail into a unique visual narrative. In collaboration with the curators and creative team at Museum of the Home, the artist gives viewers a taste of the

personal narratives bringing these spaces to life. Each piece draws attention to the Museum's collection of objects found throughout the period rooms in the gallery, recontextualised with care to reveal how domestic objects can shape and reflect the lives of their owners.

On the art direction for each image, Lam explains, *"I wanted to make the objects feel alive [...] as if they were moving, talking to each other. With each room, I looked at what story I was diving into as an 'outsider', but also thinking what essentially stood out and what objects sang with each other."*

Highlights from the series include Lam's piece for the 1878 Townhouse, evoking a lush Victorian home featuring deep reds and richly patterned green, while centring precious personal objects belonging to the travelling Ayah - the domestic caregiver from India - inhabiting the space. His piece based on the 1978 room (curated by Dr. Michael McMillan) draws out the dualities of playfulness and discontent, childhood and protest, in a powerful red portrait. Abundant with youthful chaos is the 2005 piece, as it celebrates the messiness of the three LGBTQ+ housemates; pillows, magazines, sausage rolls, and other objects tumble together in a lively depiction of a shared, carefree lifestyle.

Sonia Solicari, Director of Museum of the Home shares, *"Kenneth Lam's photography offers a compelling and contemporary interpretation of our period rooms [...] Through his lens, the everyday becomes extraordinary, connecting us emotionally with the universal themes of home and belonging."*

### **On the Rooms Through Time: 1878-2049**

These exciting 'lived-in' spaces centre diverse, thought-provoking and personal stories of home and demonstrate Museum of the Home's continued commitment to honouring the lived experiences of the communities it serves in east London. The newest gallery was researched using co-creative and co-curatorial methods with local communities shaping how their histories are told, speaking to universal themes including migration, homemaking, and belonging. The new rooms include: A Tenement Flat in 1913, A Room Upstairs in 1956, A Terraced House in 1978, A High-rise Flat in 2005, A Terraced House in 2024, and A Converted Flat in 2049, codesigned with Interaction Research Studio of Northumbria University.

### **Additional notes**

Visitors can find out more about individual pieces in the series on Bloomberg Connects, the free arts and cultural app.

Original prints of the seven photographs will be on display from Tuesday 28 January to Sunday 29 June 2025 at Museum of the Home in Hoxton and are available to purchase. The photographs are also available to purchase as prints and postcards in the Museum of the Home Shop.

Purchases of the works will support the Museum as a registered charity, championing 40,000 objects in their collection telling the hidden histories of home, and changing how we live today with groundbreaking community outreach work.

## Notes to Editors

**Title** *Still Living* by Kenneth Lam

### Dates

On display: 28 January 2025 - 29 June 2025

Private view: Wednesday 19 February 2025

**Location** Museum of the Home, 136 Kingsland Road, London E2 8EA

**How to get there** Museum of the Home is opposite Hoxton Station, which has step free access, and is a short walk from Liverpool Street and Old Street stations. Buses 149, 242, 243, 394 stop on Kingsland Road.

**Social Media** @museumofthehome

**Website** <https://www.museumofthehome.org.uk>

## Kenneth Lam

[Kenneth Lam](#) is a professional photographer based in London and Hong Kong. He began his career studying fashion photography at University of the Arts London. When travelling back to Hong Kong in 2019, his work naturally turned to portraiture and still life. His personal work focuses on themes such as heritage, identity, family and culture.

Kenneth uses set design and art direction to trace individual and familial memory, exploring conversations with his photography, often from an autobiographical and personal perspective.

Kenneth has worked commercially with outlets such as the BBC, Nowness Asia, Wieden + Kennedy, *Financial Times*, Farnear and Condé Nast. His work has been shown at The

Photographer's Gallery and Space Gallery in his first solo show, *A seat at our table* (2024). This display of work will follow his first show in Hong Kong, titled *(Personal) Work*.

## Museum of the Home

Museum of the Home's purpose is to reveal and rethink the ways we live, in order to live better together. Through our collections, exhibitions, events, performances and debates, we reveal diverse, thought-provoking and personal stories of the home from the last 400 years to the present and looking into the homes of the future.

## Enquiries

Contact [press@museumofthehome.org.uk](mailto:press@museumofthehome.org.uk) for enquiries and requests.