On life and theatre by Chan Ping-chiu
Regardless of the ultimate result, the ongoing protest in Hong Kong has completely changed the society. Hongkongers’ lifestyle has been reshaped, and a new esteem is rising up. The choices of everyday life, as well as cultural and artistic creations, are inevitably impacted by this new transformation. As a theatre director and a playwright, I keep thinking about what theatre can do for this difficult time? What kind of challenge is ambushing us in front? If politics fails, can art step in?

Chan Ping-chiu is a director / playwright / curator. Chan co-founded the renowned experimental theatre group “Sand & Bricks” in the early 90’s and is currently the Artistic Director of On & On Theatre Workshop. Important works includes No Significant Abnormality Detected, In the solitude of the cotton fields, Hamlet b, Der Goldene Drache, Electronic City, Waking Dream in 1984, Tête-bêche and Best Wishes.

On life and literature by Chan Lai-kuen
As a citizen, I have participated in several of the mass protests, though at a distance from battles at the front line, that brought me fear, anguish, weakness and hope at the same time. As a poet, the absurdity of the government administration and brutality of the police had struck me with speechlessness for months during which I could write very little about it. For this event, on top of sharing my work and views, I would bring in voices of two young and prolific writers from Hong Kong who have written ceaselessly since the movement started.

CHAN Lai-kuen was born and raised in Hong Kong. She is author of one book of poetry, one collection of prose, and a bilingual poetry selection. She can be found at www.facebook.com/chanlaikuendeadcat/.

Sponsored by the UI Center for Asian and Pacific Studies, UI International Writing Program, and Iowa City Foreign Relations Council. Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact CAPS in advance at 319-335-1305.