



PUBLIC ACCESS STUDIO:
Tan's working space is
recreated at the Esplanade.

PHOTOS DON WONG

Sculpting blind

Wire artist Victor Tan showcases a decade of art at the Esplanade

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MANY people have been captivated by Victor Tan's wire sculptures on the steps of the Esplanade concourse. Some even have their pictures taken with his eye-catching creations.

Few know, however, that the artist behind the arresting works is blind.

The 37-year-old began his studies at Lasalle-SIA College of Arts after he lost his sight at the age of 25.

The exhibition at the Esplanade is one of his largest in recent times. It is a retrospective of sorts. Some of the works date from as far back as a decade ago.

The exhibition came about when the Esplanade's visual arts programming officer Agnes Lim visited Tan's studio. She suggested that the works be moved to the Esplanade as they were. And that's how the title of the exhibition "As it is ..." came about.

"I hope the audience can experience the show as it is; as though they have gone into my studio ... the sofa, the tools, etc are all there, just like how they are in my studio," he said.

"Many of the sculptures are somewhat biographical. I try to capture a moment with them. One of the figures is a result of my early studies of the female body, which I did with my wife," said Tan.

The series with the woman in it was created before his wedding, and Tan first displayed the couple sculptures at his wedding show.

Currently experimenting with different ways of working with wire, Tan said he best expresses what he wants to say with his art.

"It is still a medium I'm interested in working with. I'm ex-



ALL WIRED UP: Tan's works.

perimenting with different ways of working with it, like the 'grass-like' structures you see scattered there," he said with a laugh.

WHAT: AS IT IS ...

WHEN: UNTIL JAN 7

WHERE: ESPLANADE CONCOURSE