



HONG KONG BECAME 'ARTROPOLIS' FOR HONG KONG ART WEEK 2017

Sponsored by Bank of China (Hong Kong) Private Banking

With record levels of engagement at events including the Art Symposium, Gallery Walk for Charity, and Family Art Day, HK Art Week 2017 was praised as the most popular cultural event of the year.

(Hong Kong, 28 November 2017) This Sunday marked the final day of Hong Kong Art Week (HK Art Week) 2017. For twelve days, Hong Kong became an “Artropolis” and the city’s artists, galleries and contemporary art community took centre stage. HK Art Week began with the presentation of the **Art Car at Four Seasons Hotel Hong Kong**, followed by a cocktail reception at **Christie’s Hong Kong** on 15 November. This was followed by an exciting and diverse programme extending far beyond gallery walls to showcase Hong Kong’s cultural life through special exhibitions, performances, talks and multi-disciplinary art events. HK Art Week 2017 was sponsored by **Bank of China (Hong Kong) Private Banking**.

“HK Art Week this year was a great success and we could not have been more delighted to see the effort our member galleries put forth over the last twelve days to showcase our city’s thriving art scene and the latest in contemporary culture,” said **Angela Li, co-president of HKAGA**. She continued, “I am particularly proud of the high level of engagement at public events such as the Art Symposium, The Gallery Walk for Charity and Family Art Day, which gave the public a chance to participate in creative activities and interact with the art.”

Managing Director and Head of Private Banking of **Bank of China (Hong Kong) Private Banking**, Wendy Tsang further commented, “We have supported the annual HK Art Week for the last five years and it has been an extraordinary experience witnessing the growth of this popular city-wide event. Bank of China (Hong Kong) Private Banking is dedicated to supporting the local art community

and its contribution to the city's cultural life, which was truly felt through the rich, dynamic programming. This year's HK Art Week affirms the city's role as a diverse cultural metropolis, of which we are proud."

Organised by the Hong Kong Art Gallery Association (HKAGA), HK Art Week is now an unmissable annual fixture on the cultural calendar. This year, over 50 HKAGA galleries participated and the theme "Artropolis" truly reflected the vigor and vibrancy of art that contributes to the city's fabric. HK Art Week 2017 delivered exciting new art projects to a greater audience than ever, with an international outlook and a uniquely Hong Kong perspective.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



The **Art Car**, a stunning Super Formula SF 13 race car with its body completely reimaged by Hong Kong based French photographer **Cyril Delettre**, captured attention and turned heads at the lobby of **Four Seasons Hotel Hong Kong** from 15 – 21 November. The culinary team at Blue Bar created an Art Car inspired cocktail and food pairing, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the Sovereign Art Foundation.



An **Art Symposium** held at the Asia Society Hong Kong Center explored the topic, “Asia – New Frontiers in Art” over two days (17 – 18 November), bringing international speakers with diverse viewpoints and Hong Kong’s arts community together under one roof. Highlights included a lively discussion between collectors **Liu Gang**, **Douglas So** and **Dr. Wiyu Wahono** on how collectors’ visions are shaping the art world; the lecture hall reached full capacity for the Keynote lecture by **Philip Tinari**, Director of UCCA Museum. To explore the topic “How to Build a (better) Museum in Asia”, Chief Curator at M+ Hong Kong **Doryun Chung** was joined by a distinguished panel consisting of **Mr. Ole Bouman** (Director, Design Society/V&A Shekou Project), **Ms. Xie Xuzhen** (Artistic Director, MOCA Yinchuan) and **Ms. Eve Tam** (Museum Director, Hong Kong Museum of Art).



The Gallery Walk for Charity was a huge success. On 21 November, over 30 galleries opened late into the evening and brought a festival atmosphere to the streets of Central, Sheung Wan and Sai Ying Pun. Over a thousand visitors enjoyed latest exhibitions, video screenings, artist receptions, talks, and a special programme of live performances by HK Ballet along the route.



Art Day at South Island showcased the ever growing contingent of galleries and artists' studios in lively Wong Chuk Hang, Aberdeen and Tin Wan. Gallery-hopping art lovers took in all that HKAGA's Southside member galleries had to offer. Hundreds of visitors attended workshops, talks, openings and screenings. To take full advantage of the chance to delve behind the scenes, the public visited the artist studios of **Vhils**, **Kacey Wong**, **Kirsteen Pieterse** and **Michael Nock**. Artists **Louise Soloway** shared her story behind creating the murals in MTR's Sai Ying Pun station, and **Cristina Moroño** provided a hands-on experience for visitors with paper making workshops at her studio.



HK Art Week 2017 drew to a successful close on **Family Art Day** (26 November) at Hong Kong Park. Parents and children made the most of their Sunday afternoon, creating handmade crafts with local arts organisations such as **Asia Society Hong Kong Center**, **K11 Art Foundation**, **Affordable Art Fair HK** and **Sovereign Art Foundation**. Kids also joined outdoors yoga sessions by **Pure Yoga**, a story telling workshop by **Faust** and a photo booth provided by **KidsFest**.

A citywide Art Treasure Hunt and Instagram Challenge encouraged the public to visit as many art spaces and events as possible. A host of prizes were given out,

including tickets to **Art Basel 2018**, beautiful colouring books by **Eleanor McColl**, round trip air-tickets courtesy of **American Airlines**, and gifts from **Beats, The Mandarin Oriental, The Peninsula Hotel**.

High resolution images can be downloaded at:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ciddk3enxuvpkjb/AADM35RMgtC5rJnf_hjbNc7na?dl=0

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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- Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC)
- The Arts Promotions Office (APO)
- KCMG Group
- H Queens

We are grateful for the support of key cultural organisations across the city, including **Asia Society Hong Kong Center, Hong Kong Ballet, Art Basel, Para Site, Asia Art Archive, M+ Museum, Hong Kong Arts Administrators Association, K11 Art Foundation, Affordable Art Fair HK, Art Central, Spring Workshop, University Museum and Art Gallery of Hong Kong University, HOCA Foundation and Oil!**

HK Art Week was able to bring art events to the public in venues across the city thanks to the generous venue sponsorship of **Asia Society Hong Kong Center** and **Four Seasons Hotel Hong Kong**, who hosted the Art Symposium and the Art Car respectively. We are also grateful to **Christie's Hong Kong, Duddell's, Eaton House** and **The Upper House** for hosting HK Art Week events. With the support of **Kerry Wines, Antithesis, Grassroots Pantry, Peroni, LUXE** and **Delicious Catering**, The Gallery Walk for Charity was able to raise important funds for **The Women's Foundation, Sovereign Art Foundation** and HKAGA's **Artists Residency Abroad Funding Scheme (ARAFS)**. Art Day at South Island was a great success thanks to the support of **Young Masters Brewery, M Cuisine, J.A.M. Just About Music, Time Crafters** and musicians courtesy of **Hong Kong Sinfonietta**. Family Art Day was made possible with the support of our friends at **Asia Society Hong Kong Center, Affordable Art Fair HK, K11 Art Foundation, Sovereign Art Foundation, Artloop, KidsFest, Faust** and **Pure Yoga**. We are grateful for the generous donation from **American Airlines, Ruinart, Mandarin Oriental, The Peninsula Hotel, Ovolo Southside, artist Eleanor McColl, Jaa Bar, Beats** and the **Art of Chocolate Museum**. HK Art Week 2017 also received the support of leading art publications **Randian**,

Asia Art Pacific, Art Republik, Artomity, Arts of Asia, Asia Week, My Art Guides, and popular media outlets **WOM guide** and **Ming Pao Weekly**.

NOTES TO EDITORS

ABOUT THE HONG KONG ART GALLERY ASSOCIATION (HKAGA)

Founded in 2012, the Hong Kong Art Gallery Association is a member-based non-profit organisation of established art galleries in Hong Kong. With over 50 member-galleries, the mission of HKAGA is to advance the Hong Kong art gallery community by providing one voice to its members, reaching out to the local and international art community, and helping deepen market knowledge and best practices among members. HKAGA provides a single point of contact for the art gallery community in Hong Kong and is the chief advocate for development of the local art community. Since 2014, HKAGA has been officially recognised as grant recipient of Hong Kong Arts Development Council for its dedication and promotion of the arts scene in Hong Kong.

Hk-aga.org

ABOUT BANK OF CHINA (HONG KONG) PRIVATE BANKING

Leveraging on its strong foundation as a leading commercial banking group in Hong Kong, Bank of China (Hong Kong) (“BOCHK”) launched its Private Banking Service in 2012. Backed by its Corporate Banking and Personal Banking divisions, BOCHK Private Banking offers an integrated platform with its “1+1+1” service model to provide a total solution to cater for the personal, family and business needs of clients. It also offers a one-stop wealth management solution that covers investment advisory, fiduciary consultancy, trust, estate planning, transactional and corporate banking services. By capitalising on its unique competitive edge in RMB business and strong support from its parent company, Bank of China, BOCHK has developed a comprehensive range of cross-border products and services to meet the increasingly sophisticated needs of clients. For more information, please visit www.bochk.com

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