

## The Fourth Edition of Hong Kong Art Week – Autumn Edition Closes on a High

*With more than 500 people attending the Art Symposium*

*Over 1,000 tickets sold for The Gallery Walk raising almost HK\$300,000 for Charity*

*Record attendances of almost 2,000 to the Family Art Day and 800 to Art Day at South Island*

**#HKAGA #HKArtWeek #HKGallery**

**(Hong Kong, 9 November 2016)** The fourth edition of Hong Kong Art Week – Autumn Edition closed today on a high note with an Art Treasure Hunt through Soho and Sai Ying Pun that has ended with the celebratory Art LATES at SOHO 189. Participants were able to enjoy the specially curated iDiscover map app as they followed the self-guided tour through the art neighbourhood, spotting Graffiti Art highlights of the area along the way.

The well-received city wide arts festival has been generously sponsored by Bank of China (Hong Kong) Private Banking since its inauguration, and is the result of the collective efforts and expertise of the city's unique cultural community. The 2016 edition has successfully highlighted *why art matters* through a series of over 100 events that kicked off with the unveiling of beloved Hong Kong artist, Frog King's, first ever Art Car. The Le Mans Prototype racing car that won the Le Mans 24 Hours race in 2015 caused no small stir at PMQ where it was on view to the public for a week.

Reflecting the continuing role of the Hong Kong Art Gallery Association in promoting art development in Hong Kong a series of new initiations were introduced this year, including an acclaimed two day Art Symposium at Asia Society, supported by The Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong. Keynote talks reached full capacity with over 500 people attending in total. Highlights included hearing **Sir David Tang's** thoughts on government and society's role on the development of art in Hong Kong; **David Elliot** (Writer, Curator, Museum Director), **Suhanya Raffel** (Executive Director, M+) and **Yongwoo Lee** (Executive Director, Shanghai Himalayas Museum) discussing how to engage audiences in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century; and **Yana Peel** (Chief Executive Officer, Serpentine Galleries, London), **Jiyeon Lee** (Managing Director, The National Modern and Contemporary Art Museum (MMCA), Seoul), and **Takashi Kudo & Kazumasa Nonaka** (Digital Artists, teamLab, Tokyo) look in depth at the role technology in innovating art and our perception of it.

The Gallery Walk for Charity was initiated this year as HKAGA's first fund-raising event, supporting SoCO and the HKAGA foundation which provides education opportunities and funding for artist residencies abroad. Over 1,000 people attended, almost HK\$300,000 was raised for charity, and 25 live performance art installations shocked, surprised, awed and entertained participants as they walked between the 40 galleries in Central, Sheung Wan and Sai Ying Pun which opened their doors. Tasty bites from some of Hong Kong's best restaurants who supported the event were served through the night, and drinks were generously supplied by Absolut, Peroni & Pont des Arts wines.

**Katie de Tilly, Co-President of HKAGA**, said, "As well as being a fun-filled evening giving back to Hong Kong, artists as well as those living below the poverty line are at the heart of the Gallery Walk for Charity. I am very proud to be a part of this important endeavour that shows the strength of the HKAGA and what we can do as a unified group to contribute to Hong Kong society."

Further highlights included the packed Family Art Day in Tamar Park that saw Art Loop, the Affordable Art Fair, Arts Plus, Asia Society HK Center, K11 and Nike inspiring children through art, the Art Treasure Hunts launched this year in collaboration with iDiscover Hong Kong City Walks – that now has three unique art maps curated by the HKAGA available to download and enjoy at leisure – and Art Day at South Island on Saturday 5 November that saw Aniwar Mamat, Andio Lai, Ar Fee, and Cristina Morono giving talks, live performances and demonstrations in the galleries and studios.

**Alexie Glass-Kantor, Executive Director of Artspace Sydney and Curator for the Encounters sector of Art Basel in Hong Kong**, said of Hong Kong Art Week – Autumn Edition, "I'm a huge fan of the visual arts community in Hong Kong and am truly in awe of all the extraordinary work that the Hong Kong Art Gallery Association does to collectively advocate for collaboration and to develop audiences. This year, Hong Kong Art Week was a tour de force of vibrancy, insight and unique opportunities for audiences to engage with the ideas of our times. As a celebration of the dynamism and breadth of contemporary art experiences on offer in Hong Kong from my perspective, Hong Kong Art Week was a great success - my congratulations to all involved."

**Wendy Tsang, Managing Director and Head of Private Banking for Bank of China (Hong Kong) Private Banking** further commented, "We have been supporting Hong Kong Art Week – Autumn Edition for four consecutive years and it is very rewarding to see the event, which has truly become a city-wide festival, have an impact on bringing art and culture to a wider audience in Hong Kong. Bank of China (Hong Kong) Private Banking, is dedicated to supporting local creative talent and we are proud to be able to play an active part in encouraging the local art scene to thrive."

## Images



Caption: The unveiling of Frog King's Art Car launches Hong Kong Art Week – Autumn Edition



Caption: Alexie Glass-Kantor, Kate de Tilly and Henrietta Tsui-Leung at the Art Symposium



Caption: Elaine Ng, Suhanya Raffel and David Elliot at the Art Symposium



Caption: Sir David Tang addresses the Art Symposium via a Filmed Talk



Caption: Su-Mei Thompson, Jiyoon Lee, Yana Peel, Takashi Kudo & Kazumasa Nonaka during their panel discussion at the Art Symposium



Caption: The Gallery Walk for Charity at Leo Gallery and the Absolut pop-up bar at Soho 189 Art Lane



Caption: Groove Lee plays during The Gallery Walk for Charity outside Galerie Ora-Ora



Caption: Aniwat Mamat, Meg Maggio, Katie de Tilly and Frog King at The Gallery Walk for Charity



Caption: Artist Kacey Wong giving a tour of his studio, Object Factory, for Art Day at South Island



Caption: Family Art Day at Tamar Park

**High-resolution images can be downloaded here:**

Link: <http://gallery.sinclairasia.com/>

Password: talkoffthetown

- End -

## **Notes to Editors**

Please see the HKAGA website for the full list of events:

<http://www.hk-aga.org/hong-kong-art-week/>

**To access the iDiscover Map App with specially curated neighbourhood walks for HKAGA load iDiscover HK on your iphone or android.**

## **About Hong Kong Art Week – Autumn Edition**

Each November brings Hong Kong Art Week – Autumn Edition (previously known as Hong Kong Art Gallery Week), a week-long Arts Festival of Talks, Tours, Studio Visits, Art LATES as well as a Family Art Day. This 12 day long festival, in addition to other gallery events, fosters a culture of gallery-hopping to familiar and new audiences in one of Asia's most dynamic cities!

## **About Hong Kong Art Gallery Association**

Founded in 2012, the Hong Kong Art Gallery Association is a member based non-profit organisation of established art galleries in Hong Kong, open to all galleries incorporated in Hong Kong. With over 50 art galleries – and growing - as members, its mission 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 practice amongst its members.

For more information, please visit [www.hk-aga.org](http://www.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](http://www.bochk.com)

## **Media Contacts**

For more information or interviews, please contact Sinclair Communications

Rosanna Herries | [rosanna@sinclairasia.com](mailto:rosanna@sinclairasia.com) | (852) 6117 3390

Ridley Cheung | [ridley@sinclairasia.com](mailto:ridley@sinclairasia.com) | (852) 6689 2966