

[For Immediate Release]

(Hong Kong, 23 October 2019)



Hong Kong Art Gallery Association presents:

**Hong Kong Art Week 2019**

21 – 30 Nov 2019

**Art Gallery Night | 21 Nov 2019, 6pm – 8pm**

**South Island Art Brunch | 23 Nov 2019, 11am – 2pm**

**Art Symposium | 29 – 30 Nov 2019**

The Hong Kong Art Gallery Association (HKAGA) is excited to announce this year's **Hong Kong Art Week (HKAW)**, which will begin on **21 November** and runs through **30 November**.

Entering its 7<sup>th</sup> year, the HKAW 2019 presents a collective front of art galleries together with various facets of the art industry in one of the biggest art festivals in Hong Kong. Special events supported by the HKAGA's member galleries will take place throughout the week, with highlights as follows:

**Art Gallery Night | 21 Nov 2019, 6pm – 8pm**

Follow our map and go gallery hopping in Central, Sheung Wan and Sai Ying Pun on the opening night of the HKAW. Art lovers will be treated to a feast of opening receptions and special events that range from artist talks to workshops and live performances. Details to be updated from time to time on the [Art Gallery Night webpage](#).

**South Island Art Brunch | 23 Nov 2019, 11am – 2pm**

Relish art with some refreshments in the bustling South Side as galleries in Wong Chuk Hang and Tin Wan open doors with light snacks for visitors during the South Island Art Brunch. A gallery tour with shuttlebus service will be arranged on that day. Details of talks and exhibitions as well as registration details of the tour to be updated on our [website](#).

**Art Symposium | 29 – 30 Nov 2019**

The flagship programme of the week, the two-day Art Symposium, will bring together a roster of over 20 art professionals from the local, regional and international art scene on the 29<sup>th</sup> (Fri) and 30<sup>th</sup>

(Sat) of November. The theme of the Symposium this year is **“Back to Basics: Restructuring the Future”**. Please join us by registering [here](#).

Returning for the fourth time and co-presented with Asia Society Hong Kong Center (ASHK), the Art Symposium is an annual art convention which features a thoughtfully curated programme of talks, panel discussions and screening on topics relevant to the art ecology in Hong Kong and beyond. Some of the highlights this year include the screening of award-winning documentary *Herb and Dorothy* and a concluding keynote speech delivered by Suhanya Raffel, Museum Director of M+.

On 29 Nov, Day 1 of the Symposium, Connie Lam (Executive Director, Hong Kong Arts Centre, Hong Kong) will lead a discussion on Hong Kong’s position and progress in terms of cultural growth in the Asia Pacific region in the opening session **“ART MARKET vs CULTURAL CENTRE: Where does Hong Kong stand?”**. Another session – **“OUTSIDE THE CUBE: What are the alternative models to traditional art galleries?”** – will see Yng-Ru Chen (Founder, Praise Shadows Art Partners, US) heading a panel of established and emerging gallerists to scrutinise the prospects of existing gallery models and explore the prospect of new forms such as blockchain technology in the growing competition.

Day 2 on 30 Nov will kick off with the panel **“YOUR SHOW SUCKS! Why does art criticism matter?”** which examines the history, present and future of art criticism and its relationship with critical voice with a special focus on Hong Kong, featuring Emily Verla Bovino, PhD (Professor of Art and Architectural History, SCAD Hong Kong) as the main speaker. The session will be followed by the screening of documentary *Herb and Dorothy*, which tells the extraordinary story of a postal clerk and a librarian who managed to build one of the most important contemporary art collections in history with very modest means. **“YOU DON’T HAVE TO BE RICH: what does collecting on a budget look like?”** follows and delves into ways to sustain and expand a collection with a limited budget, delivered by main speaker Dr Yip Shing-yiu, FRCP (Lond) (Senior Member, Min Chiu Society, Hong Kong) and elaborated by local and regional collectors. Conducted in Chinese this session will be simultaneously translated into English. Wrapping up the two-day Symposium will be a keynote speech by Suhanya Raffel (Museum Director, M+, Hong Kong), who will shed light on plans for the M+ Museum poised to unveil in 2020.

Other speakers include Johnson Chang (Founder & Director, Hanart TZ Gallery, Hong Kong), Dr Florian Knothe (Director, University Museum and Art Gallery, the University of Hong Kong), Yuko Yamamoto (Director, Anomaly Inc., Japan), Elisa Uematsu (Director, Taka Ishii Gallery, Japan), Peggy Lin (Director, Project Fulfill Art Space, Taiwan), Alexander Lau (Director-at-large, Empty Gallery, Hong Kong), Willem Molesworth (Director, de Sarthe; Vice President, HKAGA; Co-founder, Suitcase Institute, Hong Kong), Ulanda Blair (Curator of Moving Image, M+, Hong Kong), Nick Yu (Development Manager, Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong), Daniel Sze Hin Ho (Publications Editor and Project Director for Booked: Hong Kong Art Book Fair, Tai Kwun, Hong Kong), H.G. Masters (Deputy Editor & Deputy Publisher, *ArtAsiaPacific*, Hong Kong), Meiling Lee (International Specialist of 20<sup>th</sup> Century and Contemporary Art, Phillips, Taiwan), Hubert Li (Managing Director, Hong Kong Wine Vault, Hong Kong) and Catherine Kwai (Founder & Managing Director, Kwai Fung Hin Art Gallery; Co-president, HKAGA, Hong Kong). More details to be released on our [Symposium website](#) soon.

All events within the Hong Kong Art Week are free and open to all, thanks to the support of Art Basel, Asia Society Hong Kong Center, Global Group, Phillips and Salvatore Ferragamo. Zai Art is the Official Chinese Social Media Partner of Hong Kong Art Week 2019.

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Note to Editors

**About Hong Kong Art Gallery Association**

Founded in 2012, HKAGA is a member-based non-profit organisation of established art galleries in Hong Kong. With 52 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. Since 2014, HKAGA has been officially recognised as a grant recipient of the Hong Kong Arts Development Council for its dedication and promotion of the arts scene in Hong Kong.

**About Asia Society Hong Kong Center**

As an affiliate of the Asia Society global network of 14 centers, Asia Society Hong Kong Center was established in 1990. In February 2012, the Hong Kong Center established its new home in Admiralty at the former Explosives Magazine of the old Victoria Barracks. Steeped in history, cultural significance and natural beauty, the 1.3 hectares site, which houses a group of four former British military buildings, was originally built by the British Army in the mid-19th century for explosives and ammunition production and storage. Through careful conservation, restoration and adaptive re-use, this heritage site was successfully transformed into a cultural, artistic and intellectual hub in Hong Kong in 2012 and offers a broad variety of programs in the form of lectures, performances, film screenings and exhibitions to the community.

**For media enquiries, please direct them to:**

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