

THE ASIA CONTEMPORARY ART SHOW CLOSES ITS 13TH EDITION WITH RECORD SALES AND LASTING RELATIONSHIPS



AN INTIMATE ART EXPERIENCE LIKE NO OTHER IN HONG KONG

Hong Kong, October 2nd, 2018: Hong Kong's only contemporary art fair in the Fall, the Asia Contemporary Art Show, closed its 13th successful edition on Monday evening October 1st. Over four days, the Show welcomed more than 15,000 collectors and art enthusiasts (8% higher than the record-breaking attendance last Spring), with crowds swelled by visitors from China on National Day, with many taking the recently opened 20-minute high-speed rail from Shenzhen to Hong Kong. Held in 80+ intimate art living spaces at the Conrad Hong Kong, art sales were brisk and an estimated HK\$32 million was reported based on an exit survey of exhibitors.

"We had a very strong opening night," said Director Mark Saunderson. "Starting with the UnionPay Private View and followed by the UnionPay VIP Collectors Preview, the Show welcomed a steady stream of distinguished guests, collectors, and art enthusiasts – many familiar faces and friends of the Show. Special sectors, *Intersections: South Korea* and *Artist Dialogues presented by Cask 88* were a real highlight for many of the visitors to this 13th edition.

“Our purpose is to facilitate the most meaningful, rewarding, and lasting relationships for gallery owners, artists, buyers, and sponsors alike and this happened across the Show. Every exhibitor space is unique. These art living spaces are curated with a welcome in mind and designed to create a more emotional connection with the art. In *Artist Dialogues presented by Cask 88*, each room is transformed into a personal art space that compels guests to speak with, engage with, and learn about the artists and their works. They are rich and intimate experiences. Many of the artists come from far away countries, so there is a unique buying opportunity, as well as fostering cross-cultural experiences.”

In-depth conversations and new discoveries were made over the weekend, with the Show partnering with ZAI ART APP - China’s leading digital art platform with an audience of over 2.3 million collectors and art enthusiasts. A live panel of experts explored why people buy and collect contemporary art. Art thought leaders took several thousand ZAI ART APP subscribers on live tours of the Show.

Saunderson continues, “We are committed to a quality experience for visitors and exhibitors alike. At the core of Hong Kong Art Week next Spring along with Art Basel and Art Central, our 14th edition will extend its popular *Intersections* series, and the focus will be on contemporary Chinese art and is not to be missed.”

WHAT COLLECTORS AND ART BUYERS HAD TO SAY



Joanna Zhou – China

“I came from Beijing for the Show this weekend and it’s great timing because it’s a national holiday, all my Hong Kong friends know about the Show. It’s my third time at the Show, I like it because there are so many galleries from all over Asia, many new artists to see and new pieces. It’s always fresh. I bought two pieces by Wu Qiong, he’s popular and his works are very good and almost sold out when I came back today! I enjoyed the wine tasting at the UnionPay Lounge, so we can take a break. I think the organizers did a good job.”

Liu Rui Jie – China

“I’m a new collector, and I spent more than 3 hours today at the Show. It’s my first time to attend and it’s a nice surprise to see so many artists and a good variety of artworks. I visited the South Korean galleries and learned something new. South Korea and Japan are close to each other, but their concept of art is so different. I used to think Japanese and South Korean artists

are traditional, but not so. Today I saw how they combine contemporary inspiration from life experiences. I bought three art pieces - for me, for my mother, and for a friend - really quite reasonably priced too. This kind of format is fantastic, and I really appreciate it. I also enjoyed the drinks on each floor as I explored the Show!”

David Cordina – France

“Viewing art in a hotel is a cool idea, I like the concept. There are so many good galleries! We liked one from Shanghai called Nancy’s Gallery, she had some great paintings; also some Australian aboriginal art from Wentworth Galleries - I really liked that one, and a Lebanese artist Lydia Moawad - the way she used the space in the bathroom is so interesting! The location of this Show is very easy to get to, I came here straight from work on Friday. We will definitely look around some more!”

Amy Djokovic – Australia

“I like the intimacy of being able to meet the artists and talk about their works and understand the passion behind their art pieces. This way, people learn more about their art. There’s a great range of works – artist experience is quite broad, but this gives people with lower budgets the opportunity to find some good pieces too. I liked Jeff Murray’s Australia art piece a lot and was surprised it took him around 800 hours to complete the artwork. I really appreciate his technique and seeing my home country on an art piece too! I also enjoyed the Myanmar artworks and the fact that they are donating all profits from art sales to help students get a better education.”

WHAT EXHIBITORS HAD TO SAY



Jonathan Macey, Macey & Sons – Hong Kong

“It’s our best show in the last five years of participating in the Asia Contemporary Art Show! We’ve sold a set of cloisonné (HK\$1.3 million) to a new client on the opening night. We’ve sold 5 paintings today and have offers on a few other objects and artworks. We are estimating HK\$8 million to HK\$10 million in sales by the end of the Show.”

Katherine Filice, Artist – USA

“The best part of the Show is being able to talk to collectors about my works, really meet them, explain, and have a long talk. I enjoy making these connections with buyers and extending my reach around the planet. Just meeting Hong Kong collectors for the first time has been remarkable – very much worth the trip from California. Buyers in Hong Kong are much more sophisticated, more educated, and more serious about collecting and investing in art than anywhere

I've been and they're willing to spend. On the opening night, I sold two of my larger pieces called 'Soulmate' and 'Goodbye' and today on the second day, I have visitors already come back 2-3 times. It was a great first experience, I'm already looking forward to coming back."

Kristina Sretkova, Artist – Germany

"What I really like here is that my clients, visitors, and fans are very international. I have clients in Hong Kong from Dubai, Taiwan, Shanghai, Germany, Japan, and many locals - I appreciate this a lot. The visitors are interesting - whether they live here or not, and they are curious about art. The hotel location is good and the view! I like the Show format, it's easy for visitors to walk around and discover something that interests them. As an artist I like it because it's more private, I can play music, set the lights the way I want, and display my art creatively. The Asia Contemporary Art Show is a big part of my calendar! I have already booked this room for the next two Shows."

Nancy Li, Nancy's Gallery – China

"I've been at the Show from the beginning and we keep coming back because we always sell well! It's a good chance to meet some good clients from Asia and make some friends and connections, they even visit my gallery when they come to Shanghai. It's also comfortable because I stay in the hotel and I also work here, there's no need to go to an exhibition hall. I feel at home, each time I exhibit and everything's familiar - the people, the organizers are like family, my clients, and even the neighbours - the other exhibitors, are friends!"

CONTINUE TO BROWSE AND BUY WORKS ONLINE

Art discovery goes on 24/7 at Asia Contemporary Art Buyer (www.asiacontemporaryart.com), where artworks presented at the Show will be available to view and buy. Enjoying art has never been easier!



THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

The Asia Contemporary Art Show would like to acknowledge and thank art patrons UnionPay International, Macey & Sons, Cask 88, Royce Cellar, HK Liquor Store, Connecting Myanmar and FIJI Water; as well as hospitality partners Bernard Magrez, Leaf Tea Boutique, Samuel Adams and Magners Irish Cider for their support.

UnionPay International

UnionPay International (UPI) is a subsidiary of China UnionPay focused on the growth and support of UnionPay's global business. In partnership with more than 1,800 institutions worldwide, UnionPay International has enabled card acceptance in 170 countries and regions with issuance in 48 countries and regions. UnionPay International provides high quality, cost-effective and secure cross-border payment services to the world's largest cardholder base and ensures convenient local services to a growing number of global UnionPay cardholders and merchants.

Macey & Sons – Art, Antiques, and Luxury Collectibles

Macey & Sons are incredibly proud to present to their existing and new clients a complete and stunning full refurbishment of Floor 19 Winsome House in Central, Hong Kong. A genuine world-class art investment gallery showroom and VIP by invitation private viewing room.

As a long-standing pioneer in art brokerage and auctioneering, Macey & Sons advise clients on starting and expanding their art collection, enabling them to make steady returns on their art investments. With a rich and varied portfolio sourced from around the globe, from blue-chip Chinese contemporary artists to traditional ink, iconic legends to rare collectibles, Macey & Sons specialize in sourcing and trading art in both the primary as well as the secondary market. Macey & Sons help clients invest in alternative assets with high appreciation potential and advise in resale options and various exit strategies. Situated in the heart of Lan Kwai Fong, Macey & Sons invite you to contact them by any means and arrange a private consultation with their expert team of professional advisors.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The 14th edition of the Asia Contemporary Art Show at the Conrad Hong Kong will be held on March 29th - April 1st, 2019 during Hong Kong Art Week! The Show is limited to 85 galleries from Asia and the world and will feature two popular sectors, *Intersections: China*, the fourth in a series that will focus on the conceptual crossing of artistic ideas, and *Artist Dialogues*, dedicated to solo and joint artist presentations.

For media enquiries, please contact:

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High-res images and information can be downloaded from:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3wbu7pj6a8iuo8b/AABdxHWHLCggdK2vv_iM2d_ba?dl=0