

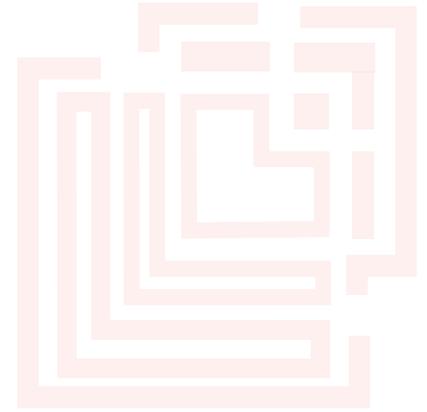


The 5th Edition of Asia Week Hong Kong Concludes Successfully Highlights Appreciation for the Heritage of the Silk Road

The fifth edition of edition of Asia Week Hong Kong highlighted the heritage of the Silk Road, and garnered the greatest support ever. Thank you so much for taking time to attend our events. The inspiring and delightful art programs in these two weeks would not have been possible nor as fun without you. We hope you enjoyed them as much as we did.

Some photographs are on our [Facebook](#) page and [Instagram](#). Please feel free to check them and tag you and your friends. For the highlights from our 2-week's programme covering museum lectures, heritage, and contemporary art, please take a look at the summary below.





Museum Lecture Series



On May 29 and May 30, Asia Week Hong Kong held its Museum Lecture Series hosted by the International Antiques Fair (IAF). Mr Yu Hui, senior researcher at the Palace Museum, Beijing explored **The Principle of Reciprocity: Diplomacy in the Song and Yuan Dynasties**. Through scenes of hunting, entertainment, and emissary activities in Southern Song and Yuan paintings, Mr Yu gave an insightful analysis on the diplomatic and cultural exchange between Chinese dynasties, China's links with European nations, and the artistic heritage of the period.

The second day of the Museum Lecture Series at the IAF continued with an engaging talk by Associate Director of the Art Museum, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Professor Xu Xiao Dong. **Artistic Interactions: Mughal Jades and Enamelled Wares in the Palace Museum Collection** traced the influence of diplomatic gifts from Hindustan on the Qianlong emperor's own tastes and personal collection. The lecture also explored how artistic techniques and aesthetics evolved as Mughal-style jades and enamelled wares gained repute in China.



Heritage and Revival - a Contemporary Representation of the Art of Dragon-Scaled Book Binding Technique



The artist talk on **Heritage and Revival - a Contemporary Representation of the Art of Dragon-Scaled Book Binding Technique** was hosted at Sin Sin Atelier. In his very first showcase in Hong Kong, Zhang Xiaodong, artisanal book-binding designer and Director of Begonia Season Bookmaking Studio, gave an aesthetically stunning presentation on his books and scrolls featuring the dragon-scale method, a craft which originated in the Tang Dynasty and unseen until Zhang revived it in 2010.



The long-lost technique creates overlapping folds of paper on top of the base layer of a scroll or book to achieve a textured surface resembling imbricated scales. The presentation was coupled with an interactive tea appreciation generously led by Vivian Mak, Founder of MingCha. Welcomed with Phoenix Oolongs whose elongated tea leaves resembled bodies of sinuous dragons, guests relaxed and shared tasting notes as they sampled two types of Oolongs with a spread of savoury and sweet snacks. Book binding and tea drinking complemented each other in telling a contemporary story of reviving Chinese heritage.

Heritage Series

Guided Tour of the HSBC Archives Gallery and Repository



The **Guided Tour of the HSBC Archives Gallery and Repository** provided a rare opportunity for an exclusive group of participants to visit private sites within the HSBC Tower. Led by Helen Swinnerton, Senior Archives Manager, Thomas Warren, History Manager, the tour showcased HSBC's rich heritage in Hong Kong and the Asia-Pacific region through artefacts, virtual galleries, and interactive displays. Visitors were also taken behind the scenes to the Repository and viewed a treasured selection of paintings by English artist George Chinnery.



Towards the end of this year's programme, Asia Week Hong Kong's guests had the unique opportunity of an **Historical Site Visit of Zetland Hall**. Since the ban on Freemasonry in China by the Chinese Communist Party, Zetland Hall remains the oldest active Masonic Centre in Hong Kong and Greater China, with roots dating to 1846. The Custodian shared the history and principle tenets of Freemasonry illustrated through the site's architecture and memorabilia. The visit concluded with a delicious curry buffet with all proceeds going towards Zetland Hall's fund for charitable organisations.

The Contemporary Series

International Seminar: Asian Avant-Garde Art and Its Practice



The **International Seminar: Asian Avant-Garde Art and Its Practice** held at the Asia Society Hong Kong Center attracted enthusiastic participants for a full-day seminar on 'Korean and Japanese and Avant-Garde' and 'Korean and Chinese Political Art'. Scholars, curators and artists discussed post-war history and the subsequent art practices that emerged in Korea, Japan, China. The seminar brought opportunities to better understand the narrative of political and economic upheaval underlying the three regions from which birthed art movements including Tansaekhwa, Gutai, and the Stars Art Group. Asia Week Hong Kong is proud to support the first overseas international seminar organised by the Korean Arts Management Service (KAMS).

The Contemporary Series

Opening Ceremony



The **Opening Ceremony** co-hosted by the University of Hong Kong Museum and Art Gallery and HKU Museum Society attracted a full house to witness the kick-off of Asia Week Hong Kong 2017. As part of the opening night, Chairman of Christie's Asia Pacific Mr François Curiel delivered a lecture titled 'France: Art and Institution' which explored the development of cultural institutions in France and the significance of Chinese antiques and contemporary artists in their histories, effectively introducing this year's theme of the impact of Chinese art on the rest of the world. The event was an associated project of Le French May with gifts sponsored by L'Occitane. Guests also received gifts of tea from MingCha.

Closing Party and 'Collecting Across Cultures' Collectors Circle Panel Discussion



The **Closing Party and 'Collecting Across Cultures' Collectors Circle Panel Discussion** was co-hosted with Friends of the Art Museum, CUHK at Liang Yi Museum. About 100 art enthusiasts, collectors, media friends, and supporters came to celebrate the conclusion of Asia Week Hong Kong's fifth year edition. The evening's main event was the Collectors Circle Panel Discussion. Panelists Betty Lo, Hing Chao, Angus Forsyth, Nelson Leong, and Moderator Kevin Ching shared personal experiences and thoughts on collecting art and material culture beyond their native ethnic identities. The conversation also touched upon the Silk Road as a channel for cultural transmission, as well as issues around preserving tangible and intangible heritage. The discussion was further enriched by insightful exchange of knowledge and opinion among the panelists and audience.

About Asia Week Hong Kong

Asia Week Hong Kong celebrates and promotes Asian Art in Hong Kong.

The **'Silk Road' edition** took place from **25 May to 10 June**, 2017 across various locations around the city. The **annual festival of Asia Week Hong Kong** coincides with the Spring auctions around May each year and focuses on Asian Antiquities and Asian Contemporary Art in collaboration with the Auction houses, Antique Dealers, Contemporary Art Galleries, Museums, Cultural institutions and societies. Asia Week Hong Kong aims to respond to a need for more accessible cultural and art educational programmes, and to broaden the knowledge of art enthusiasts and collectors in this premier Asian city. Its mission is to foster and nurture the Next Generation of Collectors and Art Patrons.

“ We believe that art & culture is for everyone. There are so much to learn and knowledge to share from Asia’s artistic and cultural heritage, from the past to the present, and we hope to see others inspired by this rich history and incredible craftsmanship. Through our programming, we aim to lower the threshold of going into art spaces. We are grateful for the friends and organisations who have supported us from the beginning, and also the partners who have joined us on the 5th edition of Asia Week Hong Kong. It is a privilege to work alongside those who also believe in the importance of art and culture education and who willingly share their expertise ”

Candice Lee, Director of Asia Week Hong Kong



For more information, please email us at programme@asiaweekhk.com

You may also call us at (+852) 6232 8046 (Ms. Maria Lee)

Asia Week Hong Kong Ltd

Unit 1205-1208, Cyberport 2, 100 Cyberport Road, Hong Kong SAR

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