

Art | Basel

Hong Kong | March | 24–26 | 2016

PRESS RELEASE
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Art Basel and the ICC to present a new large-scale public light installation by Tatsuo Miyajima in Hong Kong

Internationally acclaimed Japanese artist Tatsuo Miyajima will present a new large-scale public light installation during Art Basel's show in Hong Kong this March. Each night from March 21 to 26 'Time Waterfall' will be shown across the entire façade of Hong Kong's iconic 490 meter high International Commerce Centre (ICC) on the Kowloon harbor front.

'Time Waterfall' is a new work by the artist which aims to convey the eternal luminance of human life, expressing an ethos of 'living in the present'. The work will comprise the natural numbers one to nine, which will cascade down the face of the ICC, while never reaching zero. The continuous counting down symbolizes life, while the zero implied by the extinction of light acts as a metaphor for death. Each digit will be of different sizes, and each will cascade at its own speed, creating a number of layers that each represents a trajectory of individual lives.

This work continues the artist's signature use of light-emitting diode (LED) counters to demonstrate his three fundamental concepts – 'Keep Changing'; 'Connect with Everything'; and 'Continue Forever'. The absence of zero in his works refers to the Buddhist concept of 'Sunya', which symbolizes the void or non-existence. The use of numbers, as abstract and conceptual symbols, becomes Miyajima's universal language, allowing his work to be appreciated and adapted internationally.

The work will be visible from numerous locations across Hong Kong, including the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. Recommended locations for public viewing are Tamar Park, Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park and the terrace on Podium 3 and 4 of the IFC Mall.

Tatsuo Miyajima (b. 1957) lives and works in Ibaraki, Japan. He is known for his light works using LED counters that flash in incessant cycles between one and nine without ever reaching zero. Miyajima has held solo exhibitions internationally, including 'Tatsuo Miyajima – KU' at Lisson Gallery, Milan, Italy (2014); 'Tatsuo Miyajima: LIFE I-Model' at SCAI THE BATHHOUSE, Tokyo, Japan (2012); 'House Lives with Time' in Seoul, South Korea (2012); 'ASHES TO ASHES, DUST TO DUST' at The Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing (2011), amongst others. He has also presented works in numerous international biennales including the 43rd Venice Biennale (1988) and 48th Venice Biennale (1999). His works are placed in the permanent collection of museums such as the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Tate Modern, London; the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago and Kunstmuseum Bern. In 2012, Miyajima was appointed Vice President of Kyoto University of Art and Design, and has been serving as Vice President of Tohoku University of Art and Design since 2006. The artist is represented by Lisson Gallery, Buchmann Galerie, and SCAI THE BATHHOUSE.

'Time Waterfall' is co-commissioned by Art Basel and the International Commerce Centre in Hong Kong.

'Time Waterfall' schedule

March 21 - 26, 2016, intermittently between 7.20pm - 10pm

NOTES TO EDITORS

About International Commerce Centre (ICC) and the ICC Light Show

ICC, Sun Hung Kai Properties Limited (SHKP), above the MTR Kowloon Station is the tallest building in Hong Kong. It rises 490 metres above sea level and its 118 floors contain grade-A offices, Hong Kong's tallest indoor viewing platform – the Sky100 Hong Kong Observation Deck, Sky Dining 101 and The Ritz Carlton, Hong Kong.

Using an advanced computer programme that controls the LEDs on the building's facades to create images, The ICC Light Show on ICC produces an extravaganza of animation. It set a Guinness World Record for the largest light and sound show on a single building.

About Art Basel

Art Basel stages the world's premier art shows for Modern and contemporary works, sited in Basel, Miami Beach, and Hong Kong. Defined by its host city and region, each show is unique, which is reflected in its participating galleries, artworks presented, and the content of parallel programming produced in collaboration with local institutions for each edition. In addition to ambitious stands featuring leading galleries from around the globe, each show's singular exhibition sectors spotlight the latest developments in the visual arts, offering visitors new ideas and new inspiration.

Partners

UBS, global Lead Partner of Art Basel, has supported the organization for more than 20 years. As Art Basel's global network has expanded, so too has UBS's commitment and lead partnership, which includes all three shows in Basel, Miami Beach and Hong Kong. In addition to its support of Art Basel, UBS has a long and substantial record of engagement in contemporary art: as a holder of one of the world's most distinguished corporate art collections, as an active partner in global contemporary art projects such as the Guggenheim UBS MAP Global Art Initiative, and as a source of information and insights through the UBS Art Competence Center, UBS Arts Forum and its new contemporary art news-focused app, 'Planet Art'.

The Art Basel show in Hong Kong is supported by the Davidoff Art Initiative, Audemars Piguet and NetJets as Associate Partners. Additionally, Ruinart and Swire Properties support the Hong Kong show as a Lounge Host, BMW as the Official Automotive Partner, Sennheiser as the Official Audio Partner, Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong as Official Hotel Partner, Quintessentially as the Official Concierge Partner and Swiss International Airlines as Official Carrier. Art Basel's global Media Partner is The Financial Times. For further information on Art Basel's partners, please visit artbasel.com/partners.

Private View (by invitation only)

Tuesday, March 22, 2016, 3pm to 8pm

Wednesday, March 23, 2016, 1pm to 5pm

Vernissage (by invitation only)

Wednesday, March 23, 2016, 5pm to 9pm

Public Days

Thursday, March 24, 2016, 1pm to 9pm

Friday, March 25, 2016, 1pm to 8pm

Saturday, March 26, 2016, 11am to 6pm

Important information on press accreditation:

Online press accreditation will open on January 18, 2016

Please note that as of 2016 it will no longer be possible to accredit onsite. Therefore it is important to register online by March 17, 2016. Please visit artbasel.com/accreditation.

Upcoming Art Basel shows

Basel, June 16 - 19, 2016

Miami Beach, December 1 - 4, 2016

Media information online

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