

Press release

Artistic Hong Kong Reception and Exhibition showcases the arts and culture scene of Hong Kong

Art works by some of Hong Kong's most famous contemporary artists were on show at the Artistic Hong Kong Reception and Exhibition held last night (12 September 2011) at The Orangery, Kensington Palace, London. Guests at the reception were also treated to contemporary Hong Kong dance performances and an exhibition highlighting Hong Kong's film industry.

The Artistic Hong Kong Reception and Exhibition was organised by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in London (HKETO), with the support of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), to promote Hong Kong's artistic and cultural achievements to the UK.

It was officiated by Mr Donald Tsang, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, in the presence of Their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Michael of Kent, and attracted over 200 guests from arts, cultural, political and business circles.

At the event, The Orangery was transformed into a Hong Kong art gallery showing artworks by outstanding Hong Kong artists Mr Stanley Wong, Mr Kwok Mang-ho and Mr Tozer Pak, who have all represented Hong Kong at the Venice Biennale. Rich-colour ink paintings by Hong Kong artist Ms KuKu Chai were also exhibited.

Dance performances by the City Contemporary Dance Company, a leading modern dance troupe from Hong Kong, were staged which together with the art works demonstrated the vibrant visual and performing arts scenes of Hong Kong.

Hong Kong's dynamic film industry was also on show, in a special display highlighting five popular Hong Kong movies including *Overheard 2*, *Echoes of the Rainbow* and *Ip Man*, which are being shown at the Hong Kong Film Week 2011 organised by the HKTDC from 12 to 16 September in London.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Mr Tsang said: "Hong Kong owes much of its creative flair to its unique blend of Eastern and Western influences, not least from the UK."

"Next year, 'UK Now', a major festival celebrating British arts and culture managed by the British Council, will be held in China. I am happy that some of the festival programmes will also take place in Hong Kong, which will further strengthen our cultural links with the UK."

Mr Tsang also introduced the West Kowloon Cultural District, a massive project underway on 100 acres of prime waterfront land in Hong Kong which would help cement Hong Kong's credentials as a cultural and arts hub in Asia.

The distinguished architect Lord Foster has devised the master plan for the project while Mr Michael Lynch, former Chief Executive of the Southbank Centre, is leading implementation of the project.

"I look forward to the fruits of future collaboration between Hong Kong and Britain in developing the arts," Mr Tsang added.

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