

Immediate Release

The very first Public Art The Lobster by Philip Colbert in Hong Kong



Video and images to be downloaded at:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1-X1cdak4M8a_r88ZspZG6AOvkcedRFgb

#leetungavenue #LTAart #TheLobster #LobsterInflatable #PhilipColbertinHK #PhilipColbert

(31 May 2019, Hong Kong) – Lee Tung Avenue, a joint project among Urban Renewal Authority, Sino Land Company Limited and Hopewell Holdings Limited is proud to present the 6 meters width and 5 meters tall “The Lobster” Inflatable Sculpture by renowned British Pop Art Artist, Philip Colbert to Hong Kong. Besides having his current solo exhibition “Lobster Land”, which opens till 6.28 in Whitestone Gallery Hong Kong, this is the very first Public Art displayed in Hong Kong.

Born in Scotland and living and working in London, Colbert has created a global following for his cartoon lobster persona and his masterful hyper pop history paintings. His work powerfully explores the patterns of contemporary digital culture and its relationship to a deeper art historical dialogue. “I became an artist when I became a Lobster” says Colbert.



Graduating with an MA in Philosophy from University of St Andrews, Colbert's work has received international acclaim from museums and galleries worldwide for his energetic and refreshing approach to painting and pop theory. Inspired by early Pop Art painters such as Richard Hamilton, Roy Lichtenstein and James Rosenquist, Colbert's paintings cross high art themes from old master paintings and contemporary art theory with everyday symbols of mass contemporary culture, all narrated through the eyes of Colbert's cartoon Lobster alter ego. Colbert is often hailed as the "godson of Andy Warhol" and has been championed as a contemporary pop master by prominent art world figures such as Charles Saatchi and Simon De Pury.

Colbert's seminal NEW PAINTINGS & HUNT PAINTINGS exhibitions at Saatchi Gallery in 2017 and 2018 showed his transition into epic large scale works on canvas and have led to a series of museum shows worldwide.

Lobster Inflatable Sculpture

"I am really excited to be doing my first solo show in Hong Kong with Whitestone. Over the past few years I have been so inspired to spend time here", says Colbert. "The paintings and sculptures in the show are from a new series of Lobster Land hunt paintings I have been working on, where I have developed a new hyper real abstract aesthetic and this is the first exhibition of these new works".

"At the same time, the "The Lobster" Inflatable Sculpture is my artistic persona, so the idea of me coming to Hong Kong for my first solo show, makes sense that my Lobster Self should be seen in the streets, larger than life, my work is all about bringing a sense of creative fantasy and freedom back into reality."

"Surrealist artists and poets such as Salvador Dali used the lobster image lots in surrealist work. The lobster became a soft it symbol for surrealism. I took this symbol and took it to the next level by becoming a lobster and evolving the spirit of Surrealism today. I also become very red under the sun like the lobster; I only wear red socks; I don't eat lobsters, I am a lobster."

"The Lobster " by Philip Colbert at Lee Tung Avenue	
Date:	25 May – 16 June 2019
Time:	8am – 11pm
Venue:	Central Piazza, Lee Tung Avenue, Hong Kong

Photo captions



Photo 1: 6 meters width and 5 meters tall “The Lobster” Inflatable Sculpture by Philip Colbert is at Lee Tung Avenue, Hong Kong



Photo 2: Renowned British Pop Art Artist, Philip Colbert is in Hong Kong for his first solo exhibition at Whitestone Gallery and first public art in Lee Tung Avenue

About Lee Tung Avenue

Lee Tung Avenue, a joint project among Urban Renewal Authority, Sino Land Company Limited and Hopewell Holdings Limited features a 200-metre tree-lined boulevard on Hong Kong Island. It is home to alfresco cafes, gourmet restaurants and boutiques, offering selected local and overseas brands. Lee Tung Avenue is a convenient urban intersection in south Wan Chai, and connects and revitalises the community. Lee Tung Avenue has won critical acclaims from Hong Kong and international organisations, including ‘2017 Fiver Stars Shopping Mall’ award at Hong Kong Professional Building Inspectors Academy Awards 2017, ‘Top 25 Shopping Mall Events’ award selected by Hong Kong Economic Times, Gold Winner of ‘Best Idea in Design’ and ‘Best Idea in Public Relations’ at MARKies Awards 2018, Gold winner of ‘Traditional Marketing’ at 2018 ICSC China Shopping Centre & Retailer Award held by International Council of Shopping Centers.

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About Philip Colbert

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Graduating with an MA in Philosophy from St.Andrews University, Colbert’s work has received international acclaim in museums and galleries worldwide for his energetic new approach to painting and pop theory. Following on from early



pop painters such as Richard Hamilton, Roy Lichtenstien and James Rosenquist, Colbert's paintings cross high art themes from old master paintings and contemporary art theory with everyday symbols of mass contemporary culture - all narrated through the eyes of Colbert's Lobster alter ego.

Colbert is often referred to as the "godson of Andy Warhol" and has been championed as a contemporary pop master by art world figures such as Charles Saatchi & Simon De Pury.

Infamous British Art critic Edward Lucie-Smith identified Colbert's Hunt Paintings Show At Saatchi Gallery as a return to the high times of British Art, likening Colbert's bold energy to the glory days of the YBA movement.

"We live in a world of ultra pop saturation, a sort of mega pop world where mass intake of Instagram and social media imagery define the art of contemporary creation."

Colbert welcomes the connection with his pop art predecessors. "I believe that pop language is the most powerful form of language today – it connects the world. If people think we were pop in the 60s, I think we are hyper-pop today. We consume more pop culture than ever. These pop themes of the everyday deeply connect with people's lives and are rich in meaning.

Media Enquiries

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