

News release

UOB Hong Kong teams up with Regal Hotels to promote art in the community

Launches the UOB Art Space uniquely @ REGAL in Hong Kong

Hong Kong, 17 June 2016 – United Overseas Bank Hong Kong (UOB Hong Kong) joins hands with Regal Hotels International (Regal Hotels) to launch the “UOB Art Space uniquely @ REGAL” at Regal Airport Hotel, Hong Kong today as part of their partnership to promote art in the community.

Themed “The Land. The People. The City”, the inaugural exhibition at the UOB Art Space uniquely @ REGAL showcases 29 artworks from the UOB Art Collection. The selected artworks, which were curated by Mr Tony Scott, Director of China Art Projects, demonstrate a harmonious mix of cultures and landscapes in Asia through bustling city scenes.

For example, *Scripts of Selective Sympathies* by past UOB Painting of the Year winner Mr Anthony Chua captures urban construction and the birth of the modern city through a double representation of a street scene. The repetitive imagery creates a rhythmic effect reflective of the busy city life. Other artworks on display include those from Chinese painting master Mr David Kwo Da Wei, and other UOB Painting of the Year winners including Mr Quek Jing Cheng, Mr Boo Sze Yang and Mr Baet Yeok Kuan.

Both UOB Hong Kong and Regal Hotels hold a shared vision to encourage the appreciation of art in the community and to provide an avenue for young artists to showcase their works through sustainable initiatives and programmes. Their first collaboration was in 2015, when UOB Hong Kong and Regal Hotels organised an exhibition at Regal Airport Hotel to feature the winning artworks from the UOB Golden Garden Installation Art Awards.

Mrs Christine Ip, Chief Executive Officer of UOB Hong Kong, said that the collaboration between UOB Hong Kong and Regal Hotels is an art advocacy initiative by two renowned brands.

“Just as UOB has built an extensive network to serve and to connect our customers across Asia over the last few decades, we have been supporting the development of artists in the region through various community projects. In Hong Kong specifically, we launched the UOB Art Academy in April 2015 to make art more accessible to the community and to promote cross-cultural dialogue. This year, we are delighted

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to continue to work with Regal Hotels to showcase Asian art to people in Hong Kong and to travellers from around the world," said Mrs Ip.

Ms Poman Lo, Vice Chairman and Managing Director of Regal Hotels, said, "Regal Hotels is most pleased to be in partnership with UOB to establish an art gallery in the Regal Airport Hotel, the Best Airport Hotel in the World¹. We believe the art exhibitions at the UOB Art Space uniquely @ REGAL will definitely become a point of attraction at Regal Hotels and enhance our guests' experience as they view the display of Asian art."

The exhibits at the UOB Art Space uniquely @ REGAL will be refreshed quarterly. The UOB Art Space uniquely @ REGAL is located at 2/F, Regal Airport Hotel, 9 Cheong Tat Road, Hong Kong International Airport, and is open from 11am to 8pm daily (except Wednesdays).

Connecting communities through art

UOB started its art collection in the early 1970s as a way of supporting local artists. The UOB Art Collection now holds more than 2,000 artworks, of which many are displayed at the Bank's branches and offices, as well as public art galleries. UOB's long-term commitment to art is principally demonstrated through its UOB Painting of the Year Competition, which has been running for more than three decades in Southeast Asia. In 2015, UOB also partnered with National Gallery Singapore to launch the UOB Southeast Asia Gallery early last year.

In Hong Kong, the UOB Art Academy was established to promote art education and to raise the appreciation of art in the community through monthly art events such as workshops and carnivals. Its frequent and regular activities are designed for children with special needs and those from less privileged backgrounds. It also organises annual art competitions to nurture local talent. Through forums and exhibitions, the Academy also encourages cross-cultural dialogue between local and overseas artists.

Regal Hotels first launched its Group Sustainability Programme in 2012 featuring environmental responsibility, social responsibility and economic responsibility. As professional hoteliers, Regal Hotels embraces the spirit of artisans with diligence and professionalism in serving people from different cultures

¹ Regal Airport Hotel was named the "Best Airport Hotel in the World 2015" by *Business Traveller UK Magazine*.



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and from all walks of life. In recent years, Regal Hotels put the ideas into practice by engaging art events including its sponsorship of the UOB Golden Garden Installation Art Awards in 2015. The collaboration on the UOB Art Space uniquely @ REGAL serves as a prelude for its art initiatives in 2016. This year, Regal Hotels will also play a part in nurturing local young artists by awarding the winner of the UOB Connectivity Photography Award a scholarship to attend a short photography course overseas.

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About United Overseas Bank

United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) is a leading bank in Asia with a global network of more than 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America. Since its incorporation in 1935, UOB has grown organically and through a series of strategic acquisitions. UOB is rated among the world's top banks: Aa1 by Moody's and AA- by Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings respectively.

In Asia, UOB operates through its head office in Singapore and banking subsidiaries in China, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, as well as branches and representative offices.

UOB plays an active role in the community, focusing on the art, education and children. It has, over more than three decades, held the longest-running art competition in Singapore, the UOB Painting of the Year, which has since been extended across Southeast Asia. In recognition of its contributions to the art, UOB was conferred the Singapore National Arts Council's Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award for the eleventh consecutive year in 2015. UOB also encourages its employees across the region to be involved in its regular volunteer activities. This includes the annual UOB Heartbeat Run which is held in China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

About Regal Hotels International

Regal Hotels is one of the largest hotel operators in Hong Kong, currently managing 26 hotels with 9,500 rooms and around 100 restaurants and bars. Committed to exceeding the needs of each guest, Regal Hotels provide first class international guestrooms and facilities including state-of-the-art meeting rooms. The Group has 8 hotels in operation in Hong Kong, 4 in Shanghai, 2 in Dezhou, 1 in Foshan, 1 in Xi'an and 1 in Zhengzhou. 9 separate hotels will be opened within the next few years in Hong Kong and major cities in China Mainland including Anyang, Chengdu, Kunshan, Weinan, Yantai and Zhengzhou.

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