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TO : General News/ Feature/ Culture and Arts - Assignment Editor/ Editor/ Reporters

Sun Museum presents new exhibition

**“Splendour of China: Artworks and Letters by Revolutionaries of the 20th Century”
Near a hundred works by prominent figures reveal the social reality at that time**

(*Hong Kong, 28th October 2021*) The 20th century was a period of important transformations for China: the transition from a monarchy to a republic, the instability brought by separatist warlords, the power struggle between the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese Nationalist Party, the two-party cooperation against foreign aggressions and the subsequent confrontation between the parties across the strait. With ordeals and afflictions accumulated, the People’s Republic of China has made her way out not only tackling them one by one, but also achieving great progress and strengthening the country’s power, leading her to impress the world with her economic miracle in the 21st century. Over the last hundred years, a group of outstanding revolutionaries have risen and made immense contributions to the society in every difficulty and challenge. The handwritten scripts and artworks they left behind serve as a record of the social instabilities and changes of their era.

Sun Museum presents the new exhibition “Splendour of China: Artworks and Letters by Revolutionaries of the 20th Century”, showcasing 91 sets of works by these extraordinary individuals. These include calligraphy, paintings, letters, manuscripts, poster, and seal, all of which encapsulate the pioneering spirits and perseverance of these revolutionaries amid political turmoil and challenging times. The exhibition runs from 29 October 2021 to 15 January 2022.

Highlights of the exhibition include:

- 1) *New Youth* is an emblematic magazine of the New Culture Movement promoting the understanding of democracy and scientific spirit. On view at the exhibition is a letter dated 1921 from Li Dazhao to Hu Shi, both editors of the magazine. It gives an account of the dispute between Hu and Chen Duxiu, founder of *New Youth*, over the proposition of relocating the magazine’s editorial office to Guangdong.
- 2) Life was extremely difficult in republican China. In the *Letter to Zhang Yiqu*,

renowned educator Tao Xingzhi asked his friend for financial help.

- 3) *Let's Read the News* was a wartime “poster” published by three members of the 8th Group Army of the National Revolutionary Army during the Second Sino-Japanese War. With the aim of mobilising civilians, this “poster” urged women to stop foot binding and collaborate with the military. This rare artefact offers a glimpse into the lives of Chinese people during the war.
- 4) On the verge of ending the Second Sino-Japanese War, Song Qingling excitedly wrote “commemorating victory!” in Chinese in a typed English letter to her friend Mrs Liang.
- 5) Zhao Yannian’s woodblock print *Protest* depicts the scene in which Song Qingling, along with then president of Peking University Cai Yuanpei, Yang Xingfo and Lu Xun, submitted a letter of protest in the name of the China League for the Protection of Civil Rights at the Consulate General of Germany to denounce the persecution of innocents and scholars by Adolf Hitler.
- 6) Also shown at the exhibition is the giant Shoushan stone seal inscribed with Mao Zedong’s calligraphy “this country is endowed with such grace” by Qi Yanming. It was stamped on the world-famous monumental painting of the same title installed at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.
- 7) The paintings of Fu Baoshi enjoy considerable popularity, yet it is very rare to find his calligraphic works. This exhibition includes a piece on which Fu wrote “red successors”, reflecting the socio-political atmosphere in the 1960s.

Mr Yeung Chun Tong, Director of Sun Museum, remarked, “Aside from their remarkable achievements in various fields such as education, culture and politics, Chinese intellectuals in the 20th century had great determination to defend their country against foreign aggressions and improve the lives of their compatriots. Their patriotic deeds, pioneering spirits and perseverance are highly admirable. Coinciding with the centenary of the founding of the Chinese Communist Party, this exhibition will offer a fascinating insight into the lives of these legendary intellectuals and revolutionaries. We hope it will help Hong Kong people to learn more about a key chapter in modern Chinese history and thus boost patriotism in the city.”

Sun Museum is located on the 4th floor of SML Tower, 165 Hoi Bun Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong. The museum is open from 10 am to 6 pm, Tuesday to Saturday. It is closed on Sundays, Mondays and public holidays. Admission is free.

Photos with captions:



Photo 1:

Sun Museum presents “**Splendour of China: Artworks and Letters by Revolutionaries of the 20th Century**” exhibition, showcasing 91 sets of exhibits of historical significance.



Photo 2:

(From left to right) **Ms Chloe Suen**, Chair of Simon Suen Foundation, Historian **Mr Hui Lai Ping**, **Dr Ma Ho Man**, **Hoffman**, BBS, Executive Chairman of Hong Kong Culture Association, **Mr Ma Fung Kwok** GBS, JP, Member of Legislative Council and Chairman of China Federation of Literary and Art Circles Hong Kong Member Association, **Mr Lam Tian Xing**, Chairman of Xiang Gang Mei Xie, **Dr Suen Siu Man**, Simon, BBS, JP, Founding Chairman of Simon Suen Foundation and **Mr Yeung Chun Tong**, Director of Sun Museum joined together for a photo at the opening ceremony of “**Splendour of China: Artworks and**

Letters by Revolutionaries of the 20th Century” exhibition.



Photo 3:
 Visitor views the works on display at
**“Splendour of China: Artworks and
 Letters by Revolutionaries of the 20th
 Century” exhibition.**

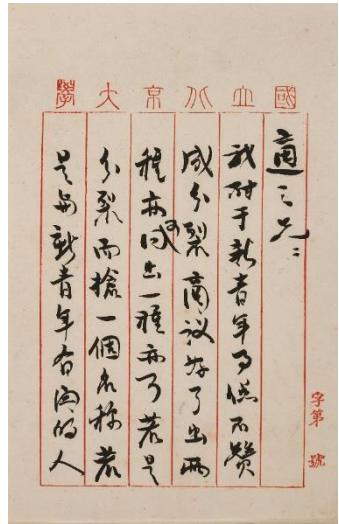


Photo 4:
**“Splendour of China: Artworks and
 Letters by Revolutionaries of the 20th
 Century”
 Exhibit**

Li Dazhao
 Letter to Hu Shi (Partial)
 Ink on paper
 1921
 Each page 24.5 x 16 cm

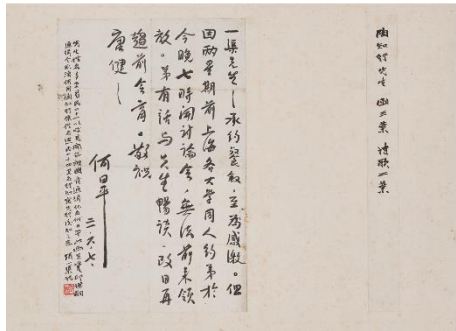


Photo 5:
**“Splendour of China: Artworks and
 Letters by Revolutionaries of the 20th
 Century”
 Exhibit**

Tao Xingzhi
 Two Letters to Zhang Yiqu
 Ink on paper
 Dated 7th June 1932 and 5th May 1935
 1st letter: 26.1 x 16.5 cm
 2nd letter, each page: 28 x 18 cm

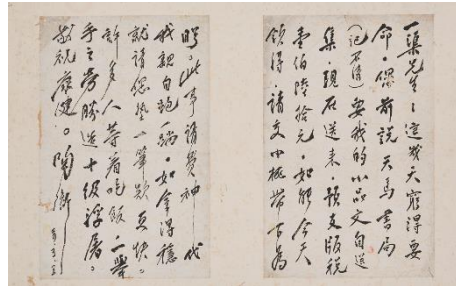




Photo 6:
“Splendour of China: Artworks and Letters by Revolutionaries of the 20th Century”
 Exhibit

Shen Zhenhuang, Guo Bichang and Yang Zhiming
 Let’s Read the News
 Ink and colour on paper
 Dated 5th October 1938
 72 x 78 cm

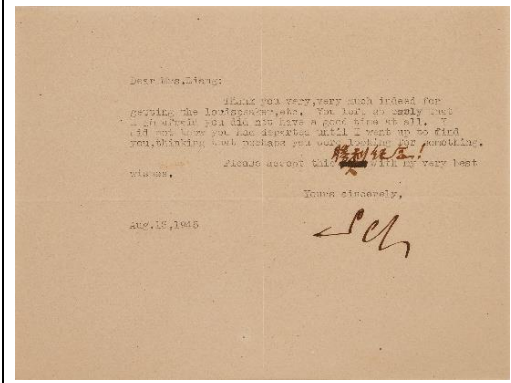


Photo 7:
“Splendour of China: Artworks and Letters by Revolutionaries of the 20th Century”
 Exhibit

Song Qingling
 Six Letters to Mrs Liang (Partial)
 Typewriter, pen and ink on paper
 Dated 13th August 1945
 15.3 x 20.3 cm

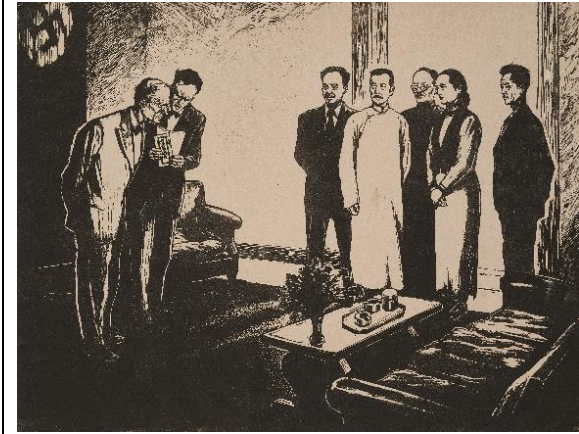
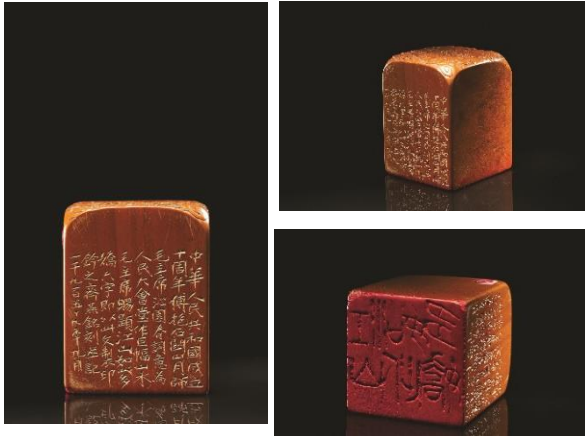



Photo 8:
“Splendour of China: Artworks and Letters by Revolutionaries of the 20th Century”
 Exhibit

Zhao Yannian
 Protest
 Woodblock print
 1956
 37.5 x 49 cm

	<p>Photo 9: “Splendour of China: Artworks and Letters by Revolutionaries of the 20th Century” Exhibit</p> <p>Qi Yanming Seal inscribed with “This country is endowed with such grace” Shoushan stone 1959 Height 14.2 cm Base 10.9 x 11 cm</p>
	<p>Photo 10: “Splendour of China: Artworks and Letters by Revolutionaries of the 20th Century” Exhibit</p> <p>Fu Baoshi Calligraphy Ink on paper 1963 31 x 99 cm</p>

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About Sun Museum

Sun Museum, a non-profit institution established by Simon Suen Foundation, is housed on the 4th floor of SML Tower along the Kwun Tong waterfront (165 Hoi Bun Road) with a total area of 12,500 sq. ft. It aims to foster the development of arts and culture in Hong Kong and China through organising exhibitions, seminars and other educational activities. Mr Yeung Chun Tong is the Director of Sun Museum.