

Sun Museum Presents
“Nature in Ink and Brush – The Art of Ou Da Wei”

(Hong Kong, 23 January 2019) **Sun Museum** is pleased to present "**Nature in Ink and Brush – The Art of Ou Da Wei**" from 24 January 2019 to 30 March 2019. The exhibition showcases over 40 pieces of artworks of the local renowned artist Ou Da Wei, including ink paintings, calligraphy as well as seals.

The exhibition opened on 23 January, the officiating guests included: **Mrs TSE LING Kit Ching, Cherry, JP**, Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs; **Ms AU Kit Ying, Brenda, JP**, Head of Energizing Kowloon East Office; **Mr TANG Hoi Chiu**, Adjunct Professor, Academy of Visual Arts, Hong Kong Baptist University; and **Mrs Mary SUEN**, Founding Director of the Simon Suen Foundation.

Ou Da Wei learnt calligraphy and seal-engraving under the guidance of the calligraphy master Wu Zifu in Guangzhou since he was 14 years old. He later self-taught landscape painting and writing poems. He believes that the artist's personality is reflected in his works. Thus the styles of his poetry, calligraphy, painting and seal-engraving should be consistently unified to reflect the person's character.

Ou's calligraphy is usually executed in cursive and clerical scripts, and the latter is known for its gauche rusticity. During a media interview, he said "since the twentieth century, Hong Kong calligraphers have been writing beautifully in all kinds of scripts, but I am the one who started writing in the unrefined style". His characters are mostly made up of straight strokes rather than curved ones. The strokes vary in length and width, forming characters that differ in size. Such unrefined style carries a sense of naiveté and is signature of Ou's calligraphy, which resembles line drawing.

As for his paintings, Ou employs calligraphy techniques to create dark and dry ink landscapes. Rather than using water, the artist relies on his painting skills and the vigour of his brush to create different ink tonalities, thereby imbuing the landscape paintings with a sense of calligraphy. This is one way how Ou inherits the literati art tradition.

Ou's seals show a heavy inclination towards the epigraphic school. His characters have sharp edges and are arranged to form captivating compositions. The artist once said, "The few characters inscribed on the seal can present all sorts of contents, and all sorts of emotions can

be expressed through such engraving on stones.” Assembling poetry, calligraphy and painting within a tiny area, Ou’s seals are filled with many interesting details.

Mr. Yeung Chun Tong, Director of the Sun Museum, said: "Chinese traditional culture is centered around "yin" and "yang", and "yin-yang" originates from light. The ancients believed that light is integral to life. Artwork therefore, needs light to breathe life into it. Ou’s art provides a prism through which we can appreciate how light is employed in the literati arts. In his calligraphy, seals and paintings, Ou has broken new ground on composition in which the dynamic interplay between emptiness and fullness energizes the two-dimensional characters and imbues his ink landscapes with life. Ou has not only captured the essence of traditional Chinese art but has also transcended it to a higher level.

Ou Da Wei will personally guide an exhibition tour at 3 pm on Saturday, February 16, 2019. Any interested parties can register online or by calling the Sun Museum for reservation. This event is free of charge (Address: <http://www.sunmuseum.org.hk/>; Tel: (852) 2690 6790)

Details of the exhibition

Date	24 th January, 2019 – 30 th March, 2019
Opening hours	Tuesday to Saturday (10am to 6pm). Closed on Sunday, Monday and Public Holidays – Free Admission
Address	4/F, SML Tower, 165 Hoi Bun Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, HK

For media enquiry, please contact :

Olivia Pang

Tel : 3749 9878 / 96306990

Email : olivia.pang@mansumpr.com

Cassidy Wong

Tel : 3749 9878 / 5624 4201

Email : cassidy.wong@mansumpr.com

About Sun Museum

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

Opening Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Tuesday to Saturday. Closed on Sunday, Monday and Public Holidays. Free Entry.