

XU Beihong and His Times

Centennial Exhibition of Central Academy of Fine Arts

Witnessing how 33 Chinese artists in XU Beihong's times pursued new pathways of Chinese art

The Central Academy of Fine Arts (“CAFA”), Bauhinia Magazine, and Sun Museum present “XU Beihong and His Times: Centennial Exhibition of Central Academy of Fine Arts” at the Sun Museum from 26th October, 2018 to 1st December 2018, featuring 61 valuable works of 33 renowned modern masters including **Xu Beihong, Qi Baishi, Zhang Daqian** and **Li Keran**.

The exhibition opened on the 25th, the officiating guests include: **Mr YANG Jian**, Deputy Director of Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong S.A.R.; **Mr CHAN Jick-chi**, Acting Secretary for Home Affairs; **Mr GAO Hong**, Chairman of the Academy Council of Central Academy of Fine Arts; **Mr LAU Ip Keung**, Kenneth, BBS, MH, JP, Member of Legislative Council and Chairman of Heung Yee Kuk, **Mr JIANG Zai Zhong**; President of Hong Kong Ta Kung Wen Wei Media Group Limited; **Dr SZE Chi Ching**, JP, President of China Calligraphers Association (Hong Kong), **Mr SIU Fai Wing** Chairman of Hong Kong Artists Association; **Dr MA Ho Man, Hoffman**, BBS, Executive Chairman of Hong Kong Culture Association; **Mr YANG Yong**, President and Editor-in-chief of Bauhinia Magazine; and **Dr SUEN Siu Man, Simon**, BBS, JP, Founding Chairman of Simon Suen Foundation.

2018 marks the hundredth anniversary of Central Academy of Fine Arts. CAFA used to be the National Beijing Academy of Visual Arts, China's first state art school founded in 1918 and a pioneer of Chinese modern art. In 1950, it was renamed as Central Academy of Fine Arts. Over the past century, CAFA has gathered and nurtured a number of art masters and art educators. CAFA has been closely linked to the destiny of the country, the nation and the people. It is an important epitome of the history of modern art and the history of art education in China.

Xu Beihong is the first president of Central Academy of Fine Arts, he is also the crucial founder and pioneer of modern art and art education in China. After returning to China in 1927, Xu Beihong had been engaged in art education. For more than 20

years, he and other artists in his era had jointly established art schools and organizations, and had organized various educational art activities to bring a fresh look to Chinese art.

The art masters featured in this exhibition are closely related to XU Beihong. For example, his companions who played important roles in the history of Chinese art including **Qi Baishi, Zhang Daqian, Fu Baoshi, Chen Shizeng, Ye Qianyu, Li Keran, Jiang Zhaohe, Huang Zhou, Chang Shuhong, Qin Xuanfu, Li Yishi, Wu Fading, Shitu Qiao, Wang Shaoling, Gu Yuan, Wang Yachen, Li Kuchan**, and more. Xu's students and followers include **Wu Zuoren, Ai Zhongxin, Feng Fasi, Sun Zongwei, Wang Linyi, Li Hu, Li Zongjin, Qi Zhenqi, Wei Qimei, Zhang Anzhi, Xiao Shufang, Wen Jinyang** and **Song Buyun** who had either been helped, taught or influenced by Xu. These artists relentlessly treaded the future path of Chinese art together and casted significant influence on the development of "New Chinese art".

The 20th century is a historical period when Chinese traditional art started to transform while modern art began to grow. Xu supported and promoted the idea of "realism" in art and had helped to transform traditional Chinese art by importing Western techniques such as sketching and oil painting into China. This exhibition presents the stages of art development and historical contribution of twentieth-century Chinese art masters and the unique styles presented by them. Visitors can also learn about the interactions and encouragement amongst these artist as well as their exploration in art.

CAFA has sent a special team to work with Sun Museum and Bauhinia Magazine in Hong Kong for this exhibition. The CAFA team includes **GAO Hong**, Chairman of the Academy Council of CAFA; **ZHANG Zikang**, Director of CAFA Art Museum; **Hong Mei**, Associate Professor and Instructor of Postgraduates of CAFA and Director of Theory and Publishing of CAFA Art Museum; **Ji Yujie**, Design Director of CAFA Art Museum and **LI Yaochen**, Collection Management Director of CAFA Art Museum.

The Sun Museum is also pleased to present a series of lectures hosted by Director **Yeung Chun Tong** to introduce the various changes in this era through the artistic achievements of some great masters. The lectures include "The world of Xu Beihong", "The World of Qi Bashi", "The World of Zhang Daqian", "The World of Li Keran", and "The World of Wu Zuoren". The Sun Museum and Bauhinia Magazine have co-published a fully illustrated exhibition catalogue of "Xu Beihong and His Times: Centennial Exhibition of Central Academy of Fine Arts" featuring 86 paintings in

216 pages. Admission to the exhibition is free. Guided tours are available at specific times by appointment.

Details of the exhibition

Date	26 th October,2018 – 1 st December, 2018
Opening hours	Tuesday to Saturday (10am to 6pm) Closed on Sunday, Monday and Public Holidays
Address	4/F, SML Tower, 165 Hoi Bun Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, HK

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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 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 Museum Director.

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