

ART TAIPEI 2016 draws to a successful close Collectors give two thumbs up for art collection of ultra-high caliber in a well-curated show Dizzying array of art pieces on the show floor! Galleries get acquainted with new promising collectors

ART TAIPEI 2016 drew to a spectacular close yesterday on November 15, marking a landmark art fair in the Asia-Pacific. VIP Preview plus the four-day public opening attracted some 30,000 visitors. ART TAIPEI 2016 set off from the perspective of arts in the Asia Pacific and maintained its diversity to successfully appeal to collectors and art professionals from around the world. Veteran collectors Takahashi Ryutaro and Daisuke Miyatsu from Japan, Chen-Yu CHANG, and Leo Shih from Taiwan, Stephanie Britton, the founding Executive Editor of Artlink magazine in Australia, and Vanessa Guo, Director of Asia Development at Hauser & Wirth, brightened the show with their presence at ART TAIPEI. Galleries remarked that the biggest reward this year was meeting and getting to know novice collectors, acknowledging the increase of Taiwanese collectors and their discerning eye for art.

APAGA collab sets off art collection frenzy

Featuring "Asia-Pacific Arts Converge in Taipei" as the theme this year, ART TAIPEI partnered up with APAGA to bring the cream of the crop to the show floor, covering the full artistic spectrum in the Asia-Pacific. With a clear theme transcending the show and a kaleidoscopic range of art pieces, ART TAIPEI 2016 accentuated the uniqueness of Asian arts and welcomed praises from visitors and collectors alike. Having always been favored by Taiwanese collectors, galleries from Japan and Korea continued to enjoy brisk sales this year. On the other hand, exhibiting for the first time in Taiwan, galleries from Australia witnessed the purchasing prowess of Taiwanese collectors at ART TAIPEI and saw decent sales numbers. Specializing in promoting world-class masterworks, Galleria Continua from Beijing sold several pieces by Antony Gormley and Giovanni Ozzola. Singapore's OPERA GALLERY presented a number of signature works by Salvador DALI, and were whisked away by collectors almost immediately. The first-time collaboration between ART TAIPEI and APAGA was a great success, laying a solid foundation for future cooperation.

Masterpieces guaranteed to sell! Emerging Taiwanese artists grab attention

Established galleries in Taiwan presented an eclectic array of masterpieces, offering a strong consistent guarantee at ART TAIPEI. CHINI Gallery recorded outstanding sales performance, selling all of the works by master Taiwanese sculptor LEE Kuang-Yu, and various paintings by abstract painter Kan HO, whose works were greatly acclaimed. Presented by Metaphysical Art Gallery, four oil paintings in the *A Mountain Dwelling* series by WANG PanYoun were sold out. Heralded as the pioneer in Taiwan's contemporary ink painting, Kuo-sung LIU was cordially invited to Loftyart Gallery's booth, and his presence undoubted

boosted the sales figures. Overall, local galleries in Taiwan performed handsomely. Well-known galleries such as Caves Gallery, Admira Gallery, Liang Gallery, and YIRI ARTS all sold out around eighty percent of their art works. Works by international artists were also in great demand. Presented by Whitestone Gallery, many of Yayoi Kusama's large-scale works were quickly sold out. Visiting Taiwan for the first time, renowned Japanese sculptor Katsura Funakoshi graced the show, giving fans a chance to catch a glimpse of his artistic talent; a collector bought his 2014 work *Curious Forest* from Aki Gallery. Collectors simply couldn't help but fawn over the timeless immortality of iconic works by master artists.

Made in Taiwan Young Artist Discovery went off with a bang. Featuring eight emerging artists drawing inspiration from their own life experiences, they selected objects in everyday life as the core of their creations, from which they put their emotions and thoughts completely out there. Art works in this section involved creations in a variety of media and forms, highlighting the dynamics and imagination of young artists. With more than eighty percent of works sold out, some even became part of the collection at the National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts.

Power of images drives sales as image art rises to new heights

This year's ART TAIPEI specially planned a new theme—Voice of Image—and piqued the interests of many collectors. Gallery Momo from Japan sold Tomoyasu Murata's animes to collectors from the United States and Japan. Kotori Kawashima, cuteness and poetic Japanese photographer, chose ART TAIPEI to launch the sales of his photographs and was quite successful. Star Gallery sold *Rotating Buddha* and other works by avant-garde artist Dean-E Mei to Taiwanese collectors. The success of the Voice of Image was also seen in other photographic or audiovisual art works, which were snapped up by local and international collectors. WAKO WORKS OF ART from Japan featured a solo exhibition of German photographer Wolfgang TILLMANS, a Turner Prize winner, and sold several pieces of his work. Bluerider Art presented Swiss artist Marck's video installation works were sold out before long. Japanese artist Youki Hirakawa's video installation *Burning a second - Installation ver.* was sold for a pretty price. InART Space sold all of the works by France-travelling photographer YING-SHENG QUO. It's worth mentioning that the extension of HSU Chia-Wei's *Wenqu Daoist Temple*, an audiovisual creation presented by LIANG GALLERY was subsumed into the collection of the National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts. Brisk sales demonstrated the limitless potential for the market of image arts as new favorites among collectors.

ART TAIPEI 2016 features the mountains of Taiwan by playing with technology and setting new perspectives for art

ART TAIPEI 2016 incorporated the imagery of Taiwan's breathtaking mountain ridges in the motif design of the pavilion. The walkways were specially extended to 6 meters wide this year, giving everyone, particularly handicap visitors, a comfortable viewing environment as they meandered freely on the show floor

and appreciate art in an open yet intimate space. The spacious layout was warmly received by visitors. ART TAIPEI 2016 was spacious, yet filled with artistic treasure. In addition to public art sporadically scattered across the hall, another eye-catching highlight was technology art. Jiun-Ting LIN's 12-meter tall interactive installation art *Word To World* had people eager to use their phones to experience interactive art. Asian fashion image creator Timm WU infused fashion elements into his cross-over work *You Create Your Own Reality*, sparking interests from corporations and museums clamoring to sign collaboration deals and add it to their collection. The technology art special exhibition illustrated ART TAIPEI's unique take on curation, and its capacity in cross-over collaboration.

Art lectures and art salons guide people to venture into the art world

Spanning over the weekend, the organizer rolled out a series of lectures, art forums and salons during the art fair, inviting local and international artists, curators, and art critics, including Brian Sweeney, founder of Artlab21 Foundation (ESMoA), Magnus Renfrew, former director Asia of Art Basel, one of world's premier art shows, and Tomio Koyama, director at the well-known gallery of the same name in Japan, to exchange ideas and share with the public on the development of art collection and guides on art collection. Art professionals also shared with the public about art restoration and scientific authentication in the full-day forum. In a cross-over collaboration, ART TAIPEI partnered with Netflix to show a public screening of the new documentary *Sky Ladder: The Art of Cai Guo-Qiang*. After the screening, explosives artist Cai joined the full-house audience to answer questions. ART TAIPEI continued to engage the public with diverse and variegated art events, offering people easily accessible ways to expand their views and knowledge of art.

The 23rd edition of ART TAIPEI drew to a successful end amidst wide applause across the board. "This year marked the first convergence of arts in the Asia Pacific. The collaboration will only grow from here. In a bid to facilitating the development of Asia-Pacific arts, next year's ART TAIPEI is bound to surpass this year's, and deliver a more sophisticated presentation of Asia-Pacific arts," remarked Rick Wang, founding chairperson of APAGA and the incumbent chairperson of Taiwan Art Gallery Association. What's more, Made in Taiwan Young Artist Discovery, a collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, will celebrate its 10th anniversary next year. There will be a special retrospect of the fruitful success over the last decade, looking back at the outstanding achievements of the emerging artists and looking forward to their future! Mark your calendars now.

*** ART TAIPEI 2017 is slated to run from Oct 20 to 23, 2017**

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