



PENINSULA

Michael Craig-Martin, Bright Idea, 2016

Love Art at The Peninsula Presents “Bright Idea”

By Sir Michael Craig-Martin RA, in conversation with Tim Marlow from Britain’s Royal Academy of Arts

Date: Monday, 20 March 2017

Time: 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm (Doors open at 6:00 pm. Seating is on a first come, first served basis)

Venue: Grand Hall, Lee Shau Kee Lecture Centre, The University of Hong Kong (MTR Station: HKU Exit C1)

The University of Hong Kong’s Department of Fine Arts partners with The Peninsula Hong Kong for what promises to be a fascinating conversation with one of the leading figures of British conceptual art. Both as a hugely influential artist in his own right and as an esteemed teacher, Sir Michael Craig-Martin is celebrated for his time as a tutor at Goldsmiths College, University of London, between 1974 and 1988, and then again from 1994 to 2000. He is credited with having taught an emerging generation of artists who went on to become known as the Young British Artists or “YBAs”. This group included some of the biggest names in contemporary art today – Damien Hirst, Julian Opie, Sarah Lucas and Gary Hume – creating a legacy that earned Craig-Martin the nickname “The Godfather of Brit Art”.

In conversation with Tim Marlow, Artistic Director of the Royal Academy of Arts, Sir Craig-Martin will look back on his ground-breaking career at the forefront of British contemporary art.

This event coincides with the fifth edition of Art Basel in Hong Kong, and will take place in the Grand Hall of the Lee Shau Kee Lecture Centre at the University of Hong Kong on Monday, 20 March at 6:30pm, reaching arts students, fellow educators, artists and members of the public.

THE PENINSULA
HONG KONG



GAGOSIAN





*Photo by Miriam Perez.
Courtesy the artist and Gagosian*

Michael Craig-Martin has been one of the leading figures of British conceptual art for the past four decades, both as a hugely influential artist and as an esteemed teacher. Born 1941 in Dublin, Ireland, he moved to the United States at a young age and went on to study Fine Art at the Yale School of Art and Architecture, before returning to Britain in 1966. His early work saw him swiftly gain reputation for a minimal touch and keen sense of the tension between objects and language, which has continued to this day. His early interest in provoking a discourse around the semantics of everyday experience and language was exemplified by “An Oak Tree” (1973), a provocative installation that saw the artist position a simple glass of water on a shelf, accompanied by a written assertion that he has changed the glass of water into an oak tree. Since the 1990s, Craig-Martin has focused on painting, developing a signature style with everyday objects depicted in bold, black outlines and painted in a palette of vibrant colours.

Represented by Gagosian Gallery in Hong Kong, Craig-Martin was elected to the Royal Academy in 2006 and was commissioned as coordinator of the Royal Academy’s annual Summer Exhibition in 2015. He was awarded a CBE in 2000, and in 2016, was knighted by the Queen for his services to art.



Photo by John Shand Kydd

Tim Marlow joined the Royal Academy of Arts in 2014 as Artistic Director. His remit includes the RA’s exhibition programme and Collection, as well Learning, Architecture and Publishing. Prior to this Marlow was Director of Exhibitions at White Cube (2003-2014).

He has worked with many of the most important and influential artists of our time including, Antony Gormley RA, Damien Hirst, Gary Hume RA, Anselm Kiefer Hon RA, Jake & Dinos Chapman, Chuck Close, Tracey Emin RA, Gilbert & George, Julie Mehretu and Doris Salcedo.

Marlow is an award-winning radio and television broadcaster who has presented over 100 documentaries on British television. He was the founder editor of *Tate* magazine and is the author of numerous books and catalogues. He has lectured, chaired and participated in panel discussions on art and culture in more than forty countries.



Artwork©Tracy Emin

The significance of Love Art at The Peninsula extends beyond the thought-provoking public art exhibitions that have been annually unveiled at the Grande Dame of Hong Kong since 2014. In joining forces with Britain’s Royal Academy of Arts, this initiative strives to promote public exposure to the institution’s Royal Academicians, who are all practising artists and architects, including Michael Craig-Martin, Thomas Heatherwick, Chantal Joffe, Conrad Shawcross, Yinka Shonibare, Tracey Emin, Anish Kapoor and Antony Gormley; and encourage artistic discourse through a series of inspiring showcases, events, and artist talks.