

Press release

**Sun Museum Presents Two Exhibitions:
Legend of Hong Kong Ware: Yuet Tung China Works
Tranquility in Landscape: Works by Cheng Siu Chung**

**The sole porcelain factory remaining in Hong Kong
Showcasing ninety years of Hong Kong *Guangcai* history,
Displaying Chinese paintings on paper and porcelain dish by Lingnan artist Cheng Siu Chung**

(Hong Kong, 13th September 2016) Sun Museum is going to present two new exhibitions, “Legend of Hong Kong Ware: Yuet Tung China Works” and “Tranquility in Landscape: Works by Cheng Siu Chung”, which open on 14th September and run through 19th November 2016. These two exhibitions feature over 70 pieces of porcelain products of Yuet Tung China Works from different periods and more than 40 outstanding works by Hong Kong artist Cheng Siu Chung respectively.

Hong Kong’s sole remaining porcelain factory, witnessing the legend of Hong Kong *guangcai*

Yuet Tung China Works is the first porcelain factory in Hong Kong to produce polychrome porcelain. Established in 1928 by Tsao Lui Chung, Tan Jinping and Tan Jinfang, Yuet Tung (formerly named as “Kam Wah Loong”) had once employed more than 300 artisans in its prime. In 1956, it registered with the government under the name of Yuet Tung China Works. “Legend of Hong Kong Ware: Yuet Tung China Works” is Yuet Tung’s first exhibition in Hong Kong, showcasing over 70 representative products made from the 1940s to present day, most of which are dinnerware and decorative ware. Porcelain ware produced by Yuet Tung has been well received by different parties, including consulates from various countries, foreign customers, prestigious local hotels, politicians and celebrities alike.

The porcelain ware of Yuet Tung is decorated primarily in the style of Guangzhou Polychrome Porcelain known as *guangcai*. Known for its brilliant and sharp colour tonalities, *guangcai* fuses gold, pinkish rose, blue, green and black glazes together, creating a resplendent effect. Yuet Tung’s porcelain ware are decorated with patterns encompassing both Chinese and western cultural elements, illustrating the synthesis of the two cultures. Alongside hand-drawing technique, Yuet Tung has adopted new methods of decoration, such as transferring the decorative pattern on sticker onto porcelain body as well as applying glaze colors after stamping outlines onto porcelain body. Having introduced *guangcai* into Hong Kong from Guangzhou, its place of origin, Yuet Tung has contributed to the development of this traditional craft and carved out a legend of it in Hong Kong.

Cheng Siu Chung establishing unique style in “New Chinese Painting”

Cheng Siu Chung is a creative artist who also draws on porcelain. Born in 1956, he moved to Hong Kong in 1979 and studied traditional Chinese painting under the Lingnan master Yang Shanshen. Landscape paintings constitute the main scope of his works. Advocated by artists of the Lingnan School of Painting, “New Chinese Painting” was established in the early 20th century. Despite being a Lingnan artist, Cheng branches out and has established his unique artistic style, painting in realistic expressionism. Seemingly a realistic portrayal, the sceneries in his works are not depicted in scrupulous detail as Cheng focuses on the poetic charm within the scene.

Yuet Tung has been closely in touch with the Lingnan artists and fired the porcelain dishes painted by Zhao Shaoang and Yang Shanshen. Following in his predecessors, Cheng also works with Yuet Tung to create his porcelain dishes. Featuring both his porcelain dishes and paintings, the exhibition juxtaposes similarities and differences between painting and porcelain art in terms of artistic touch and representation.

Yeung Chun Tong, the Director of Sun Museum, is going to lead two special tours, which start at 3 pm, on 17th September and 8th October 2016 respectively. (For registration, please go on to Sun Museum website: www.sunmuseum.org.hk or ring 2690 6790).

Mr Yeung said, “Yuet Tong China Works is the pioneer of Hong Kong ceramic industry. Its porcelain ware from different periods is a witness to the development of Chinese ceramic industry in Hong Kong. Hong Kong is also the base where the Lingnan School of Painting develops; we hope to introduce how the ‘New Chinese Painting’ is passed down and innovated through the works by Cheng Siu Chung. These two exhibitions also invite attention to the dynamics between painting on paper and porcelain dish.”

Ms Chloe Suen, Chair of the Simon Suen Foundation, said, “Both Yuet Tong China Works and Mr Cheng are successors to the great tradition of Chinese art. At the same time, they refashion it and innovate new forms of Chinese art with their experience of western culture. Through these two exhibitions, Sun Museum hopes the public can be acquainted with the progression and transformation of art in Hong Kong.”

Photo Captions:

	<p>The Opening Ceremony of the two new exhibitions, “Legend of Hong Kong Ware: Yuet Tung China Works” and “Tranquility in Landscape: Works by Cheng Siu Chung”, was held today at Sun Museum. Distinguished guests and representatives of Sun Museum attended the ceremony, including Ms Li Mei Sheung, Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (fourth left); Dr Ng Chi Wah, Dr Louis NG Chi-wa, Assistant Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (second right); Professor Cheung Yan Leung, President of The Education University of Hong Kong (third left); Dr Suen Siu Man, Founding Chairman of the Simon Suen Foundation (third right); Mr Tso Chi Hung, Manager of Yuet Tung China Works (second left); Mr Cheng Siu Chung (fourth right); Ms Chloe Suen, Chair of the Simon Suen Foundation (first left); and Mr Yeung Chun Tong, Director of Sun Museum (first right).</p>
 	<p>These two exhibitions, which open on 14th September and run through 19th November 2016, feature over 70 pieces of porcelain products of Yuet Tung China Works from different periods and more than 40 outstanding works by Hong Kong artist Cheng Siu Chung respectively.</p>
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Exhibits’ Image and Caption:

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About the Sun Museum

Sun Museum is a non-profit museum funded by the Simon Suen Foundation. Locating on the 4/F of SML Tower in Kwun Tong, the museum has around 12,500 ft². Sun Museum aims to promote development of Chinese and Hong Kong arts and culture through organizing exhibitions, talks and various events. Ms. Chloe Suen is the Chair of the Simon Suen Foundation and Mr. Yeung Chun Tong is the Director of the Sun Museum.

About Simon Suen Foundation

Simon Suen Foundation is a non-profit organization funded in 2012. While it is located in Hong Kong, the foundation has the global vision to promote Chinese art and culture. Using promotion, preservation and revitalization as the major strategies, the museum hopes to further stimulate the growth of Hong Kong local cultural development. Ms Chloe Suen is the current Chair of the Simon Suen Foundation.

About Yuet Tung China Works

Located on the third floor of Kowloon Bay Industrial Centre on 15 Wang Hoi Road in Kowloon Bay, Hong Kong, Yuet Tung China Works is the only porcelain factory that remains in Hong Kong to this day. Set up in 1928, it mainly produces *guangcai* ware and had employed 300 artisans in its prime. Originated in the early Qing Dynasty, *guangcai* refers to a decorative style in porcelain employed by artisans in Guangzhou who painted decoration on white porcelain bodies from Jingdezhen of Jiangxi province. The wares were afterwards put in kilns to fire. The finished porcelain products were mostly exported to foreign countries.

Yuet Tung's *guangcai* ware was also targeted at foreign markets. In the 1970s, the United States imposed a strict regulation on the amount of lead release permitted in ceramic dinnerware. As a result, export trade of *guangcai* dinnerware was severely affected until the emergence of decorative porcelain which was exempted from lead regulations. *Guangcai* ware, now for decorative purposes, became popular again, prompting ceramics production in Hong Kong to thrive. In the 1990s, many

Hong Kong porcelain factories relocated to Mainland China as the cost of production was much lower there. This marked the decline of the Hong Kong ceramics industry. Currently, Yuet Tung is the sole porcelain factory with production still operating in Hong Kong, and its products include dinnerware with specific patterns as per request of local hotels, restaurants, established families as well as commemorative porcelain ware.

About CHENG Siu Chung

Cheng was born in Zhongshan City in Guangdong Province in 1956. He moved to Hong Kong in 1979 and studied traditional Chinese painting under the Lingnan master Mr. Yang Shanshen. In 1987, he shifted to business but returned twenty-one years later whole-heartedly to his artistic career. His artworks have been selected for the Contemporary Hong Kong Art Biennial held by the Hong Kong Museum of Art in 1983 and 1994. He also participated in the 9th National Exhibition of Art, China in 1995, and in the “Painting Creation & Exhibition of Hunan, Hong Kong and Macao Young Artists” in 2013. Cheng received Gold Medal at the 8th Chinese Ink Painting and Calligraphy Exhibition (Colour and Ink Painting Group) in 2012. Currently, he is the Chairman of the Hong Kong Chunfeng Painting Society and the Art Instructor of the School of Continuing and Professional Studies, The Chinese University of Hong Kong.