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Your ultimate guide to Hong Kong Arts Month 2023

BY CELIA LEE

9 MARCH 2023

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Header image courtesy of HKWalls / Daniel Murray

Hong Kong Arts Month returns after a three-year-long hiatus during the pandemic. From international mega fairs to local appreciations of the arts, this handy guide will help you navigate all things art-related happening during Arts Month in Hong Kong.

Art fairs | Exhibitions and performances | Eat like an artist

Art fairs

Photo: Hong Kong Arts Festival

Hong Kong Arts Festival (17 February–18 March)

Having begun on 17 February, the Hong Kong Arts Festival is continuing strong until its end on 18 March. Remaining programmes include **theatre performances**, **musicals**, **concerts**, **dance** performances, and **Cantonese operas**. Learn more and secure tickets here.

Hong Kong Arts Festival, Hong Kong Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui

Hong Kong International Literary Festival
香港國際文學節
Festival Week 6 - 12 March 2023
Tickets On Sale Now

Photo: Hong Kong International Literary Festival (via Facebook)

Hong Kong International Literary Festival (6–12 March)

Kicking off Arts Month is the Hong Kong International Literary Festival (HKILF). Returning for the twelfth year in our city, get ready for a series of **talks**, **workshops**, and **city walks** all about literature and books. Check out our comprehensive guide to the HKILF here.

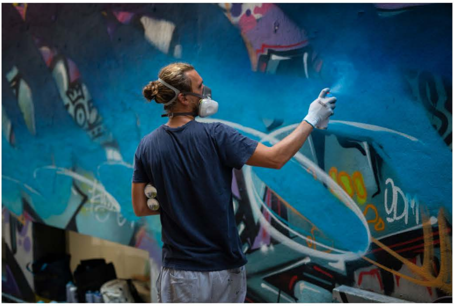

Photo: HKWalls 2018

Street Art and Mural Festival (18–26 March)

If the events happening during Art Week are a little too formal for your liking, immerse yourself in the street culture of Hong Kong with this festival instead this Arts Month. Returning after a hiatus during the pandemic, HKWalls's annual festival is uniting local and international street artists over a nine-day period. You can find a selection of **street art and murals** across the Central and Western District during the festival, with notable names such as Mathieu Koga, Innerfields, and Jurne participating for the 2023 edition. A selection of events such as guided tours, panel discussions, and interactive workshops will also be available around town, a full list can be found on the website.

HKwalls is giving their all this year by ending the festival on a high with an exciting whiskey and street art event on the final day of the festival paired with a live graffiti battle at Soho House in Sheung Wan. This finale will require advance booking. Secure spaces here.

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Photo: Art Central

Art Central (22–25 March)

This large-scale fair during Arts Month kicks off the city's annual Art Week. Art Central brings to the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC) **over 70 international and local galleries and artists** complete with an **educational programme**. If you want to plan for your visit, let our guide to Art Central lend you a hand.

Art Basel (23–25 March)

Photo: Art Basel

Another prominent mega event held during Art Week, Art Basel returns to HKCEC for its tenth edition. Exhibiting the **works of over 170 artists**, together with **talks** and a **film programme** held at Hong Kong Arts Centre, this year's Basel is promising to be bigger and better than ever. Click here for our guide to Art Basel 2023.

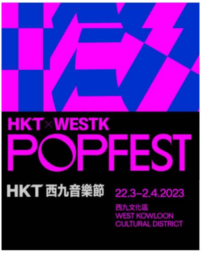

Photo: West Kowloon Cultural District

HKT x WestK Popfest (22 March–2 April)

Popfest is a **10-day music festival** showcasing the best the Hong Kong pop scene has to offer. Curated by the West Kowloon Cultural District, a selection of vibrant indoor and outdoor performances will take place across West Kowloon with **over 70 acts** playing to their hearts' content. From tributes to the golden era of Cantopop to exciting crossovers and collabs, this festival is for the OG-fans and those discovering Hong Kong's dynamic pop scene for the first time. More information and how to book your tickets here.

Freespace, Art Park, Wonderland, and M+ Museum, West Kowloon Cultural District

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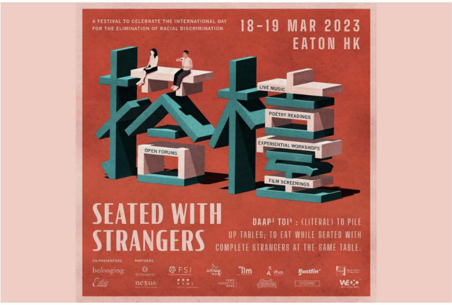
Exhibitions and performances

Photo: Hong Kong Ballet (via Facebook)

Coco Chanel: The Life of a Fashion Icon exhibition (24 March)

Chanel was an iconic designer and businesswoman, redefining the world of fashion with garments that fitted the modern woman's needs. Bringing together **fashion and dance**, Hong Kong Ballet's dramatic re-enactment of Chanel's life premieres during Arts Month with passion, elegance, and of course, stunning costumes. Learn more about HKB's interpretation and ticketing for the performances here.

Lyric Theatre, The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai


A FESTIVAL TO CELEBRATE THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
18-19 MAR 2023
EATON HK
搭檯
LIVE MUSIC
POETRY READINGS
EXPERIENTIAL WORKSHOPS
OPEN FORUMS
FILM SCREENINGS
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DAAP³ TOI⁴ : (LITERAL) TO PILE UP TABLES; TO EAT WHILE SEATED WITH COMPLETE STRANGERS AT THE SAME TABLE.
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Photo: @belonging.hk (via Instagram)

➾ Seated with Strangers (18–19 March)

This **two-day festival** falls in the middle of Arts Month and commemorates the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination through a range of **workshops**, **live music**, **poetry readings**, and **open forums** for community building. The name of the festival refers to a common practise found whilst dining in various restaurants in Hong Kong.

By highlighting the mundane nature of finding solidarity with complete strangers, organisers of the event aim to bring home the effortless way that community can be created between groups and peoples sharing different values, backgrounds, and ideals—an important message to share in a multicultural society such as our city.

Show your support for this meaningful cause by joining in on these events. More information here and how to book here.

Eaton Hong Kong, 380 Nathan Road, Jordan

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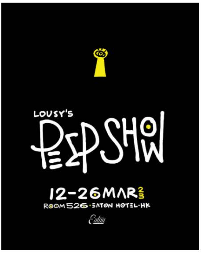

Photo: Eaton Hong Kong

➾ Peep Show immersive exhibition (12 March–26 April)

Local street artist Lousy transforms the artist studio in Eaton HK into an **immersive space** in time for Art Week. Visitors will find the studio decorated from top to bottom with the artist's signature designs and are encouraged to immerse themselves within the interiors now infused with Lousy's graphic and chaotic exploration of balance, persistence, and change. Peep into the mind of the artist this Arts Month by signing up for the show here.

Room 526, Eaton HK, 380 Nathan Road, Jordan

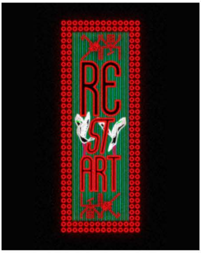

Photo: The ReStart Art Club

The ReStart Art Club (23 March)

The ReStart Art Club's highly anticipated return to Hong Kong is sure to draw crowds from all over the city. On hiatus throughout the pandemic, the **annual private party** will be held on the opening night of Art Basel and celebrates the arts in truly decadent fashion. Beginning with a **multi-sensory journey**, guests will explore a range of binaries found in art through displays of digital, traditional, and performance art, and musical and dance performances—the perfect afterparty for art connoisseurs.

K11 Atelier King's Road, 728 King's Road, Tsat Tsz Mui, North Point

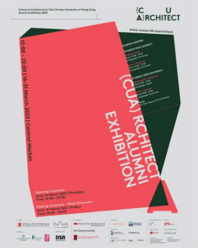

Photo: CUA

Trace Your Architectural DNA exhibition (16 March–31 March)

(CUA)rchitect offers a new perspective on the relationship between architects and the public in this **exhibition**. Curated by the Chinese University of Hong Kong School of Architecture (CUA), this showcase offer interactive ways in which the public can engage with the structural planning that affects the communities they live in. Apart from a series of artworks, a range of free public sharing sessions will run alongside the exhibition, focusing on topics regarding city and community planning in Hong Kong.

1/F, Event Space, Central Market, 93 Queen's Road Central, Central

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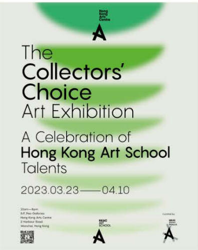

Photo: Hong Kong Arts Centre

The Collectors' Choice Art Exhibition (23 March–10 April)

Hong Kong Arts Centre (HKAC) and the Hong Kong Art School (HKAS) will be presenting this exhibition not only as a showcase of sought-after collections by 23 HKAS alumni, but also as an initiation of an inaugural event, the Collectible Art Fair, debuting later on in the year. To promote the showcase of contemporary art, the HKAC is hosting its open house during the exhibition with a rich schedule of workshops, screenings, and performances lined up.

Pao Galleries, 5/F, Hong Kong Arts Centre, 2 Harbour Road, Wan Chai

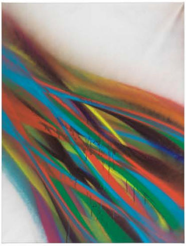

Photo: Katharina Grosse

➩ Katharina Grosse at Gagosian (21 March–6 May)

Gagosian will be presenting the newest works by renowned German painter Katharina Grosse during Art Week. The new series, "Touching How and Why and Where," was created specifically for Hong Kong and the artist chose to abandon the usage of stencils, opting for a more organic and free-flow technique and outlook, creating a higher sense of ambiguity.

Gagosian, 7/F, Pedder Building, 12 Pedder Street, Central

Eat like an artist

Photo: Zuma

➩ Zuma

Celebrating Arts Month and the coming of spring, the contemporary izakaya pays tribute to Chinese art and literature with their latest seasonal menu. The **Art Month special sushi platter** takes artistic inspiration from the season, whilst the **lobster carpaccio** captures the essence of spring in its colour, presentation, and taste. **Seasonal cocktails** inspired by the ancient Chinese poem, "Spring Night (春宵)," are also available, artfully served in a glass designed in collaboration with a local calligrapher. Available from now till 31 March.

Zuma, Level 5 & 6, Landmark Atrium, 15 Queen's Road Central, Central

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Photo: Rosewood Hong Kong

Rosewood Hong Kong

Rosewood Hong Kong's fourth anniversary just so happens to coincide with Art Basel this March. To celebrate, the hotel is introducing a series of culinary events aptly titled "Rosewood Artistry." **Culinary masterclasses** are held by the best of the best in their areas, spanning across a whole range of foods and drinks, from a **fine wine and champagne appreciation experience** to a **class on expert pie-making**.

Rosewood is not without its own **culinary** talents, and **collaborations** will take place at the hotel's dining destinations during Art Week. From a Tuscan and Mediterranean-inspired menu to a showcase of Michelin-starred regional Cantonese cuisines, taste around the world in luxury with these Basel-worthy offerings. A complete list of Rosewood's Art Week offerings can be found on their website. Available from 21 to 23 March.

Rosewood Hong Kong, Victoria Dockside, 18 Sailsbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui

Photo: Ovolo Hotels

Veda

Enjoy an exclusive **art-dining experience** at Veda this month. The **Art.Full. Dinner** series is a collaborative effort between Chef Raul and local artist and Art Central participant, Riya Chandiramani. Chef Raul was inspired by Chandiramani's artworks—which explores how cultural experiences have shaped her own identity—to curate a menu that best reflects **modern and innovative Indian cuisine**. **50 limited-edition art works** signed by Chandiramani and chef Raul will also be available for dinner guests to take home and commemorate the experience. For more information on Veda's Arts Month dinner and how to book, click here. Available from 13 to 26 March.

Veda, 2 Arbuthnot Road, Central

Photo: The Mira Hong Kong

The Mira

To celebrate the return of Arts Month, The Mira Hong Kong is introducing a selection of artful events to the table. Café Coco is offering the **Artful afternoon tea** with sweets and savouries gracefully presented on a painter's palette completed with impressionist art strokes. Over at Vibes, a selection of blooming flowers has been artistically infused into four **delicious cocktails**, perfect for keeping you in the artsy mood between gallery-hopping.

The Mira Hong Kong, Mira Place, 118–130 Nathan Road, Tsim Sha Tsui

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Tirpse

Tirpse is introducing a brand-new **spring menu** to welcome the season as well as celebrate the return of Arts Month. Chef Yuta transforms seasonal ingredients with artistic creativity across the menu. On the other hand, chef Rin takes Banksy's famous *Love is in the Air* as inspiration for another masterpiece, a **limited and edible edition of the colourful bouquet**. If you're making plans to visit the various street art and murals around town, take a break and recharge with Tirpse's latest offerings. The spring menu is available from now till late April, while the Banksy-inspired dessert can be enjoyed from 20 March to 15 May.

Tirpse, Unit 219, K11 Musea, 18 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui

Celia Lee

STAFF WRITER

Born and raised in Hong Kong and educated in the UK, Celia is passionate about culture, food, and different happenings in the city. When she's not busy writing, you can find her scouting for new and trendy restaurants, getting lost in a bookstore, or baking up a storm at home.

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‹ Five Minutes With: Marcel Heijnen, photographer of "Shop Cats of Hong Kong"

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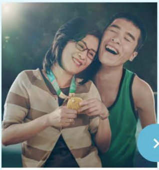

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