

PRESS RELEASE

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Perceive contemporary art festivals from a curatorial perspective with Mr. Fumio Nanjo, the prominent curator of contemporary art in Japan and Beyond; This is the also first formal teaching activity conducted by Mr. Fumio Nanjo outside Japan!

【Hong Kong Art School】 15th Anniversary Special Programme
Professional Diploma in Fine Art – Into Art
Exclusive Co-teaching module: Contemporary Art Festivals
by Mr. Fumio Nanjo and Senior Lecturers of the School

5 January 2015 | Hong Kong — Commemorating the 15th Anniversary of the School, Hong Kong Art School (a division of Hong Kong Arts Centre) will be launching a series of celebrating activities and specially designed programmes.

In the first quarter of 2015, the School is proud to present the module <Contemporary Art Festivals> of its Professional Diploma in Fine Art – Into Art programme with a uniquely co-teaching approach. This module will be co-taught by Mr. Fumio Nanjo, the Art Education International Director of the School, and Senior Lecturers of the School, Dr. Edwin Lai and Mr. Clement Chan. Under the guidance of our Senior Lectures, participants will also be visiting Art Basel Hong Kong 2015 during the class period.

Mr. Fumio Nanjo is one of the most important curators in the contemporary art scene of Japan and beyond. He has been the Director of the Mori Art Museum, Japan, also an art critic and a lecturer at Keio University, Tokyo, Japan. He has been travelling worldwide for his art advisory services and curatorial works which include the Singapore Biennale, the Sao Paulo Biennale, the Venice Biennale and more. This is the first time for Mr. Nanjo to formally involve in teaching activity outside Japan, truly a chance not to be missed to meet with this international curator under a formal educational setting! The programme he will be teaching, **Professional**

Diploma in Fine Art – Into Art, is accredited at Qualifications Framework (QF) level 5, which, in terms of level, is comparable to programmes on the Bachelor Degree level.

Dr. Edwin Lai is an established academic in Photography who is active in curating exhibitions and organizing art activities such as Hong Kong International Photography Festival. With expertise in painting and design culture, **Mr. Clement Chan** is a renowned artist in the field, who is also involved in the curatorial work of the local painting festival, Painting On and On.

Art Festivals took shape starting from the end of the 19th Century in Europe and America. Normally held in the form of biennial or triennial and always reflecting the latest trends in the art scene, they have become the core indicators in terms of the development of the modern and the contemporary art throughout the past century and more. Though general audiences may not be fully aware, Hong Kong is in fact also a city which is always on active art pulses, it provides an interesting setting as well as a potential breeding ground for numerous art festivals to flourish. From initial planning to the interim and the intricate communication works in between and the final exhibition outcomes, each art festival, regardless of its format and scale, is utterly unique and spellbinding. **Mr. Nanjo** does not only have full knowledge on the history and the development of global art festivals, but also has profound curatorial experience in the global art scene, while **Dr. Edwin Lai** and **Mr. Clement Chan** are equipped with the expertise and extensive experience of local art festival works, they are actively involved in the curatorial field. Altogether, the teaching of the three experts will definitely provide students with dynamic and first-handed perspectives on local and international art festivals, unveiling the behind-the-seen secrets of art festivals with curatorial insights.

As the launch of the module <Contemporary Art Festivals> coincides with the Art Basel Hong Kong 2015, participants will be exclusively led by the School's Senior Lecturers to visit this world-class art exhibition during the class period, a truly exquisite opportunity to visit the Art Basel with fully knowledgeable guidance and unique perspective .

More details on this module and the programme: <http://www.hkas.edu.hk/3programmes/pdfa/>

Media Enquiry

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About Professional Diploma in Fine Art programme (PDFA)

PDFA programme --- **Professional Diploma in Fine Art – Gateway to Art** accredited at QF Level 4 and **Professional Diploma in Fine Art - Into Art** accredited at QF Level 5 under the Hong Kong Qualifications Framework is designed to enhance the vocational development of practitioners who are already in the art field, and to further ignite the art spirit inside the mature students or the professionals who are practicing in other fields but are keen about art topics deep down in their hearts. The programme covers cultural, aesthetic and

art historical topics, introducing the nature of artistic mediums and the creating process, as well as unveiling the administrative and operational skills in the field.

<http://www.hkas.edu.hk/3programmes/pdfa>

About Hong Kong Art School

Hong Kong Art School (HKAS), founded in 2000, is a division of the Hong Kong Arts Centre (HKAC). Closely associated with HKAC's environment of cultural venues, client art groups and creative enterprises, HKAS offers a unique setting for students to draw on a vast spectrum of artistic practices.

HKAS is an accredited institute staffed by a group of dedicated artists, who are active and distinguished practitioners in the field. The focus of HKAS award-bearing curriculum lies in four core academic areas, namely, Fine Art, Applied Art, Media Art, and Applied Theatre & Drama Education, and its scope covers programmes with academic levels ranging from Higher Diploma, Professional Diploma, Bachelor Degree to Master Degree. The short courses and the outreach projects of the School that run parallel to the award-bearing curriculum span an even wider variety of artistic disciplines, and they genuinely bridge art and the community. www.hkas.edu.hk