

## News Release

For immediate release

### **Hongkong Land explores the art of marble in *A Journey from Nature to Sculpture***

*Transformative works by Hong Kong-born Cynthia Sah and partner Nicolas Bertoux are on display at The Rotunda, Exchange Square from 27<sup>th</sup> August through 14<sup>th</sup> September*

HONG KONG, 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019 – Hongkong Land today celebrated the launch of ***A Journey from Nature to Sculpture***, an exhibition that provides valuable insights into how one couple pursues the art of modern marble sculpture. During this special event, Hong Kong-born sculptor Cynthia Sah and French-born former interior architect Nicolas Bertoux demonstrate their passion for transforming marble and other unbending gifts of nature into art forms that embody Eastern and Western design principles while creating an almost unimaginable fluidity. The exhibition will run from 27<sup>th</sup> August to 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at The Rotunda, Exchange Square, Central, Hong Kong.

Sah and Bertoux – partners in both art and life – are recognised for producing sculptures that epitomise a marriage between the geometric patterns of Western architecture and the Oriental style of equilibrium. ***A Journey from Nature to Sculpture*** illustrates their process, from concept to creation, and how the couple has striven, since beginning their collaboration in Italy in 1995, for greater understanding of how marble can evolve into different forms.

***A Journey from Nature to Sculpture*** presents 29 marble works that integrate seamlessly into modern urban spaces. The works can be touched, and they take visitors on a journey of creation through physical and emotional experiences. Visitors are also invited to interact with raw marble during sculpture demonstrations and tactile exhibits that enhance understanding of the material's varying natures. Educational videos of Sah and Bertoux at their studio in Italy also give glimpses into the craftsmanship behind their monumental works displayed in cities around the world.

"Hongkong Land strives to bring art appreciation into people's everyday lives by supporting talented artists from Hong Kong, Asia and around the world. This is why it is an absolute honour for us to reunite with Cynthia Sah, who first exhibited at The Rotunda in 1992," said Mr Robert Wong, Chief Executive of Hongkong Land. "This special exhibition provides a valuable opportunity for people from all walks of life to explore and imagine the many sculptural possibilities of marble through the eyes of this remarkable duo."

"Sculpture in public environments not only brings joy and companionship to everyday life, but it also brings happiness to our partnership and relationship," said Sah and Bertoux. "We began as two artists with distinctive styles and personalities. Through exchange and mutual respect, we have created pioneering art pieces that integrate architecturally with their surroundings while also reflecting the Chinese philosophy of essential equilibrium. This marriage of crafts has helped both of us grow artistically."

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***A Journey from Nature to Sculpture*** is the latest in a long line of arts and cultural events hosted at Hongkong Land's world-class properties for commuters and the general public to enjoy.

Art pieces:

- Primal Breath, grey marble, 60x60x5cm
- Inner Quietude, white marble, 60x60x5cm
- Shell M, Carrara white marble, 75x38x29cm
- Prelude, black marble, 15x19x15cm
- Platte, white Carrara marble, 50x50x26cm
- Gaufrette, Carrara white marble, (2) 50x50x7cm
- Thousand Leaves, marble, 48x48x15cm
- Dancing Leaves, marble resin, 20x11.5x11.5cm, 15x10.5x19cm, 20x11x28cm, 19x10.5x8cm
- Octopus, plastic and wood, 48x44x25cm
- Moebius, Carrara white marble, 60x13x14cm
- Dancing Fish, plaster, 60x31x33cm
- Zig Zag Base, white marble, (4) 50x17x95cm
- Fan 3, Carrara white marble, 88x14x37cm
- Geometry in Movement, Statuary white marble, 30x36x148cm
- Quarry Cubes, white marble, (200) 8x8x8cm
- Totem, Carrara white marble, 39x21x127cm
- Chips, white marble, 86x80x7cm
- Aquarium, Bardiglio grey marble, 157x82x6cm
- Black Hole, 60x62x25cm
- In Cubo, Carrara white marble, 45x45x45cm
- Swirl, plaster, 67x67x60cm
- Circus, plaster, 82x82x42.5cm
- Pine Tree, Cipollino green and white marble, 30x25x60cm
- Zig Zag Light, white marble, 210x12x28cm
- Montana Fountain, grey marble, 117x80x140cm
- Dondoli, grey marble, (2) 51x51x28cm
- Chips, grey marble, (3) 50x50x15cm
- Seed, Cipollino green and white marble, 73x22x30cm
- Sliding Stones, white Carrara marble, 112x55x66cm

High-resolution photos can be downloaded via this link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13nL7aOyMrTTcL3QpzPtzAJIuglIB8dmH?usp=sharing>

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**Photo caption 1:**



Sculptors Nicolas Bertoux (left) and Ms Cynthia Sah (middle) and Mr Raymond Wong, Executive Director of Hongkong Land, toast the opening of the exhibition ***A Journey from Nature to Sculpture*** at The Rotunda, Exchange Square.

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**Photo caption 2:**



Mr Raymond Wong, Executive Director of Hongkong Land (left), and sculptors Nicolas Bertoux (middle) and Cynthia Sah explore the stackable marble blocks of *Quarry Cubes*.

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**Photo caption 3:**



Master sculptors Cynthia Sah and Nicolas Bertoux with one of their favourite works, *Dancing Leaves*.

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**Photo caption 4:**



Cynthia Sah and Nicolas Bertoux with their *Dancing Fish*.

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**Photo caption 5:**



A visitor sets *Dondoli* in a rocking motion. Attendees at ***A Journey from Nature to Sculpture*** are invited to interact with many of the sculptures and exhibits on display.

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**Cynthia Sah**

Cynthia Sah was born in Hong Kong and grew up in Taiwan and Japan. Her artists' studies were in New York where she gravitated to marble carving of sculpture, she then moved permanently to Italy to continue her career working with sculpture.

She has participated in numerous group exhibitions: *Grands et Jeunes d'aujourd'hui*, Grand Palais, Paris, France (1981/82); *Overseas Chinese Artist Exhibition*, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taipei, Taiwan (1983); *Sculpture Exhibition in homage to Sem*, Pietrasanta (1997); *Open 2000*, Lido di Venezia (2000); *Sculpture in the Garden 2003*, University of Leicester, England (2003).

She has received awards and commissions: Winner of *Open Competition in Stone Sculpture*: Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taiwan (1993); *International Sculpture Symposium Award* Fine Arts Museum, Kaohsiung, Taiwan (1995); winner of *Waterside Sculpture Exhibition*, Azuchi-cho, Japan (1995); winner of *1% Public Art Commission*, Taiwan Air Force Residence, Hsin Chu, Taiwan (1997); commission for Hao Ran Foundation, Taipei, Taiwan (2000); winner of *Public Art Project for Highway* in Taiwan (2000).

Cynthia's artworks reflect her Asian upbringing coupled with western art education. Her works can be described as a quiet elegance with a meditative nature.

**Nicolas Bertoux**

Nicolas Bertoux was born in France, started his career as an interior architect and designer before dedicating himself to sculpture full time.

He likes to integrate his works within architecture and the environment, sourcing inspiration from space, culture, history and nature of the specific site.

His monumental sculpture commissions are housed in public and private locations in Europe, France, Denmark and Italy, and Asia, Taiwan, China, Hong Kong and Korea.

Since 2004, he is a Member and Fellow of the Royal British Sculptors Association in London.

Cynthia and Nicholas's collaboration has created successful monumental sculpture, fountains, low reliefs, and urban furniture for private, corporate and public art projects around the world to be enjoyed by the general public. Home for both is in Italy where they run their contemporary art foundation when they are not spending time in Asia working on monumental sculpture projects.

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**Hongkong Land**

Hongkong Land is a major listed property investment, management and development group. Founded in 1889, Hongkong Land's business is built on excellence, integrity and partnership.

The Group owns and manages more than 850,000 sq. m. of prime office and luxury retail property in key Asian cities, principally in Hong Kong, Singapore, Beijing and Jakarta. Its properties attract the world's foremost companies and luxury brands.

The Group's Central Hong Kong portfolio represents some 450,000 sq. m. of prime property. It has a further 165,000 sq. m. of prestigious office space in Singapore mainly held through joint ventures, a luxury retail centre at Wangfujing in Beijing, and a 50% interest in a leading office complex in Central Jakarta. The Group also has a number of high quality residential, commercial and mixed-use projects under development in cities across Greater China and Southeast Asia. In Singapore, its subsidiary, MCL Land, is a well-established residential developer.

Hongkong Land Holdings Limited is incorporated in Bermuda and has a standard listing on the London Stock Exchange, with secondary listings in Bermuda and Singapore. The Group's assets and investments are managed from Hong Kong by Hongkong Land Limited. Hongkong Land is a member of the Jardine Matheson Group.

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