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Art Basel 2016 Hong Kong

By Catherine Shaw

As the next stop for the international Art Basel fair, Hong Kong is about to become even more enthralling. Here's our preview peek at the best of the installations and artworks

From beginners to aficionados, **Art Basel Hong Kong** has something for everyone. The art fair is held over three days this month (24 to 26 March) and is Hong Kong's biggest – single-handedly transforming the city into a dizzying celebration of all things creative.



Schauspieler II, 2014, by Isa Genzken

With half of its participating galleries having exhibition spaces in Asia, this year's event is very much a showcase for art from the region. We like the look of local artist **Samson Young's** *For Whom the Bell Tolls: A Journey into the Sonic History of Conflict*, a thought-provoking exploration of how bells are used as weapons and symbols of peace. We've also got our eye on the Singapore-based **STPI Gallery's** strong showing of works by **Shirazeh Houshiary** and the inimitable **Do-Ho Suh**.

Other highlights include **Stella Zhang's** sculptural paintings and

installations made from black textiles that have been stretched, knotted, slashed and pulled over frames, and Japanese artist **Tadasu Takamine**'s performative video work highlighting the social impact of the Fukushima nuclear disaster. Meanwhile, Hong Kong's **Spring Workshop** will be presenting the world premiere of *Duilian*, a film installation that is part of a decade-long research project by LA-based multimedia artist and performer **Wu Tsang**. It combines magical realism, documentary and kung fu genre in a portrayal of the famous Chinese revolutionary Qiu Jin (1875-1907).



Stones Against Diamonds by Isaac Julien

Top of our list of the big-hitting international galleries is **David Zwirner**, this year showcasing work by **Michaël Borremans** and **Luc Tuymans**, and an installation by **Isa Genzken** featuring freestanding floor sculptures of elaborately outfitted mannequins. We'll also be making a beeline to see **Galeria Nara Roesler's** *Stones Against Diamonds*, produced by the extraordinarily talented video artist **Isaac Julien**.

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Meanwhile, away from the fair at **Art Central**, you'll find an excellent range of artworks amid a friendly and relaxed setting on the waterfront. The highlight here is Swarovski's *Sundew* collaboration with Hong Kong textile artist **Elaine Yan Ling Ng**. This innovative, kinetic crystal installation features handmade textiles combining natural fibres and 316 metres of Swarovski crystal fabric, which contains around 20 million crystals. The installation interacts with the audience through light, scent and movement.

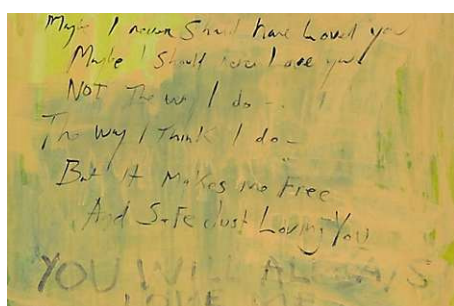
Elsewhere in the city, bar-lounge-gallery **Duddell's** collaborates with the Dallas Museum of Art for a solo exhibition of New York-based rising star **Margaret Lee**, whose new site-specific works explore the image, object and gesture as an embodiment of desire. And **Pearl Lam Gallery** presents Italian furniture designer **Enrico Marone Cinzano's** *China Clean*, inspired by traditional Chinese craft and culture. The showstopper here is the *Double Happiness Cabinet*, which is made of reclaimed elm held together with traditional Chinese joinery and hand-carved with skull tattoos.



Elaine Yan Ling Ng with Swarovski Sundew

We'd also recommend the following: **K11 Art Foundation's** solo

exhibition of emerging Hangzhou-based artist **Cheng Ran**, featuring the epic nine-hour film *In Course of the Miraculous*, which is based on three real-life stories; **McNamara Art Projects'** public series of monumental sculptures by **Lynn Chadwick** installed across Central; Japanese artist **Tatsuo Miyajima's** large-scale public light installation that will transform the entire façade of Hong Kong's iconic **International Commerce Centre**; and British artist **Tracey Emin's** *I Cried Because I Love You*, a new body of work including painting, embroidery and bronze sculpture, showing at **Lehmann Maupin** and **White Cube** galleries.



Another Love Story by Tracey Emin, 2011-15

If dashing about town becomes too exhausting, head for the soothing environs of [Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong](#), the official hotel partner for Art Basel. Here you can enjoy the **Surroundings and Influences** art exhibition. Jointly presented with **Artshare.com** in the hotel's **Clipper Lounge**, it offers an opportunity to view exceptional artworks by some of the very best Chinese contemporary artists, such as **MadeIn Company**, **Wang Yuyang** and **Zhao Zhao**. View at your leisure while indulging in executive pastry chef Yves Matthey's bespoke Afternoon Tea inspired by the show's artworks. A case of having your cake and eating it.