

# Hong Kong Museum of Art Collections Policy and Strategy

## Strategic Framework

The Hong Kong Museum of Art has the mission to reflect the development and cultural identity of Hong Kong art as well as the accomplishments of our local artists. Hong Kong art thus naturally forms the primary focus of the museum's collection policy. At the same time, however, as Hong Kong is part of China, the scope of the museum's collection also extends to cover the artistic and cultural heritage of other parts of China, in particular Guangdong and South China. Through research, exhibitions and promotional programmes, the museum aims to enhance the general public's awareness of and interest in art and culture, foster cultural exchange and promote Hong Kong art on the international horizon.

Western art is not covered by the museum's collection policy, but is presented in a variety of thematic exhibitions on classical, modern and contemporary art that draw on international sources and thus offer the public opportunities to appreciate the cream of art and culture of human civilization.

Information and images of collection items are available at our website for the public to access online.

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# **Hong Kong Art Collection**

## **Mission**

To preserve and collect works by Hong Kong artists with a view to reflecting the identity of local art and culture, its hereditary relationship with mainland China and its diversity and characteristics in the international arena.

## **Scope of the Collection**

### **1. Collection of Hong Kong Art from the 20th Century to the Present**

Features 20th century and contemporary art works by Hong Kong artists in various media and styles and dealing with different subject matters with the aim of reflecting the development of local art.

### **2. Systematic Collection of the Masters**

Features representative works by local masters that reflect their stylistic development at different stages of their careers, their accomplishments and their contributions to the local art scene.

### **3. Thematic Collection**

Features works that explore specific themes, for example focusing on the New Ink Painting movement or Pop Art, and thus reflect the unique vision and cultural significance of these themes in the Hong Kong context.

### **4. Collection of Works by Mainland and Overseas Chinese Artists**

Features representative works by mainland and overseas Chinese artists who have close ties with Hong Kong in order to reflect the diversity of modern and contemporary Chinese art.

### **5. Collection of Works by Budding Artists**

Features works by up-and-coming artists, such as the entrants and award-winners of the Hong Kong Contemporary Art Awards, with the aim of revealing the new faces and future development of Hong Kong art.

# **Chinese Antiquities and Historical Pictures Collections**

## **Mission**

To preserve and collect Chinese antiquities of all centuries and historical pictures of the 18th and 19th centuries with a view to reflecting the development of Chinese art and the culture of all China's dynasties and the historical and cultural identities of South China and Hong Kong in the 18th and 19th centuries as well as the history of this region.

## **Scope of the Collection**

### **1. Collection of Chinese Ceramics**

Features all types of Chinese ceramics from the Neolithic period to the 20th century with a view to reflecting the development of this internationally acclaimed Chinese art form.

### **2. Collection of Chinese Bronzes, Carvings and Crafts**

Features ancient Chinese bronzes, sculptures, carvings and decorative crafts with the aim of reflecting the development and significance of Chinese arts and crafts.

### **3. Thematic Collections**

Feature thematic collections of Chinese ceramics and crafts, such as Chinese bamboo carvings, Shiwan ware, Chinese glass and Chinese tea ware in the custody of the Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware, with a view to exploring the development and distinctive features of these distinctive art forms.

### **4. Collection of Historical Pictures**

Features Chinese trade paintings and works by foreign artists who came to China in the 18th and 19th centuries with the aim of exploring the development of trade, cultural interaction and the historical and cultural ambiance of South China during that period.

# **Chinese Fine Art and Xubaizhai Collection of Chinese Painting and Calligraphy**

## **Mission**

To preserve and collect Chinese painting and calligraphy of different periods with a view to reflecting the development and the unique features of these important Chinese art forms as well as the accomplishments of the masters of different centuries.

## **Scope of the Collection**

### **1. Xubaizhai Collection of Chinese Painting and Calligraphy**

A unique and important collection of Chinese painting and calligraphy donated by the late collector Mr Low Chuck-tiew. Dating from the Tang dynasty (618-917) to the 20th century with strong focus on the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) Dynasties, the works in the collection illustrate the historical development of Chinese painting and calligraphy as well as the distinctive accomplishments of various masters and schools.

### **2. Collection of Guangdong Painting and Calligraphy**

Features Ming (1368 – 1644), Qing (1644 – 1911) and modern and contemporary Guangdong painting and calligraphy with the aim of locating Guangdong masters and major Guangdong schools in the historical context of Chinese painting and calligraphy and Hong Kong art.

### **3. Collection of 20th Century Painting and Calligraphy**

Features 20th century and modern and contemporary masterpieces by mainland Chinese artists with a view to reflecting the development and new visions of Chinese painting and calligraphy in the 20th and 21st centuries.

## **Assessment Criteria of the Hong Kong Museum of Art**

### **Assessment Criteria for Collection**

1. Artistic merit
2. Historical value
3. Relevance to current collections
4. Authenticity
5. Physical condition
6. Price
7. Durability
8. Display value
9. Educational value
10. Reputation of the artist

### **Assessment Criteria for Public Programme Proposals**

1. Concept and idea
2. Artistic/historical/cultural merits
3. Educational value
4. Uniqueness of the subject
5. Public appeal
6. Technical and financial feasibility
7. In line with the museum's vision and mission