



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ASIA SOCIETY HONORS ARTISTS BHARTI KHER, LIU GUOSONG,  
TAKASHI MURAKAMI & ZHANG XIAOGANG AT SECOND ANNUAL  
ART GALA IN HONG KONG**

**EVENING TO INCLUDE SILENT AUCTION OF ARTWORKS BY SUBODH GUPTA,  
LEE UFAN, LIU XIAODONG, EKO NUGROHO, SONG DONG, AND OTHERS**

(Hong Kong, May 12, 2014) Timed to coincide with Art Basel in Hong Kong and in celebration of the global focus on Asian art, Asia Society's second annual Art Gala will honor four exceptional contemporary artists on Monday, 12 May 2014 at the spectacular Asia Society Hong Kong Center and Conrad Hotel. Major collectors, artists, gallerists, and dignitaries from around the world, as well as Asia Society Trustees and patrons, will gather to celebrate acclaimed artists **Bharti Kher, Liu Guosong, Takashi Murakami, and Zhang Xiaogang** for their significant contributions to contemporary art.

Hosted by S. Alice Mong, Executive Director of Asia Society Hong Kong Center and Dr. Melissa Chiu, Museum Director and Senior Vice President, Global Arts and Cultural Programs for Asia Society, New York, the celebratory evening will commence with a cocktail reception and auction viewing at Asia Society Hong Kong Center, where the first major solo exhibition of **Xu Bing** in Hong Kong is on view. Major highlights from the benefit auction include unique works by world-renowned artists **Subodh Gupta, Lee Ufan, Liu Xiaodong, Eko Nugroho, and Song Dong**. Guests will then be led to Conrad Hong Kong for a seated dinner, silent auction, and special presentation in which the night's honorees will be recognized for their unique artistic contributions by long-time advocates of each artist.

Since its foundation in 1956 and now with 11 centers across the globe, Asia Society is the world's leading educational organization dedicated to forging common ground between East and West and bringing Pan-Asian art and culture to an international audience. As America's very first curator of contemporary Asian art, Dr. Melissa Chiu is a leading authority in the field and has created a number of major initiatives at the Asia Society Museum, including the development of a contemporary art collection to complement the museum's renowned collection of traditional Asian art, gifted to the Society by Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd. The Art Gala is among the many ways Asia Society Museum helps Asian artists gain international prominence.

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## About the Artists

**Bharti Kher** is widely regarded as an artist at the forefront of contemporary art. Her radically heterogeneous works have been shown in galleries and museums around the world, including the Tel Aviv Museum of Art; Centre Georges Pompidou; Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo (MOT); and the Rockbund Art Museum in Shanghai.

**Liu Guosong**, a founder of The Fifth Moon Art Group and pioneer of the modern art movement in Taiwan, is one of the most important and influential practitioners of modernist Chinese art. His paintings are part of more than sixty museum collections, including Taipei Fine Arts Museum, the Palace Museum in Beijing, the British Museum, the Art Institute of Chicago, and the National Gallery of Victoria in Melbourne.

**Takashi Murakami** is an artist of international importance. In addition to numerous solo exhibitions, a large-scale retrospective of Murakami's work, "©Murakami" toured major museums around the world, including the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, and the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao. He has also held major retrospectives at the Palace of Versailles and ALRIWAQ DOHA.

**Zhang Xiaogang** has established himself as one of the most important Chinese contemporary artists. He has been the subject of numerous solo exhibitions, and his works are held in the collections of museums worldwide, including the Essl Museum-Kunst der Gegenwart, Klosterneuburg, Austria; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; and Shanghai Art Museum, China.

The 2014 Asia Society Art Gala is supported by:

Co-Chairs: Larry Gagosian; Hyun Sook Lee; Lippo Group; Robert and Chantal Miller; Ali Naqvi, Credit Suisse; Richard and Maggie Tsai, Fubon Bank (Hong Kong) Limited; Wheelock and Company Limited

Vice Chairs: Cartier; Galerie Perrotin; Pace Gallery

Corporate Sponsor: Citi

Cocktail Reception Sponsor: AMMO Restaurant & Bar

Asia Society's Art Gala is co-organized by Asia Society Museum and Asia Society Hong Kong Center. All proceeds from the Art Gala will support Asia Society initiatives worldwide.

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**About Asia Society**

Founded in 1956 by John D. Rockefeller 3rd in New York, The Asia Society is a leading educational organization dedicated to promoting mutual understanding and strengthening partnerships among peoples, leaders and institutions of Asia and the United States in a global context. Across the fields of arts, business, culture, education, and policy, The Asia Society provides insight, generates ideas, and promotes collaboration to address present challenges and create a shared future. Asia Society is an international organization with 11 centers in the United States and Asia: Hong Kong, Houston, Los Angeles, Manila, Mumbai, New York, San Francisco, Seoul, Shanghai, Sydney, and Washington, DC.

**About Asia Society Hong Kong Center**

As an affiliate of the Asia Society global network with 11 centers, Asia Society Hong Kong Center was established in 1990 by a group of Hong Kong community leaders, led by the late Sir Q.W. Lee, the honorary chairman of Hang Seng Bank. In February 2012, the Hong Kong Center established its new permanent home in Admiralty, Hong Kong at the Old Victoria Barracks, Former Explosives Magazine site steeped in history, cultural significance and natural beauty and offers a broader variety of programs in the form of lectures, performances, film screenings and exhibitions to the community.

**Asia Society Museum**

Asia Society Museum organizes groundbreaking exhibitions of both traditional and contemporary Asian and Asian American art. The Museum, located on Park Avenue and 70<sup>th</sup> Street in New York City, is known for its Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller Collection of masterpiece-quality traditional Asian works. The collection, universally described as “gemlike”, includes objects from cultures across Asia that date from the 11<sup>th</sup> century BCE to the 19<sup>th</sup> century CE. Asia Society was one of the first American museums to establish a program of contemporary Asian art in the early 1990s. A recognized leader in identifying and fostering contemporary Asian and Asian American artists, the Museum announced the establishment of a Contemporary Art Collection in 2007.