

news release

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MANDARIN ORIENTAL MARKS 50TH ANNIVERSARY WITH SPECIAL TRIBUTE FROM AN ICONIC ARTIST

Leading artist Sir Peter Blake creates collage celebrating 50 Fantastic Years of hospitality

Hong Kong, 27 September, 2013 -- Sir Peter Blake a leading figure in the art world, and often referred to as the ‘Godfather of British Pop Art’, has been commissioned by [Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group](#) to create a collage that commemorates *50 Fantastic Years* of hospitality, which began with the opening of [Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong](#) in 1963.

Designed to coincide with the hotel’s gala celebration in October, the work celebrates the Group’s growth from a local, Hong Kong-based company to a world-renowned, global luxury brand.

Blake is best known for the iconic album cover he produced for The Beatles *Sergeant Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band*. His work is inspired by his love affair with icons and the ephemera of popular culture. For this piece he has used archive images of Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong, as well as photography of the Group’s celebrity fans.

“It was a lot of fun to be asked to create a collage to commemorate Mandarin Oriental’s 50th anniversary using the photography from their iconic Fan advertising campaign. When I discovered that each hotel in the Group has its own unique fan design it seemed a natural step to combine the two with a backdrop from the opening of their first hotel in Hong Kong in 1963,” said Sir Peter. “Needless to say ‘I’m a Fan’ too”.

Displayed prominently opposite the hotel at the City Hall poster site throughout the month of October, this striking work is a visual treat. “We are delighted to showcase this original piece by such a talented artist in our home town of Hong Kong,” said Jill Kluge, Mandarin Oriental’s Group Director of Brand Communications. “It is indeed a fitting tribute to our flagship property in its 50th year, and also celebrates our global reach.”

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Click [here](#) to view the making of the collage and an interview with Sir Peter Blake.

About Sir Peter Blake

Born in 1932 in Dartford, Kent, Sir Peter attended Gravesend School of Art before earning a place at the prestigious Royal College of Art London in 1956. His love of art flourished as he built up a respectable portfolio of work through extensive travels across Europe and beyond.

Blake came to the public's attention and the centre of the London art scene with his first solo exhibition in the 1960's. His work has featured icons of popular culture from around the world and is appreciated globally.

In 1983 he became a CBE and in 2002 received a knighthood for his services to art. One of his most recent bodies of work was set, and exhibited in Hong Kong in 2011. This showcased both iconic and recent works in his 60-year career, including a new variation of his Butterfly Man series, a set of computer generated images based on postcards of old Hong Kong.

About Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group

Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group is the award-winning owner and operator of some of the most luxurious hotels, resorts and residences. The Group has grown from a well-respected Asian hotel company into a global brand and now operates, or has under development, 45 hotels representing over 11,000 rooms in 26 countries, with 20 hotels in Asia, 11 in The Americas and 14 in Europe, Middle East and North Africa. In addition, the Group operates or has under development, 13 Residences at Mandarin Oriental connected to its properties.

Photography of Mandarin Oriental is available to download, in high and low resolution, in the [Photo Library](#) of our *Media* section, at www.mandarinoriental.com. Please join us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/MandarinOriental) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/mo_hotels)

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