

# news release

Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group Limited  
281 Gloucester Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong  
Telephone +852 2895 9288 Facsimile +852 2837 3500  
www.mandarinoriental.com



## **MANDARIN ORIENTAL PUDONG, SHANGHAI PARTNERS WITH CHINESE ARTIST AND AUTHOR DA CAI TO PRESENT A CHINESE MODERN INK PAINTING EXHIBITION AND ART-THEMED DINNER**

**Hong Kong, 27 May 2015** – [Mandarin Oriental Pudong, Shanghai](#) is delighted to partner with renowned Chinese artist, gastronome and food blogger Da Cai for her upcoming solo art exhibition entitled “Fish, You are Not a Fish” and unique art-themed dinner at Fifty 8° Grill.

Inspired by “You are not a fish (yú). Where do you know the joy of fish (yú) from?” – a famous quote from Chinese ancient philosopher Zhuang Zi – Da Cai has created the eye-catching collection of 18 ink paintings. The word “yú” in ancient Chinese language means “me”, which is the same pronunciation as “fish”. This wordplay reveals Zhang Zi’s hidden meaning: “You are not me. Where do you know my joy from?”

Artist Dai Cai said, “In my ink painting, the fish symbolise a certain ideal of Chinese culture. Swimming around the megalopolis, they reveal true human nature in the face of the hassle of daily life when one feels oppressed, powerless and dreams of a better life. ‘Me’ is reality, and ‘fish’ is chimera.”

This exhibition presents a series of modern ink paintings and will be held at the lobby of the Executive Apartments from 27 May to 31 May, 2015. It will be relocated to the LG adjacent to the Business Centre from 1 June onwards until the end of the exhibition on 17 June, 2015.

Art and gastronomy are closely linked for Da Cai, who is also one of China’s leading food bloggers and authors. To celebrate the opening of her solo art exhibition at Mandarin Oriental Pudong, Shanghai, Da Cai and Fifty 8° Grill Head Chef Jason Oakley have merged their creative

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universes to prepare a unique dining experience that will take centerstage at Fifty 8° Grill on the evening of 27 May.

Guests will enjoy a sharing menu enhanced with Sichuan spices from Da Cai's home city of Chengdu. Once again, the fish becomes a guide through a tasty encounter between two visions, two cultures, the artist and the chef, the food critic and the culinary master.

The art dinner is priced at RMB648 per person plus 15% service charge. For reservations or enquiries, please call Fifty 8 Grill at +86 21 20829938 or email to [mopud-fifty8grill@mohg.com](mailto:mopud-fifty8grill@mohg.com).

### **About Dai Cai**

Born in Chengdu, Da Cai graduated from the Central Academy of Craft Art and has had a lifelong passion for art and gastronomy. In 2006 she started a blog about her love for food and travel, quickly becoming one of China's leading food bloggers with 560,000 followers on Sina.com and more than 40 million views. She writes regular columns for lifestyle magazines and newspapers and is the author of three books. In recent years, Da Cai has returned to traditional ink painting, combining her art and culinary adventures. She brings to her ink paintings a subtly witty interpretation of modern Chinese life and culture. She is currently preparing a new book of hand-painted recipes.

### **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. Having grown from a well-respected Asian hotel company into a global brand, the Group now operates, or has under development, 44 hotels

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representing almost 11,000 rooms in 24 countries, with 20 hotels in Asia, nine in The Americas and 15 in Europe, Middle East and North Africa. In addition, the Group operates or has under development, 15 *Residences at Mandarin Oriental* connected to its properties.

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For further information, please contact:

*Corporate Office*

Sally de Souza ([sallydes@mohg.com](mailto:sallydes@mohg.com))  
Group Communications – Corporate/Asia  
Tel: +852 2895 9160

[www.mandarinoriental.com](http://www.mandarinoriental.com)

Mandarin Oriental Pudong, Shanghai

Angela Cai ([cangela@mohg.com](mailto:cangela@mohg.com))  
Director of Communications  
Tel: +86 21 2082 9887

[www.mandarinoriental.com/shanghai/](http://www.mandarinoriental.com/shanghai/)