

# news release

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## **MANDARIN ORIENTAL, BANGKOK CELEBRATES 140 YEARS OF HISTORY WITH A SERIES OF BESPOKE EVENTS**

**Hong Kong, 9 March 2016** – In celebration of 140 years, [Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok](#) is delighted to announce a series of bespoke music, fashion, art and culinary events throughout 2016. Built in 1876, The Oriental, as it was then known, was the first luxury hotel in the Kingdom of Siam. Beginning with Tsar Nicholas II of Russia and Joseph Conrad during the late-nineteenth-century, the legendary hotel has welcomed numerous heads of state, captains of industry and a host of world renowned writers and celebrities over the years and has long been famous for its service, style and elegance. The hotel has recently completed a comprehensive renovation of the historic Authors' and Garden Wings. Designed to significantly enhance the facilities and services of this award winning hotel, the renovation has restored the historic heart of the property to its original splendour.

### **Culinary events**

Famed for introducing Michelin starred chefs to Thailand in the mid-1970s, Bangkok's [premier gourmet destination](#) is continuing the tradition with commemorative collaborations at the highly acclaimed [Le Normandie](#) French fine dining restaurant by two-star Michelin Chef Alain Solivérès from 4 to 9 July; and three-star Michelin Chef Sébastien Bras from 12 to 17 December. At [Lord Jim's](#), two-star Michelin Chef José Avillez will present his exceptional cuisine from 24 to 28 May; followed by three-star Michelin Chef Diego Oka from 23 to 26 June.

Widely recognised as the world's most respected wine critic and journalist, Jancis Robinson will conduct a Grand Wine Tasting in an extraordinary Thailand exclusive event in Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok's Royal Ballroom on 21 March, featuring premium wines from around the world and a cheese tasting with famed affineur Hugues de Kerdrel.

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To coincide with Russia Day, the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Bangkok will present a celebration of the country's most famous exports with a Caviar and Vodka dinner in the renowned [Authors' Lounge](#) and exclusive Vodka offerings in the iconic [Bamboo Bar](#) during June.

### **Music and dance events**

March sees the start of The Italian Jazz Series of exclusive performances throughout the year, performances include Danilo Rea in May; and the Guidi Trio in October.

On 30 May, the Embassy of Italy in Bangkok will present production of Famous Italian Arias by Italian opera singers, accompanied by the Bangkok Symphony Orchestra, in the Royal Ballroom.

### **Exclusive exhibitions**

Art aficionados and novices alike will delight in an exhibition of selected works from renowned and emerging Thai contemporary artists who are featured in the recently launched *Thailand Eye: Contemporary Thai Art* book. The exhibition is currently on display until the end of May and includes the works of an emerging Thai artist who is supported by Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok.

During the latter half of the year, Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok will host an exclusive weeklong exhibition of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit of Thailand's dresses in the [Authors' Lounge](#), Bangkok's favourite destination for traditional afternoon tea. This extraordinary event is presented in conjunction with the Queen Sirikit Museum of Textiles and includes dresses worn by Her Majesty at various events at the hotel over the years.

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### **Recognition events**

On 28 April, the legendary hotel will mark its 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary with Buddhist merit making by offering alms to 99 monks. The hotel will also pay tribute to the hotel's longest serving employee - Ms. Ankana Kalantananda who joined the property in 1947.

The former Reading Room in the Authors' Wing, that was also her office from the mid-1900s, will be officially renamed in her honour.

### **Corporate responsibility events**

Throughout 2016, Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok will host and present a range of community projects, including Giving Back To Bangkok in which the hotel's colleagues will dedicate 14,000 hours to community initiatives; a Design A FAN competition to support persons with learning disabilities; and an open day for hospitality scholars when five scholarships to the King Mongkut University worth 500,000 Baht will be awarded. The fourth annual FANtastic Fundraiser will see the hotel's associates and loyal guests partake in a ten kilometre walk in Lumpini Park to bring the total fundraising from this worthy initiative to Baht 6 million.

For more information, please email [mobkk-hr@mohg.com](mailto:mobkk-hr@mohg.com) or visit

<http://www.mandarinoriental.com/bangkok/one-hundred-forty-anniversary/>

### **The 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special Offer**

Celebrate Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok's 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2016 in Oriental style with an exclusive two-night consecutive stay special offer that includes luxurious accommodation with personal butler service, daily buffet breakfast for two at The Verandah, and afternoon tea for two at the historic Authors' Lounge. Guests will also receive Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok's commemorative homemade jam in 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary packaging to take home.

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For more information or to make a booking, please email [mobkk-reservations@mohg.com](mailto:mobkk-reservations@mohg.com) or visit [www.mandarinoriental.com/bangkok/hotel-offers/](http://www.mandarinoriental.com/bangkok/hotel-offers/)

### **About Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok**

Built in 1876 and ideally located on the banks of the Chao Phraya River, Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok has been an inspiration to a host of world-renowned writers from Joseph Conrad, Somerset Maugham to Wilbur Smith and John Le Carre. Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok boasts an international reputation for splendid service, style and grace and facilities including eight restaurants. The hotel's private teakwood shuttle boats provide daily access to the world famous Thai Cooking School, the hotel's Thai restaurant, the award-winning Oriental Spa and Health Centre located across the River; as well as the nearest skytrain station (SaphanTaksin) and River City Shopping Centre.

### **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, 46 hotels representing 11,000 rooms in 24 countries, with 21 hotels in Asia, nine in The Americas and 16 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.

Photography of Mandarin Oriental is available to download in the [Photo Library](#) of our [Media](#) section, at [www.mandarinoriental.com](http://www.mandarinoriental.com).

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Visit *Destination MO* (<http://www.mandarinoriental.com/destination-mo/>), the online version of *Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group*'s bespoke publication, *MO*. News about our award-winning hotels, the best dining experiences, spa treatments, travel retreats and interviews with the Group's celebrity fans is now just a click away. Further information is also available on our *Social Media* channels.

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