

Sponsored by	A Better Tomorrow, Jebsen & Co Limited, Slaughter and May
Supported by	Chasing Ice, Hong Kong Underwater Photo and Video Competition, Living Lamma, RTHK, Southern District Council, Synergy Social Ventures
Media Partner	Ecozine

Using art to illustrate the effects of human-caused climate change on our planet and what we can do to help make a difference

# **OCEAN ART WALK 2015 AT STANLEY PLAZA**

28 March – 19 April, Stanley Plaza with extra programming over Easter (3- 5 April)

## Download high-res photos: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/t8fgogg392a8wsr/AACaKKqcHZeFJp2p6B0hInDJa?dl=0

Scientists believe that unless we act against climate change now, we are set to witness a rare mass extinction event, losing more than half of the world's plant and animal species in the next 300 years.



To help draw attention to the ways in which human-caused climate change affects life on land and in the ocean, and to encourage everyone to take action to save our waters, Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation (YAF), Ocean Recovery Alliance and The Link Management Limited present *Ocean Art Walk 2015 at Stanley Plaza.* 

Set against the beautiful ocean backdrop of The Link's Stanley Plaza, the festival runs from until 19 April, with extra programming for all the family over Easter (3 – 5 April). The art walk features three large visual art installations made by professional artists using primarily waste materials, a series of youth dance performances, an outreach workshop and a host of related film screenings. The public are also invited to creatively contribute to a nail art mural and take an Ocean Quiz to test their knowledge about our waters.

The headlining film, and the inspiration for this year's theme, is the **Emmy Award-winning documentary "Chasing Ice"** – a visually stunning film illustrating how climate change is impacting the world's ice bodies, causing glaciers to melt and ice coverage to retreat at an unprecedented rate. Although melting glaciers might seem a world away from Hong Kong, local consumption behaviour plays a significant part in rising temperatures around the globe. Shifting weather patterns and rising sea levels impact all of us and also endanger some of Hong Kong's most prized natural resources, including Mai Po wetland and local coral reefs. Located on Hong Kong Island's southern coast, The Link's Stanley Plaza provides the perfect location for the art walk with a hope to raise public awareness regarding the issue of ocean conservation while promoting a low-carbon lifestyle.

The Link has been actively supporting environmental protection initiatives over the years and is supporting the Ocean Art Walk for the third consecutive year. **BC Lo, Director (Corporate Communications & External Relations) of The Link** said, "As a company that shoulders environmental responsibility, The Link has been supporting various events in its network of shopping centres across the 16 districts, building public awareness over the correlation between our environment and lifestyle. Through encouraging and engaging the public in these environmental initiatives, The Link will continue to embrace the core principles of sustainability in its corporate visions.

Lindsey McAlister, Artistic Director of the Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation said, "Ocean Art Walk is a meaningful creative platform for artists and young people to inspire us to take social responsibility for our surroundings."

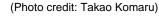
**Douglas Woodring**, Founder of Ocean Recovery Alliance said "As mentioned in *Chasing Ice*, scientists are no longer arguing about whether climate change is happening or not, because it really is. But people don't respond to statistic studies and computer projections anymore. What they need are visual cues that inspire them and tips on how they can make a difference, such as encouraging responsible consumer behaviour and eating sustainable fish – this is what *Ocean Art Walk 2015* intends to do."

# All events are free.



# 8 guests officiate the grand opening, letting the message of ocean awareness travel like bubbles in the wind - far and wide.

From Left: (1) Ms Lindsey McAlister, OBE, JP, Founder / Artistic Director of Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation, (2) Mrs Chan Lee Pui-ying, Southern District Council Member, (3) Ms Shirley Ha, member of Funding Management Committee of A Better Tomorrow, (4) Dr. Chu Ching-hong, JP, Chairman, Southern District Council, (5) Mr BC Lo, Director of Corporate Communications & External Relations of The Link Management Limited, (6) Mr Michael Yeung Pok-man, Assistant District Officer (Southern), Southern District Office, (7) Ms Natalie Yeung, Partner of Slaughter and May and (8) Mr Douglas Woodring, Director and Co-Founder of Ocean Recovery Alliance



#### Group photo of guests and participating artists.

Back row: (1) Gareth Dunster (artist), (2) Mrs Chan Lee Puiying, Southern District Council Member, (3) Ms Shirley Ha, member of Funding Management Committee of A Better Tomorrow, (4) Dr. Chu Ching-hong, JP, Chairman, Southern District Council, (5) Ms Lindsey McAlister, OBE, JP, Founder / Artistic Director of Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation, (6) Mr BC Lo, Director of Corporate Communications & External Relations of The Link Management Limited, (7) Mr Michael Yeung Pok-man, Assistant District Officer (Southern), Southern District Office, (8) Mr Douglas Woodring, Director and Co-Founder of Ocean Recovery Alliance, (9) Ms Natalie Yeung, Partner of Slaughter and May & (10) Karen Pow (artist)

Front row: (1) Roz Keep, Chairperson of Living Lamma (Left one), (4) Jo Wilson, Secretary (Left four), (5) Artist collective BREAD Studio (Right one to three)

(Photo credit: Takao Komaru)



Ms Lindsey McAlister and Mr BC Lo contribute to the Nail Art Mural. (Photo credit: Takao Komaru)



The public admires Karen Pow's *Submerged*. (Photo credit: The Link Management Limited)





The public admires Gareth Dunster's *Single Use*. (Photo credit: Takao Komaru)



30 young talented HKYAF dancers perform for packed crowds. (Photo credit: Takao Komaru)

#### Notes to Editor

#### Ocean Art Walk 2015 at Stanley Plaza

Dates: 28 March – 19 April Venue: Stanley Plaza Admission free

#### Full Schedule

Exhibition: Daily (including *EASTER*) Dance performances: 28 March (12pm, 2:30pm, 4pm), plus 4 and 5 April *EASTER* (1pm, 2pm, 3pm) Film screenings: 3, 4, 5 April *EASTER* (3:30pm – 6pm) Nail art mural and Ocean Quiz: 28 March (1pm – 6pm), plus 3, 4, 5 April *EASTER* (1pm - 6pm) Outreach workshop: 11 April Enquiries: 2877 2779

Also taking place from 15–19 April is Asia's only ocean film festival, the 5th annual Hong Kong Ocean in Motion Festival, <u>www.oceanrecov.org</u>

Download high-res photos: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/t8fgogg392a8wsr/AACaKKqcHZeFJp2p6B0hInDJa?dl=0

#### MEDIA ENQUIRIES: ANCA CHUNG +(852) 2877 2625 anca@hkyaf.com

Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation (YAF) is a charity that provides access to high quality, non-competitive arts experiences for young people aged 5 to 25. Since 1993, YAF has been organising inclusive and inspirational projects that reach out to youngsters of all cultures, backgrounds, languages and abilities, and actively creating opportunities for those who are disadvantaged and underprivileged. Each year we reach over 800,000 people with our projects, in the form of workshops, exhibitions, performances and more.

Ocean Recovery Alliance brings together new ways of thinking, technologies, creativity and collaborations in order to introduce innovative projects and initiatives that help to improve our ocean environment. It has two projects with the Clinton Global Initiative focused on the reduction of plastic pollution, and is one of the only NGOs in the world to be working with both the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Bank's Global Partnership for Oceans. It also organises Kids Ocean Day in Hong Kong, and 2014 marks the third Hong Kong-San Francisco International Ocean Film Festival.

The Link Real Estate Investment Trust (Hong Kong stock code: 823), managed by The Link Management Limited, is the first real estate investment trust listed in Hong Kong, and currently Asia's largest REIT and one of the world's largest retail-focused REITs in terms of market capitalisation. Wholly owned by private and institutional investors, The Link REIT is a constituent stock of the Hang Seng Index. With a portfolio focused on community shopping centres that serve the daily needs of the people of Hong Kong, we serve the community by creating vibrant and unique retail experiences that meet the needs of the people who live around our shopping centres. By doing so, we are able to provide an effective platform with which the businesses of our tenants can flourish, enhance value for unitholders of The Link REIT and support the local economy.

#### **Event Details:**

#### **ART INSTALLATIONS: 28 MARCH – 19 APRIL**

#### WoW (Wave of Waste) by BREAD Studio



To address the issue of aluminum consumption, awardwinning London- and Hong Kong-based art collective **BREAD Studio** has created "WoW (Wave of Waste)", a sixfoot tall wave tunnel using 2,000 discarded aluminum cans collected by students from Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School, Ning Po College, HHCKLA Buddhist Ching Kok Lin Association School, TWGHs Kwok Yat Wai College, SKH Ling Oi Primary, S.K.H. Li Ping Secondary School and Caritas Yuen Long Chan Chun Ha Secondary School through on-campus collection efforts.

**BREAD Studio** said, "Our piece is a reminder that everything comes at a cost. The wave of aluminum cans may create cooling shade, but consuming aluminum products does immeasurable harm to our environment. However it's never too late to help protect our environment – we can develop environmentally friendly habits such as recycling, or even upcycling, waste.

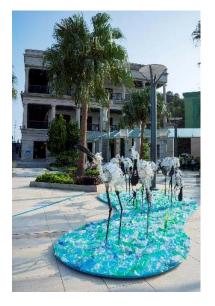
#### **SUBMERGED** by Karen Pow



With her striking nail-and-string installation "Submerged", local artist **Karen Pow** draws attention to the fact that, in the past 10 years, more glacier ice has disappeared than in the whole of the previous century.

Using bare nails to give a visual outline of glaciers past, nails connected by strings represent existing glaciers, and the flood of strings across the bottom creates a looming foresight of what awaits us. *Ocean Art Walk* visitors will also be able to contribute to an adjacent piece of nail art mural.

#### SINGLE USE by Gareth Dunster



Environmental artist **Gareth Dunster** adopts his signature style of redefining waste through art with "Single Use". Created entirely from items collected from a Hong Kong beach, this flock of black-faced spoonbills pays tribute to the endangered species, and highlights the importance of protecting Mai Po marshes, which a fifth of the remaining population of these birds rely on for survival. The idea of this piece is to raise awareness of Hong Kong's beautiful and vital marine ecosystem.

# DANCE: 28 MARCH (12pm, 2.30pm, 4pm), 4 & 5 APRIL (1pm, 2pm, 3pm)



Addressing climate change through choreography, DANCE Kho's **Kirsten Ho** and YAF's **Lindsey McAlister** and **Anca Chung** have created a series of stunning dance performances in collaboration with 30 young talented performers.

Includes 'Drawing the Line', a piece inspired by the words spoken at the *UN Climate Summit* opening by spoken word Marshall Islands poet Kathy Jetnil-Kijiner.

## FILMS: 3 - 5 APRIL (3.30pm - 6pm)

Chasing Ice (2012) Director Jeff Orlowsky



This heart-stopping documentary follows the scientist and awardwinning photojournalist James Balog and his research team as they collect observations of the effects of global warming on glaciers, icebergs and ice masses. The film provide clear and shocking evidence of the extent and speed of the huge loss of ice taking place and the transformations occurring in the landscape.

Other film highlights include winners from the renowned San Francisco International Ocean Film Festival and the Hong Kong Underwater Photo and Video Competition, plus animations focused on overfishing "Ain't No Fish" and "Losing Nemo", a student-produced Japanese film "It is Everybody's Ocean", and RTHK's "Fishy Business" documentaries.

# NAIL ART MURAL and OCEAN QUIZ: 28 MARCH (1pm - 6pm), 3 - 5 APRIL (1pm - 6pm)



Take part in the nail art mural and voice your pledge to protect our environment. Take our great Ocean Quiz to see how much you know about our waters.

#### **OUTREACH WORKSHOP (11 April)**



Jebsen & Co. staff and a professional YAF artist host a special art workshop and tour for 20 children from the International Social Service Small Group Home programme, providing a rare opportunity for this group of young people to experience art and learn about the ocean.

