

TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY

Marriott's Luxury Group launches artist residency program

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Chinese artist Chen Zuo is the "Art of Arrival" program's inaugural participant. Image credit: Luxury Group by Marriott International

By KIRAN GILL FOR LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Hotel group Marriott International's luxury division is celebrating Hong Kong Art Month.

Luxury Group by Marriott International has launched "Art of Arrival," an artist residency program that debuts with work from Chinese artist Chen Zuo. His commissions will travel the world, stopping at The St. Regis Hong Kong before heading to Switzerland for Art Basel and, finally, touring select luxury properties owned and operated by Marriott in greater China.

"Luxury today is defined by moments of arrival and cultural relevance that leave lasting personal meaning," said Bart Buring, managing director of luxury, Greater China at [Marriott International](#), in a statement.

"With Art of Arrival, we reaffirm our commitment to offering more than refined stays," Mr. Buring said. "We create immersive cultural encounters, where each arrival is more than reaching a destination.

"It becomes a moment where art and life intersect, inspiring a narrative unique to that place."

Art tour

The program began in Suzhou, China. Mr. Zuo started his residency at The Ritz-Carlton, Suzhou.

The artist speaks to sources of inspiration for the project, including the city's mix of traditional and contemporary architecture.

"It [the residency] granted me the rare gift of unhurried focus time to observe, reflect and evolve my practice within a complex cultural framework," said Mr. Zuo, in a statement.

"When the residency is integrated into the creative process itself, the work develops with heightened clarity and purpose."



The artwork will travel across Luxury Group properties in Greater China. Image credit: Marriott

The artworks he created will premiere at The St. Regis Hong Kong in late March via a private presentation. Swiss gallery Galerie Urs Meile will display the pieces next at Art Basel.

Following the fair, Mr. Zou's commissions will travel through Greater China, making stops at various hotels within the Luxury Group portfolio. The work will act as a conduit for gatherings and discussions between collectors and individuals within the art world.

A documentary created with *Tatler China* traces Mr. Zou's journey from his Beijing studio to his residency in Suzhou, culminating in Hong Kong. The film is set to release at the end of the month across Marriott Bonvoy's digital platforms.

The initiative is complemented by a series of art-driven experiences and installations. The JW Marriott Hotel Hong Kong is presenting a two-week exhibition on the property's 34th floor with American sculptor Richard X. Zawitz.

Meanwhile, The Ritz-Carlton, Hong Kong, debuts a site-specific bamboo installation by Angus Ting. The St. Regis Hong Kong is also hosting a limited-edition sparkling tea experience with Chinese tea brand Mindful Sparks and Chinese artist Elsa Ngai.

In March, Marriott International announced the acquisition of The Resort at Kapalua Bay in Maui, Hawaii ([see story](#)).

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