



Arts

East West: Jacky Tsai at Cat Street Gallery

East West is an exhibition that combines modern and traditional sensibilities

By Hong Kong Tatler
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Jacky Tsai, *Floral Tibetan Skull Cloisonné*, 83cm x 83cm, 2014

Jacky Tsai, the London-based contemporary Shanghainese artist and a graduate of the prestigious Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design will unveil his latest solo exhibit in Hong Kong next spring, aptly titled *East West*. Featuring work that he refers to as 'Chinese contemporary pop art', Tsai's pieces are essentially created using a mixture of traditional Chinese craft mixed with Western pop art.

Tsai states that his art is all about the fusion between eastern culture and western culture, where "every irrelevant element squeezes in a tiny space but in harmony. This show expresses my love to the HK cultures, from 70s Kung Fu movies and 90s pop songs to the interesting changes of society after 1997." Tsai is also influenced from his work in the fashion industry with notable brands such as Shanghai Tang and Alexander McQueen, evident from his iconic floral-skull piece. His intentions were to reduce the stigma of fear attached to the skull in Eastern cultures, he explains: "by representing it in a beautiful way, using images of nature, flowers, butterflies, and birds for people to recognize the beauty in decay, and to comment on the proximity of life and death."

East West will include several of Tsai's works created for Shanghai Tang, along with Chinese traditional landscape painting, and lacquer work of super heroes and traditional Hong Kong elements. There will be twenty limited edition prints of an oversized vintage HK stamp with the Queen's head made by neon elements and a unique number on the corner.

Jacky Tsai at Cat Street Gallery

Date: March 5 to April 11, 2015

Time: 11:00am to 7:00pm

Venue: Cat Street Gallery, 222 Hollywood Road, Sheung Wan

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