

**THE PENINSULA**  
HOTELS



ART IN  
RESONANCE



# ART IN RESONANCE

*'Art is our one true global language. It knows no nation, it favours no race, and it acknowledges no class. It transcends our ordinary lives and lets us imagine what is possible.'*

*– Richard Kamler*

In 2019, The Peninsula Hotels launches an ambitious art programme titled *Art in Resonance* that will travel around its properties globally. The programme seeks to use art as a bridge to communicate across cultures and generations. The curators have commissioned artists to create work that is rooted in physical experiences that amplify the senses and foster collective participation.

For *Art in Resonance*, The Peninsula has chosen to commission new work by emerging and midcareer artists. In doing so, The Peninsula hopes to contribute to the cultural ecosystem by providing working artists with financial and logistical support to realise complex projects. New artists will be added to the programme every year and works will travel. Panel discussions and tours will also be organised throughout *Art in Resonance*'s duration, enhancing meaningful access to art and inspiring local communities around the world.

*#artinresonance #penmoments*





*Art in Resonance* launched at The Peninsula's flagship in Hong Kong on 26 March 2019, coinciding with Art Basel Hong Kong, the world's premier art fair for modern and contemporary art. The Peninsula Hotels has worked alongside respected curators Bettina Prentice and Isolde Brielmaier to carefully select artists Janet Echelman, Iván Navarro, Timothy Paul Myers and the Shanghai-based architecture collective MINAX for this first exhibit.

Following the launch, the programme travels to The Peninsula Paris in September 2019, where Iván Navarro's neon sculpture *HOME* will once again feature, alongside newly commissioned pieces from Japan-born, New York-based artist Saya Woolfalk and local French artist, Elise Morin. The art pieces will be on public view at The Peninsula Paris until 15 November, before travelling to locations around the world, with newly commissioned works added in each city.



Curator Biography

### **BETTINA PRENTICE**

Bettina Prentice founded Prentice Cultural in 2008, a cultural agency that thoughtfully bridges the art and luxury sectors. She started her career at Sotheby's before transitioning to the gallery world to work more closely with living artists. In her role as gallery director she curated solo and group exhibitions while co-curating pop-ups to support emerging artists in unoccupied commercial spaces. She serves on The Artemis Council of the New Museum of Contemporary Art, supporting exhibitions by women artists to ensure their place in the art historical canon.

*(Photo credit: Weston Wells)*

Curator Biography

### **ISOLDE BRIELMAIER, PHD**

For over a decade, Isolde Brielmaier has worked internationally as a curator, writer, and cultural strategist, collaborating with noted contemporary artists, art institutions, companies and individuals. Currently, Brielmaier oversees the art and cultural initiatives at Westfield World Trade Centre and is a Professor of Critical Studies in Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. Previously, Brielmaier has worked for the Guggenheim Museum, the Bronx Museum of Art, and as Chief Curator for the SCAD Museum of Art. She serves on The Board of Trustees of the New Museum of Contemporary Art.



Artist Janet Echelman brought The Peninsula Hong Kong's iconic façade to life with the installation of her new *Earthtime 1.26* sculpture. Working with a team of highly skilled engineers, Echelman uses proprietary technology to harness the simplest of materials, like netting used by fishermen across cultures for millennia. As the atmosphere choreographs the sculpture's movement, Echelman introduces a lighting system to highlight each subtle change. Her work seeks to make the invisible visible and remind the viewer of the interconnected networks of our physical and cultural world.

#### Artist Biography

### JANET ECHELMAN

BORN IN TAMPA, FLORIDA 1966  
LIVES AND WORKS IN BOSTON

*Janet Echelman is an artist who defies categorisation. She creates experiential sculptures at the scale of buildings that transform with wind and light. The art shifts from being an object you look at, to a living environment you can get lost in. Using unlikely materials from fishnet to atomised water particles, Echelman combines ancient craft with cutting-edge technology to create artworks that have become focal points for urban life on five continents. A recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship, the Harvard University Loeb Fellowship, a Fulbright Lectureship, and the Aspen Institute Crown Fellowship, Echelman was named an Architectural Digest Innovator for 'changing the very essence of urban spaces.'*

(Photo credit: Weston Wells)





Artist Iván Navarro's *HOME* installation plays on optical illusions and activates both sensorial and psychological experiences in his viewers. Concerned with both light and perception, Navarro transforms the word 'home' into repeating symbols that reverberate against each other for his site-specific installation at The Peninsula. Each letter is in continuous succession, which generates a unique pattern – a downward vertical chain that draws viewers in toward a hypothetical endless place of reflections and echoes. With this work, Navarro asks guests to consider themes of identity, place-making and belonging.



Artist Biography

## IVÁN NAVARRO

BORN IN SANTIAGO, CHILE 1972  
LIVES AND WORKS IN BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

*Iván Navarro was born into a family of artists. Best known for his sculptures of neon, fluorescent and incandescent light, Navarro's works activate both the sensorial and psychological experience in his viewer. Navarro moved to New York in 1997, at which point he began to actively engage with the principles of minimalism in order to trace a connection between modernism and forms of control. Navarro's work has been featured in solo and group exhibitions at prominent institutions and galleries internationally, including the Guggenheim Bilbao, Spain; The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC; the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; among others. In 2009, he represented Chile in the 53rd Venice Biennale.*

*(Photo credit: Weston Wells)*



*Alizarin* was a site-specific installation by artist Timothy Paul Myers, in collaboration with Andrew Barnes, featuring furniture and everyday items – from teapots to suitcases – that are wrapped in a deep red felt. Initially drawn in by the installation's scale, texture and bright red hue, visitors were invited to consider each carefully wrapped object, which is representative of hotel guests past and present. Installed in a corner of the hotel's iconic lobby, these playful works at first seem decorative, but take on new meaning as we consider them as the discarded ephemera of life. *Alizarin* (named after a red dye obtained from the madder root) is not only an attempt to archive an object's history, but also to encase the memories imbued in it. Myers draws us deeply in to the present by reminding the viewer of the fleeting nature of life.

#### Artist Biography

### TIMOTHY PAUL MYERS IN COLLABORATION WITH ANDREW BARNES

BORN IN ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA 1972  
LIVES AND WORKS IN BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

*Timothy Paul Myers has always used flea market finds for inspiration, layering them into meticulously ordered, textural abstractions that the LA Times deems 'mundane and fantastic converged with uncanny, mesmerising presence.' Myers scours thrift shops, flea markets and sidewalk rubbish for new material to reorder into multi-media works – compositions that are as conceptually intriguing as they are beautiful. Systematic repetition and grid-like arrangements of found materials are prominent themes in Myers' work, which is widely shown in galleries and museums in America and internationally.*

(Photo credit: Weston Wells)





Shanghai-based architecture collective MINAX explores the philosophy of traditional Chinese craftsmanship to create spaces that revitalise and carry forward Chinese culture. In *The Wonder Room*, MINAX takes inspiration from meticulous woodworking techniques to create a modern take on the traditional Chinese teahouse. The work's exterior is a simple box, but once inside guests are enveloped in a delicate yet complex egg-like structure that will quieten visitors' minds in a space that is undisturbed from the bustle of Hong Kong city life. Visitors can enjoy their own private zen experience with a culinary odyssey that plays with the five senses while leveraging the captivating energy of *The Wonder Room*.

#### Artist Biography

### MINAX

*MINAX Architects was founded in 2005 by Zhi-gang Lu with the objective of creating 'high-quality Chinese architecture' and focusing on local cultural practices. They won the '100 Top Architecture and Design Talents in China' prize in 2013 and 2015, along with many other architectural awards from international institutions, the Ministry of Construction, China Architecture Society and Shanghai institutions. Zhi-gang Lu presided over and implemented the 'City Sampling IXI' China-European tour exhibition. He catalogued the most representative and culturally significant buildings in Chinese cities, and compiled the 'MINAX ARCHIMAP' series of books. MINAXDO handmade wooden workshop was founded in 2012 on the basis of inheriting the 'wooden work' which is a Chinese cultural treasure. MINAX considers the relationship between architecture, interior space and furniture; exploring the philosophical thoughts and craftsmanship of traditional culture. They have developed a mature design process through redesign, research and development, and production to create ground-breaking furniture and spaces.*

*(Photo credit: MINAX)*





Artist Elise Morin's new large-scale sculpture, *SOLI*, translates to both the plural of music and the sun, reflecting her use of steel and discarded CDs as well as her interest in light. While Morin has worked with CDs before, she is expanding her practice by putting the material through an industrial process of destruction with five levels of pulverisation according to the confidentiality of their content. This, in turn, creates a skin for her sculpture that make destruction and protection intimately inter-related concepts. From afar, the glittering, dune-like form seems comprised of precious materials evocative of the great palaces of France, while a closer inspection reveals a commentary on the material burden of objects and sustainability.

#### Artist Biography

### ELISE MORIN

BORN IN PARIS, FRANCE 1978  
LIVES AND WORKS IN PARIS, FRANCE

*Elise Morin's artistic practice draws on a variety of media, from video art to large scale installations. Much of her work offers a reassessment of landscape as a genre in contemporary art, while exploring the economical displacement of objects and environmental issues. Morin often borrows details from the natural environment, focusing on the 'life cycle' of an artwork and how its making and composition can place a material burden on the ecosystem. Morin's art has an affiliation with minimalism through its accumulation of recycled materials and repetition.*

*Morin has exhibited at the Jeu de Paume and the Centquatre in Paris, the Mori Art Museum in Tokyo, The Hague's city hall and Royal Abbey of Fontevraud. She studied at École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs in Paris, Central Saint Martins College in London, as well as the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts.*

(Photo credit: Martin Martiq)





Artist Saya Woolfalk's *Visionary Reality Portal* is a site-specific installation comprised of two newly commissioned kaleidoscopic videos, set in a Beaux Arts petit salon along the hotel's main hall. The installation evokes the stained glass of France's magnificent cathedrals through kinetic, colourful projections in which the artist creates her own visual language featuring flora, fauna, mandalas and figures as well as many decorative motifs found throughout The Peninsula Paris. In the same way that stained-glass windows act as portals for believers to experience the spiritual realm, Woolfalk envisions a digital portal for meditation and quiet contemplation of other worlds. The videos are constructed using a combination of hand-painted paper, live action, and 3D animation.

Artist Biography

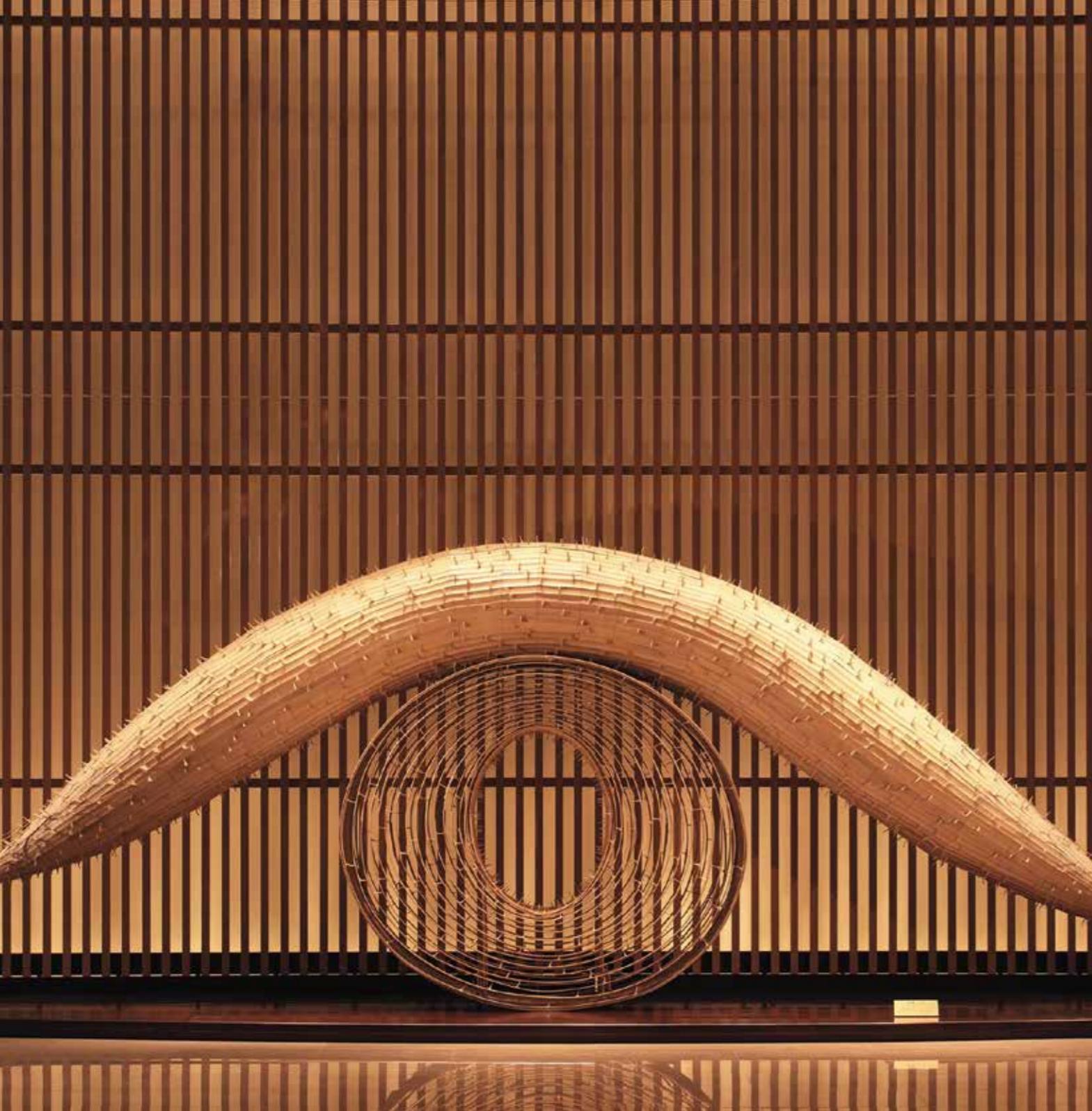
## SAYA WOOLFALK

BORN IN GIFU, JAPAN 1979  
LIVES AND WORKS IN BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

*Saya Woolfalk looks to science fiction and fantasy to re-imagine the world in multiple dimensions. As the daughter of a Japanese mother and African-American father, Woolfalk's work investigates an expanded definition of cultural diversity and notions of hybridity in relationship to utopian possibilities. Her works are featured in the permanent collections of major institutions, including the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Weatherspoon Art Museum, and the Seattle Art Museum where her major multi-media installation, commissioned and acquired by the Museum, is on extended view. Woolfalk studied at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island and The School of the Art Institute of Chicago.*

*(Photo credit: SeoHyun Sarah Bae)*





## CONTEMPORARY ART AT THE PENINSULA HOTELS

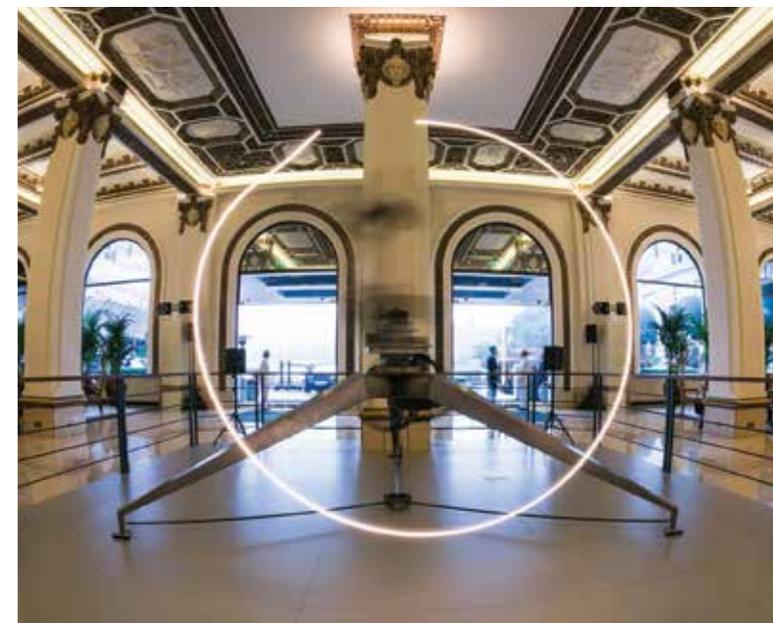
The Peninsula Hotels maintains an ongoing commitment to supporting the contemporary arts. Through a myriad of initiatives and partnerships, the company enables access to artworks – by both esteemed and emerging artists – at The Peninsula properties around the world. Through these initiatives, and a range of bespoke experiences offered by each property, The Peninsula Hotels also provides a culturally rich, aesthetically stimulating environment that invites exploration of each hotel's destination.



## THE PENINSULA HONG KONG

A local precursor to *Art in Resonance*, the *Love Art at The Peninsula Hong Kong* initiative launched in 2014, and was centred around public art and experiences aiming to enrich and celebrate Hong Kong's burgeoning arts scene. Through the years, the initiative provided hotel guests and the public the opportunity to see works by some of the world's most exciting artists in a unique and heritage-rich setting. Previous highlights, many in partnership with London's Royal Academy of Arts, included iconic pieces by Tracey Emin and Richard Wilson playing with the façade of the hotel, work by Conrad Shawcross, combining sculpture, robotics and music, and *Bright Idea* by Michael Craig-Martin, a four-metre-high radiant yellow steel lightbulb installed in the hotel's forecourt.

The Peninsula Hong Kong also offers guests insight into the city's creative art spaces through conversations with the artists in situ. *With An Art Dialogue with Hong Kong*, The Peninsula Academy actively engages with the city's thriving contemporary art scene, delving into the fascinating themes its artists are exploring today.

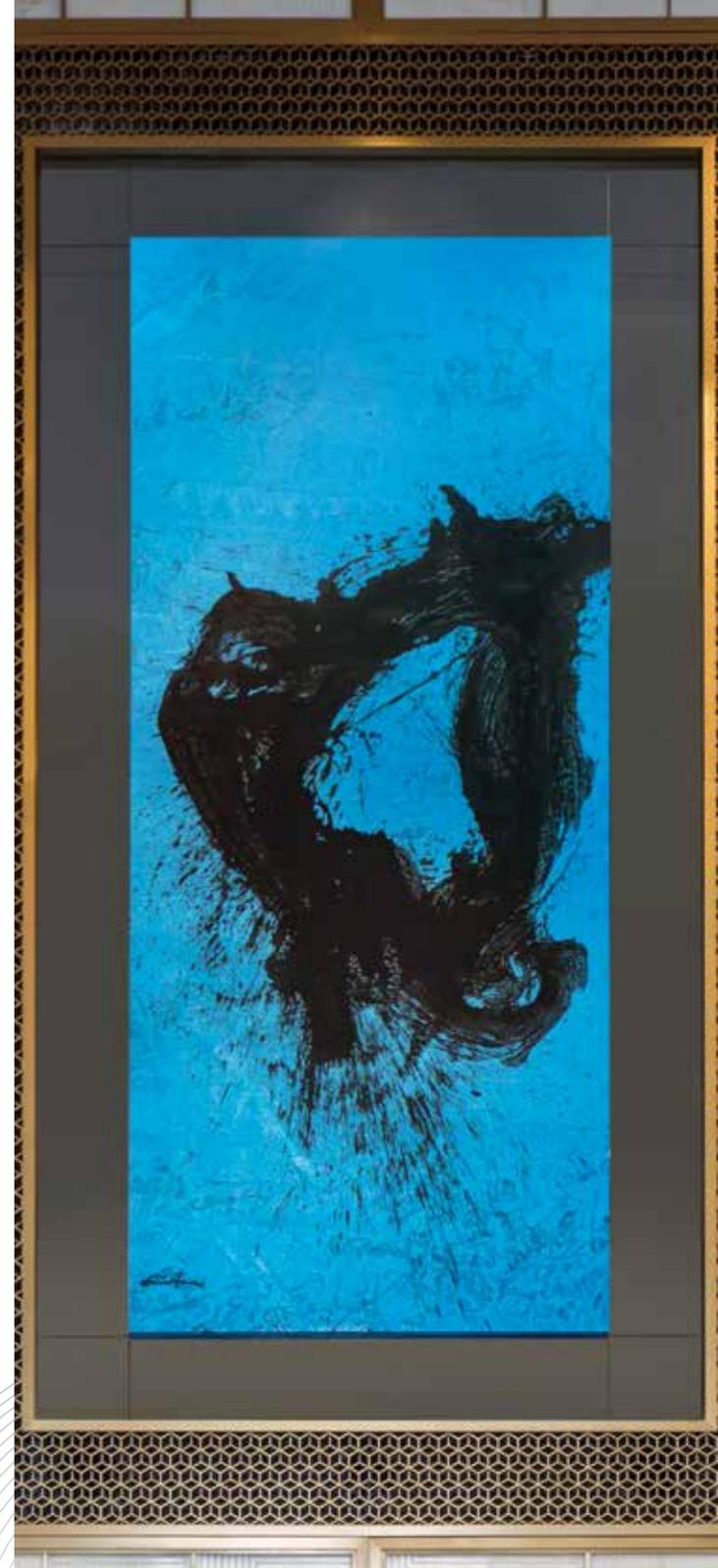


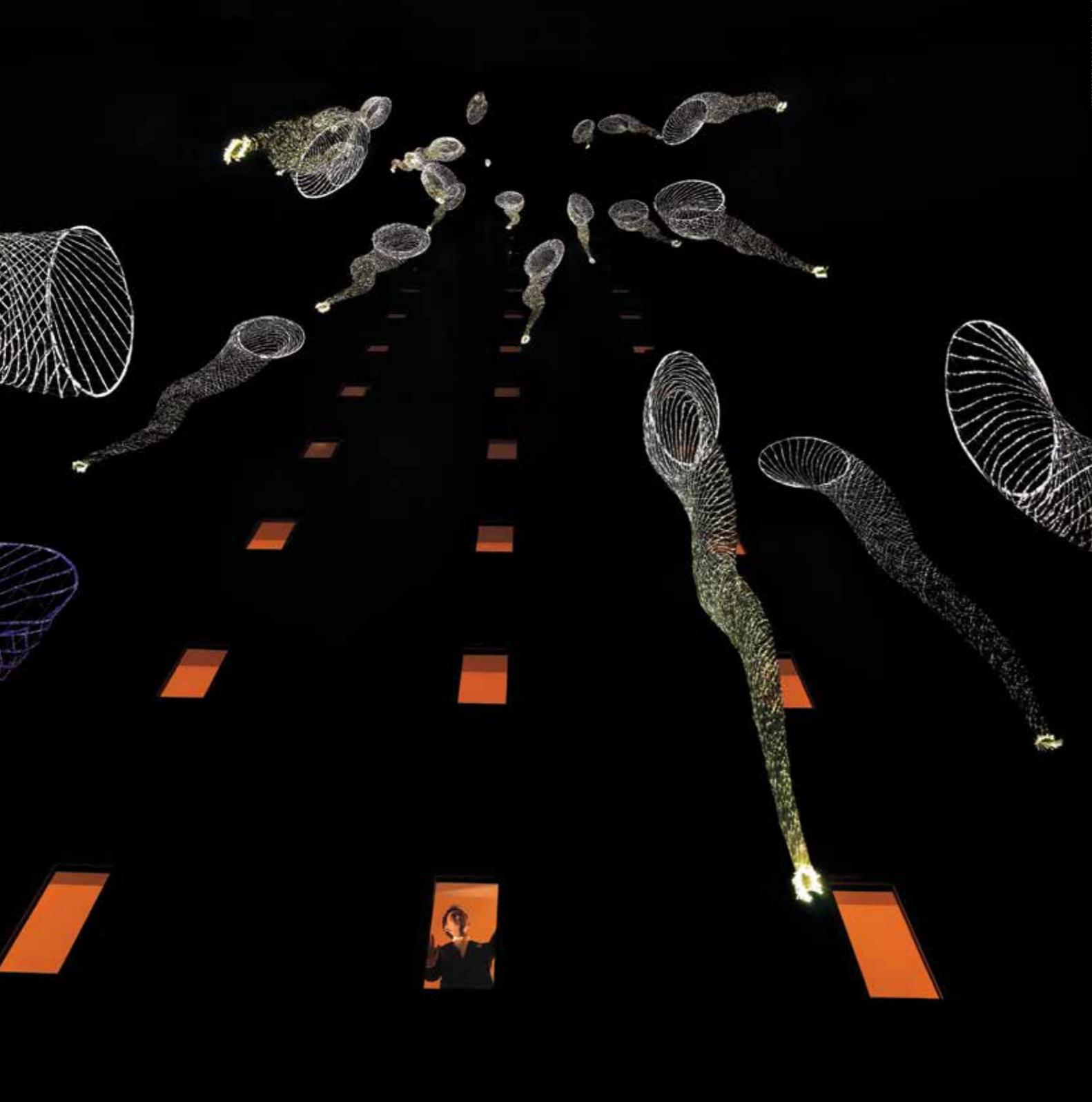


## THE PENINSULA BEIJING

The Peninsula Beijing's abundant art collection includes more than 800 paintings, sculptures and works of photography. Highlights include two five-metre-high paintings by Xinjiang-born painter Qin Feng depicting the sun and moon, which symbolise peace and spirituality in Chinese culture. The paintings intend to bestow good fortune on the hotel, and all who enter it. A newly created Art Gallery on the third floor of the hotel exhibits modern works by Chinese and global artists.

As well as exhibiting the best of Chinese art, The Peninsula Beijing is committed to nurturing emerging artistic talent through its ground-breaking *Artist in Residence* programme. The programme is hosted in conjunction with leading contemporary art museums, such as the Museum of Contemporary Art Beijing, and provides aspiring artists with the opportunity to live and work at the hotel in a bespoke studio where guests may visit them as they work – while having access to a dedicated exhibition gallery in the hotel.





## THE PENINSULA TOKYO

The Peninsula Tokyo's art collection includes 1,000 artworks created by 60 different artists, nearly all of whom are Japanese. Highlights include the *Lying Dragon Gate*, a large bamboo sculpture by Keisen Hama that dominates the hotel lobby. Its swooping shape depicts a dragon lying protectively atop the universe to ward off evil spirits; and *The Void*, a series of 24 glowing, cone-shaped sculptures by Ben Jakober and Yannick Vu, which hang suspended in the hotel's 70-metre-high atrium.

The hotel also provides private, guided bespoke tours of museums that host leading contemporary artworks, as well as cutting-edge local galleries such as Mujin-to Production or Take Ninagawa that focus on the promotion of emerging contemporary Japanese and foreign artists.



## THE PENINSULA NEW YORK

The art displayed at The Peninsula New York reflects a carefully curated selection of works from internationally known artists. As part of the hotel's 30th Anniversary in 2018, a curated art installation was launched throughout the hotel featuring original works from artists made famous in the 1980s, such as Andy Warhol, Francesco Clemente, Keith Haring, Jean-Michael Basquiat, Barbara Kruger and Michael Halsband.

The hotel also provides private, guided tours of the Museum of Modern Art's world-famous collections and exhibitions – before or after the museum's public operating hours – through The Peninsula Academy programme.





## THE PENINSULA CHICAGO

The Peninsula Chicago has partnered for over four years with *EXPO CHICAGO*, as the official hotel sponsor. Each year the hotel partners with artists, galleries and collectors to present an exclusive exhibition aligning and reflecting the city's foremost international exposition of contemporary and modern art. Previous partnerships have included a collection of works playing on VIP status, curated by The Flag Art Foundation; a retrospective of Gaetano Pesce's pieces, breaking the boundaries between art, design and industry; an exhibit called *Whoville*, showcasing over 30 artworks from the collecting world of Beth Rudin DeWoody and a celebration of Chicago's distinctive artistic history, as well as an array of installations by renowned artist Choi Jeong Hwa, curated by Pearl Lam Galleries.

Through its Peninsula Academy programme, the hotel offers guests exclusive access to private, guided tours of the Art Institute of Chicago's acclaimed collections, among which are included the expansive galleries of contemporary art.





## THE PENINSULA PARIS

The art collection at The Peninsula Paris includes 185 distinct works by artists from around the world, providing an abstract, contemporary contrast to the classical interiors.

Major pieces grace the public spaces, such as 'Dancing Leaves' an 800-piece installation of hand blown Lasvit crystal leaves, *Moon River*, a sculpture created by Spanish sculptor Xavier Corberó, and *The World Belongs to Me*, a sculpture by British artists Ben Jakober and Yannick Vu of a concave mirror surrounded by a rainbow. Prominent French artists are present throughout guest rooms, for instance with pieces by Patricia Erbeling and Nathalie Decoster.



## THE PENINSULA SHANGHAI

In addition to its permanent collection of paintings and sculptures, and temporary partnerships such as the hosting of four Fernando Botero masterpieces for a year at the hotel, The Peninsula Shanghai offers guests private, guided visits to the first private contemporary art museum in China, the ground-breaking, independent Museum of Contemporary Art Shanghai – before or after the museum's public operating hours – through its *Art in Focus* programme.



## THE PENINSULA BEVERLY HILLS

The art collection at The Peninsula Beverly Hills is comprised of almost 500 pieces, including paintings, sculptures and works of photography. Contemporary art lovers will delight in The Belvedere Restaurant's collection of American classics from illustrious artists Robert Indiana, Alex Katz and Andy Warhol, in addition to international artists such as Fabienne Verdier, with her Chinese calligraphy inspiration, and Yayoi Kusama and her wildly coloured, psychedelic dots.



## THE PENINSULA BANGKOK

The Peninsula Bangkok is strengthening its position as a vibrant nexus of contemporary arts and culture, by aligning itself with the inaugural *Bangkok Art Biennale in 2018* and its focus on promoting art as an inclusive expression of human emotions, to inspire pleasure and positivity. The hotel recently showcased an eclectic collection of art pieces, enabling hotel guests to interact with thought-provoking installations by renowned artists, including *knit*, a set of performances by Thai artist Kawita Vatanajyankur.

The hotel will continue to align itself to the Biennale's goals with an *Artist in Residence* programme that will host a rotating selection of artists who will create original artworks and meet with guests to provide a rare perspective of the artistic process.



## THE PENINSULA MANILA

Beyond its extensive in-house collection of Filipino contemporary art pieces, The Peninsula Manila offers guests an *Art in the Hills* excursion to the beautiful historic city of Antipolo for a private, guided tour of the Pinto Gallery and Pinto Art Museum. The private museum houses an exceptional collection of local artists' work, forming an unmatched record of the evolving local take on surrealism, expressionism, minimalism, social realism, and conceptual art, with a uniquely Filipino adherence to cultural identity and national history.





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