

# Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Marina Bay Sands helps to raise S\$306,800 for the arts in Singapore

*Proceeds from Sovereign Asian Art Prize Singapore Gala Dinner  
to benefit Singaporean artists and Art Outreach*

**Singapore (17 January, 2012)** – Building upon the success of its inaugural charity auction in 2010, the Sovereign Asian Art Prize Singapore 2012 staged its gala dinner at Marina Bay Sands on 14 January 2012. The highlight of the evening was the auction for 20 Singaporean art works, which raised a total of S\$306,800 - double the amount raised in 2010.



*Left to right: Jackson See, Sovereign Asian Art Prize Exhibition and Dinner Chairman; Mae Anderson, Chairman, Art Outreach; Robert Harayda, Senior Vice President of Finance at Marina Bay Sands; Howard Bilton, Chairman of The Sovereign Art Foundation and The Sovereign Group*

Half the auction proceeds will be given to the artists, supporting them in creating future works. The other half will be donated to Art Outreach, a non-profit organization that provides Singapore schools with free art appreciation lessons, engaging the help of volunteer teachers to teach students basic principles of art. Marina Bay Sands is also the presenting sponsor of Art Outreach Singapore.

The dinner was attended by VIPs in the arts world as well as many distinguished guests from the private and public sector. The evening started with a cocktail reception where guests could view the artworks prior to the auction, followed by a three-course dinner prepared by the chefs at Marina Bay Sands.



*Ms Anita Kapoor, TV personality and emcee for the evening taking the stage*

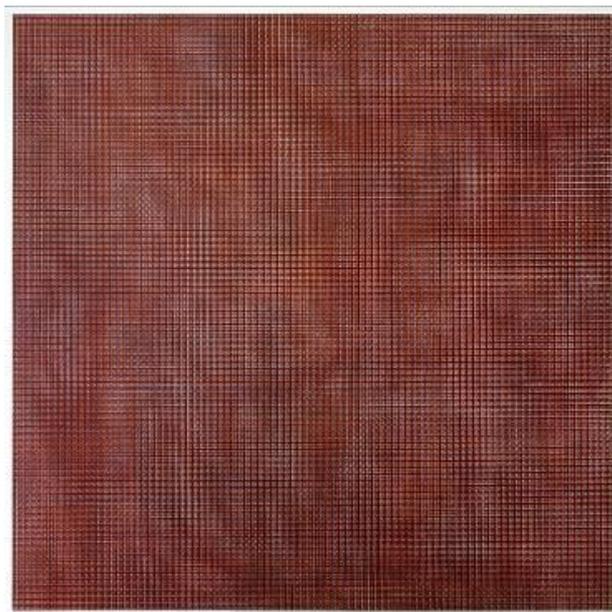


*Mr Francois Curiel, President of Christie's Asia, wielding the hammer for the auction*

Mr Francois Curiel, President of Christie's Asia, wielded the hammer during the auction. Mr Curiel kept the auction's mood light hearted and kept encouraging bidders to be more generous. The auction led to several bids that were higher than the estimated price. The highest bid went to Ms Om Mee Ai's Nebula-OXR, which fetched S\$20,000.



*Mr Francois Curiel, President of Christie's Asia, encouraging bids during the auction*



*Nebula-OXR by Ms Om Mee Ai. This abstract painting, which displays the mixture of multiplied grids and translucent layers of colors, fetched S\$20,000 in the charity auction, the highest amount for the night*



*Guests bidding for artworks by 20 Singaporean artists, raising over S\$306,800 for both artists and Art Outreach Singapore*

Ms. Mae Anderson, Chairman of Art Outreach Singapore, said, “The tremendous outpouring of support at the Sovereign Asian Art Prize Singapore Gala Dinner and Charity Auction is testimony to the recognition of the value of art education. More than simply cultivating visual literacy, Art Outreach is focused on developing critical thinking and an appreciation for Asian Art in the local contexts for which the art is made and in which it plays vital, often culturally specific roles. I am delighted that the Art Outreach programme has been given such a boost and we are grateful to all our sponsors: Marina Bay Sands, Christie's, Christie's Fine Art Storage, Standard Chartered Private Bank and all our friends and supporters.”

**About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd**

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theaters showcase a range of leading entertainment performances including world-renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is the ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit [www.marinabaysands.com](http://www.marinabaysands.com)

**About the Sovereign Asian Art Prize Singapore Gala Dinner and Charity Art Auction**

Initiated in 2003 in Hong Kong, The Sovereign Asian Art Prize (SAAP) recognizes some of the most important artists in the Asia Pacific region. This year, Singapore joins Hong Kong, Beijing and Australia as a venue host to the SAAP. In addition to the 30 finalist SAAP artworks, the Singapore exhibition of the Sovereign Asian Art Prize finalist paintings will include an additional 20 works by Singaporean artists. These 20 artworks will remain in Singapore and were auctioned off at the charity gala dinner.

**About Art Outreach**

Art Outreach is a non-profit organization that provides Singapore schools with free art appreciation lessons, engaging the help of volunteer teachers to teach students basic principles of art. The Art Outreach programme focuses on teaching visual literacy as it exposes students to various art genres through a series of portfolios, giving students the opportunity to experience stepping into different “art worlds” of photojournalism, public sculpture, portraiture, printmaking, and many more. This exposure to art will better enable students to explore the world around them.

**For Media Enquiries**

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**High-resolution images**

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