



PRESS RELEASE #HongKongDimensions

#Photography #MultiMedia #AlexisIp #DaphneMandel #PeteRoss #RomainJL

#A Fresh Journey through Hong Kong with award winning artists

Blue Lotus Gallery x Le French May presents:

## **Hong Kong Dimensions** **香港．維度**

A group exhibition at Blue Lotus Gallery from 12 May to 16 June 2018

*4 Artists . 4 Visions . 4 Mediums . 4 Dimensions*

**葉家偉 Alexis Ip . Daphné Mandel . Pete Ross . Romain Jacquet-Lagrèze**



OPENING RECEPTION  
EXHIBITION DURATION  
ARTIST TALKS

12 May: 3 - 6pm  
12 May to 16 June 2018  
26 May: 4pm Pete Ross  
5pm Romain Jacquet-Lagrèze + book launch and signing  
02 June: 4pm 葉家偉 Alexis Ip  
5pm Daphné Mandel  
09 June: 2 - 4pm with 葉家偉 Alexis Ip [for ages 12+]  
1606 Chai Wan Industrial City Phase 1,  
60 Wing Tai Rd., Chai Wan  
Tuesday - Saturday 11am - 6pm

FOTOMO WORKSHOP  
VENUE:

OPENING HOURS:



## ABOUT THE EXHIBITION:

Blue Lotus Gallery is proud to present a new and fascinating group exhibition showcasing the incredible work of award winning French and Hong Kong Artists, curated by Blue Lotus Gallery and selected for the official program of Le French May 2018. Hong Kong Dimensions will take you on a deeper and unique journey through the iconic city in terms of space, time, the ultra real, the imagined, and the point where they intersect.

This exhibition explores Hong Kong in all its dimensions from above and under, its back alleys, its every day moments in old neighbourhoods, and its collision with nature. Driven by curiosity or a desire for preserving its cultural heritage, each artist expresses his personal testimonial of their beloved city their own special way from descriptive to fantastical and whimsical. Breaking through the photograph **Hong Kong Dimensions** brings you work that plays with layers in space and time, where still life comes to life, where the real looks fake and the manipulated looks natural. Having its corner stone in photography, artists final form varies in distinctive ways from 2D, expanding to 3D work, hand drawings and even moving collages resulting in unique pieces that reveal talent beyond photography. Most of the works that will be shown are unique pieces, ranging from the the extreme handmade to the hyper digital.

+++ workshops, artist talks, book launch and tours are scheduled during the duration of the exhibition

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS:

### 葉家偉 Alexis Ip



Currently a secondary school Visual Arts teacher, Alexis Ip practiced pottery and sculpture under the guidance of Mr. Eric Chan, Mr. Chan Chung Kong and Mr. Chu Tat Shing. His FOTOMO work "The Blue House" and his pottery work "The Old Memories" were selected in the Hong Kong Arts Biennial 2005. His FOTOMO work "Hong Kong Image, Fa Yuen Street" is the winner of Hong Kong Contemporary Arts Award 2009. Alexis works are collected by Hong Kong Museum of Arts and overseas art lovers. Artists influenced by Dadaism of the 1920's turned out a large amount of photomontage. Readymades by Marcel Duchamp also included collages. Alexis Ip's 3-dimensional Fotomo (i.e. photo + model) is contrary to high technology ; his creation is hand-crafted from a collage of numerous photographs depicting old neighbourhoods, street scenes and the celebrations of festivals. Trivial stories within a big city are contained in his model of micro-photos.



*"Normally we see everything three dimensionally but in photography everything is turned two dimensional. What is so special about my works is the two dimensional is turned back into three dimensional though many layers. As a result the most ordinary street scenes like a vegetable or fruit vendor which people hardly pay attention to become magical."* 葉家偉 Alexis Ip



## Daphné Mandel



Daphné Mandel was born in 1975 in Lausanne and grew up in Paris. She credits her Dutch grandmother, a respected textile artist, with instilling in her a deep appreciation of art and painting. She studied architecture, landscape architecture, and urban planning in Versailles and graduated in 2000. She co-founded the Paris based landscape architecture and urban planning firm Gilot & Mandel Paysage. She and her partner were named «Best Young Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture Professionals» in France for their work (French Ministry of Culture, 2006). As a result, a number of public parks, city centres, cultural sites, and sports venues in France and abroad bear Daphne's touch. Her move to Hong Kong in 2008 inspired her to explore other means of creative and artistic expression. She has been featured extensively in local and international press including the Wall Street Journal, SCMP, RTHK, Home Journal, Zolima CityMag, Elle Décor and Architectural Digest.





Hong Kong Dimensions continues Daphné Mandel's exploration of Hong Kong's landscape.

*"This series is about celebrating the back alleys in overly dense and compact city. I wanted to bring these narrow gaps and urban fractures into the light."* Daphné Mandel

Daphné Mandel Her paper and digital moving collages play with the city's abrupt contrasts.

Dimensions and scales of constructions and natural elements are reversed, creating a surreal and imaginary scenery.

<https://www.daphnemandel.com>



## Pete Ross



Pete Ross is an award winning Hong Kong artist. In 2013 he won the People's Prize at Asia Contemporary and was selected in 2017 as 40 under 40 creative leaders of today and tomorrow. At the end of 2017 he was shortlisted for the Human Rights Art Prize. His work has been exhibited in Hong Kong and London and has been represented by Cat Street Gallery and Blue Lotus Gallery. Pete Ross was born in Hong Kong in 1985. Drawn towards architecture and its relation with people during a time of change and political uncertainty. Pete is now a RIBA architect and artist in Hong Kong with a keen interest in socio-urban interactions.

*"I'm fascinated by the idea of evolving and transitional cities and the contradiction of the solidity of urban form vs the organic flowing nature of urban life. I was originally interested in objects, spaces and memories and urban identity which has now evolved into studying city structure as a living entity. In much of my recent work I use detail pen work to define urban structure and to represent a solidity*



*and then use free-flow ink to represent an organic, unpredictable nature. The result is often a feeling of transition, frailty and beauty. " Pete Ross*

<https://www.peteross.hk>

## Romain Jacquet-Lagrèze



Romain Jacquet-Lagrèze is a French graphic artist with a Masters in multimedia and art from East Paris University. His interest in photography began during his period of working in Los Angeles and Tokyo, and subsequently blossomed into a passion after his arrival in Hong Kong in 2011. Stunned by its architectural "race to the sky" he felt the need to use his camera to share his feelings about the city. The geometry of the urban environment and the vivid lives it shelters are the aspects of Hong Kong that inspire him most. Romain's work has received attention from both local and international press such as SCMP, Herald Tribune, National Geographic, Lonely Planet, El Pais, Figaro, Huffington Post, The Guardian, Stern and many more. Three of his photo projects have been published into books.

*"I have been working on several photographic projects depicting Hong Kong mainly focusing on extreme urbanisation, local heritage and the relationship between city and nature." Romain JL*

Concrete stories is a collection of genuine instants from the daily life of Hong Kong's inhabitants, more particularly of people from the older districts of Kowloon. This peninsula has a population of over 2 millions people and a density of 43,000/km<sup>2</sup>, which might make it the densest urban area in the world. The vernacular culture of people living in such an extremely urbanised environment can be

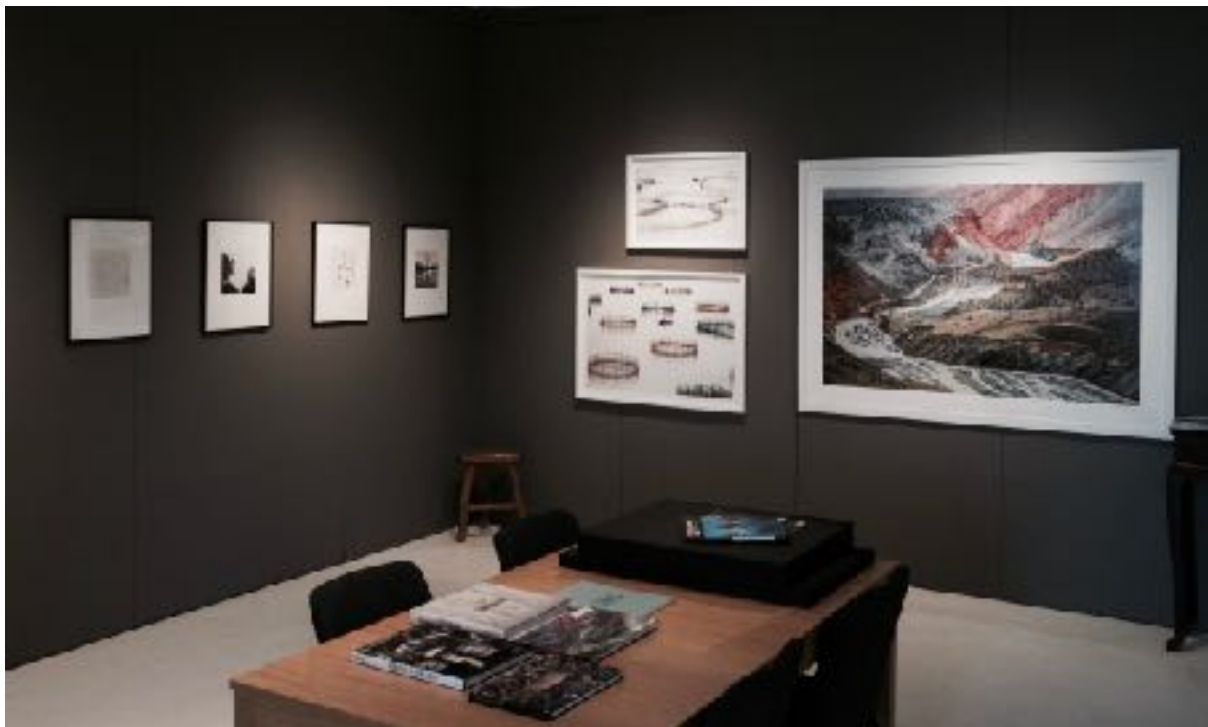


discovered through all these small stories that are forming a bigger one, a record of how people make use of available rooftops in a cramped city where each square feet can be sold at stratospheric prices. It is a testimony of the lifestyle of people living inside the oldest buildings of the city featuring an easy access to the rooftop that is often used by inhabitants from the whole buildings, like a courtyard in the air. Nowadays, these buildings are disappearing at a fast pace given the scarcity of lands which forces the authority to pull down all the low-rise buildings in order to leave space to taller and more modern residential ones. Most of these new buildings are made with luxury finishing making it totally unaffordable for humble people to live inside. This way, the once popular districts of the city are being emptied of its grass roots forced to go live in the outskirts of the city. All photographs are using an extreme vertical format in order to strengthen the feeling of cramped-ness that is felt in these places.

<http://www.romainjl.com>



#### ABOUT BLUE LOTUS GALLERY:



Blue Lotus Gallery, established in 2007 by Sarah Greene is a frontrunner when it comes to discovering and exhibiting exciting Hong Kong related projects. Blue Lotus Gallery currently focuses on exploring Hong Kong culture and identity through the medium of photography. Blue Lotus Gallery is behind the rediscovery of prominent photographer Fan Ho (exclusive world wide) through a string of exhibitions and book projects and also accountable for the careers of new emerging talents such as Romain

Jacquet Lagrèze, Tugo Cheng, Marcel Heijnen and KC Kwan. The gallery is proud to represent Hong Kong's mega stars Wing Shya and Fan Ho exclusively world wide.  
[www.bluelotus-gallery.com](http://www.bluelotus-gallery.com)

For More information or interviews with the artist please contact us.

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