

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S STATEMENT

行政總裁報告



This has been another year full of accomplishments and celebrations for the West Kowloon Cultural District (West Kowloon or WKCD) project. The West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCD) is making very significant progress on the District's impressive new arts and cultural facilities. We also continue to give strong support to the artistic teams by helping create programmes, build audiences, boost capacity and develop our professionals to pave the way for the opening of West Kowloon's facilities in the coming years.

To pay tribute to tradition, WKCD presented and produced the new adaptation of the classic play *Farewell My Concubine*, merging traditional Cantonese opera principles with innovative new techniques. After premiering in Shanghai in 2016, this well-received performance came to Hong Kong in the first week of September 2017, offering audiences a performance that illustrated the transformation and development of Cantonese opera. It has also toured Quanzhou and will be staged in Singapore in mid-September 2018. We were delighted when *Farewell My Concubine (New Adaptation)* took home the 'Best Experimental Xiqu Performance of 2017' award at the Beijing Performing Arts Expo in September 2018.

這又是西九文化區(西九)項目成果豐碩的一年，亦有不少值得慶賀的時刻。區內的全新文化藝術設施取得重大進展，我們亦繼續大力支持藝術團隊的工作，協助創作節目、建立觀眾群、培育專業人才，為西九設施在未來數年啟用作好準備。

西九文化區管理局(管理局)呈獻並重新編製經典劇目《霸王別姬》，藉以向傳統致敬。小劇場《霸王別姬》(新編)將傳統粵劇精髓與創新技術融為一體，繼2016年在上海首演後，這廣受好評的演出於2017年9月的首個星期來到香港，為觀眾帶來一次粵劇轉型發展、新意迭出的演出。之後巡迴泉州表演，並將於2018年9月在新加坡上演。此外，小劇場《霸王別姬》(新編)更於2018年9月的北京演藝博覽會獲頒「2017年度最佳小劇場戲曲」獎項，我們深表高興。

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In mid-October 2017, we launched M+'s debut ink art presentation, *The Weight of Lightness: Ink Art at M+*, at the M+ Pavilion. While ink art generally refers to visual works with lineage to ink painting and calligraphy in the Asian tradition, this exhibition explored the pivotal role of ink art in global visual culture, offering fresh perspectives using cross-disciplinary and geographically diverse approaches. This surprising approach received an overwhelmingly positive response from ink art aficionados and neophytes alike.

April 2018 saw the completion of statutory inspections for the Xiqu Centre and the granting of its Occupation Permit. The Authority has an ambitious launch plan that includes a Stage Dedication Day, followed by one week of Open Days at the end of December 2018, to be followed by and a three-month Opening Season filled with special performances and a wide range of public programmes spanning January to March 2019.

Meanwhile, construction works for the M+ building are on-going. The mega trusses supporting M+'s main tower were completed by early September 2017, and the building's superstructure is gradually emerging from the ground. Our ultimate goal of delivering the project by the end of 2019, leading to the opening of the museum in 2020, remains unchanged despite ongoing challenges with progress on the building.

Freospace, the black box theatre in the Art Park, saw its official topping-out in July 2017. The opening of Freespace is anticipated to be in the second quarter of 2019. Elsewhere, the much-anticipated public Art Park is being launched in phases. A section of the waterfront promenade opened in February 2018, and a new area from Phase 1 was opened for the enjoyment of the public in early April 2018.

我們於2017年10月中在M+展亭首度展出水墨藏品——「似重若輕：M+水墨藏品」展覽。儘管水墨藝術一般是指亞洲傳統書法及山水畫，然而此次展覽以跨國界及跨媒介為特色，呈現水墨在全球視覺文化中舉足輕重的作用。這種令人驚喜的手法引起了一眾水墨藝術愛好者一片讚賞。

戲曲中心已於2018年4月完成法定樓宇檢驗程序，取得建築物佔用許可證。管理局已有盛大的開幕計劃，包括2018年12月底的開台日和緊接為期一周的開放日，隨後於2019年1月至3月舉辦為期三個月的開幕季，包括連串特別演出和公眾節目。

與此同時，M+大樓建築工程亦正在進行。支撐M+博物館縱向大樓的大型桁架工程已於2017年9月初完成，而大樓的主上蓋結構亦漸見雛型。儘管大樓施工進度面對挑戰，我們仍冀望有關項目最終可按計劃在2019年年底竣工，令博物館可於2020年啟用。

藝術公園內設有黑盒劇場的自由空間已於2017年7月正式平頂，預期於2019年第二季啟用。此外，市民熱切期待的藝術公園現正在分階段開放，部分的海濱長廊已率先於2018年2月開放，公園第一期的部分亦已於2018年4月初開放予公眾享用。



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For the Lyric Theatre Complex (LTC) and related parts of the integrated basement project, construction of the integrated basement remains ahead of schedule. We tendered the second contract for the main construction works at the end of 2017. The LTC is expected to be completed around 2023.

After the signing of the Collaborative Agreement on the development of the Hong Kong Palace Museum in late June 2017, the scheme design for the museum was approved in September 2017. The tender for the foundation works was issued in October 2017, with piling work commenced by April 2018. It is anticipated that the main superstructure works will start in mid-2019 allowing the museum to open in 2022.

Following the Government's decision on the Enhanced Financial Arrangement, WKCD has started planning the development of the hotel, office and residential portion of WKCD. The priority is to take forward the Art, Commerce and Exhibitions (ACE) development package – which comprises an exhibition centre with hotel, rental offices, and embedded retail, dining and entertainment facilities – while at the same time exploring market interest in developing an artist hostel / residence within West Kowloon. WKCD recently commenced a roving exhibition to introduce both ACE and the artist hostel / residence to the public. The expression of interest / tender for both projects will be issued later this year.

I would like to thank the outgoing Board Chairman, Mr Matthew Cheung, his successor, Mr Henry Tang, and the Board Vice-Chairman, Mr Ronald Arculli, for their extraordinary leadership and continued support. I extend my gratitude to the Board, the Executive Committee and other committee members for their advocacy and contributions to the project. My gratitude also goes to the Consultation Panel, whose members play an important role in facilitating two-way communications between the Authority and the community to ensure that WKCD becomes a place for everyone to enjoy. I am also fortunate to work with a strong and dedicated team to deliver this visionary project for the people of Hong Kong.

Finally, I look forward to welcoming everyone to the opening of our first major venue at the end of the year, which will start a new chapter for the West Kowloon story.

Duncan PESCOD, GBS, JP

栢志高, GBS, JP

Chief Executive Officer of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority
西九文化區管理局行政總裁

Hong Kong, 19 September 2018
2018年9月19日於香港

演藝綜合劇場和相關綜合地庫方面，其地庫工程進度繼續較預期快。第二份主要建築工程合約已於2017年底進行招標，預計演藝綜合劇場約於2023年完工。

管理局於2017年6月底就興建香港故宮文化博物館簽訂合作協議，博物館的設計方案亦已於2017年9月獲得通過。地基工程已於2017年10月進行招標，打樁工程於2018年4月展開。主上蓋工程預期於2019年中開始，令博物館可於2022年啟用。

在政府決定推行加強財務安排後，管理局已着手籌劃發展西九的酒店、辦公室及住宅部分。管理局率先推展ACE（藝術、商業和展覽）發展組合，包括展覽中心與毗鄰的酒店和出租辦公室，連同當中的零售、餐飲和消閒設施一同納入發展組合。與此同時，管理局亦探詢市場對西九發展藝術家旅舍 / 公寓的興趣。管理局最近展開巡迴展覽，向公眾介紹ACE發展組合和藝術家旅舍 / 公寓，預期這兩個項目將於本年較後時間進行招標 / 計劃意向書的邀請。

我衷心感激董事局前任主席張建宗先生、現任主席唐英年先生，以及董事局副主席夏佳理先生的卓越領導和鼎力支持。我亦感謝董事局、行政委員會和各個委員會成員對項目的支持和貢獻。我也要向諮詢會致意，感謝成員擔當管理局與社會各界雙向溝通的重要角色，確保西九能成為屬於所有人共享的天地。此外，我還有幸能與一支強大且盡心竭力的團隊一起工作，為香港市民帶來這個高瞻遠矚的項目。

最後，我期待首個主要場地於年底啟用時，歡迎大家光臨，揭開西九故事的新篇章。