

MASSIMODECARLO

**MASSIMO DE CARLO GALLERY HONG KONG UNVEILS NEW WORKS
BY ROB PRUITT IN HIS FIRST EXHIBITION IN ASIA, “HONG KONG
PANDA”**

8 SEPTEMBER 2016 – 31 OCTOBER 2016

(Hong Kong, 17 August 2016) Since opening its doors in Hong Kong’s Pedder Building during Art Week in March this year, Massimo De Carlo gallery has proven to play an important role, establishing a vital dialogue between international artists and Asia. For its third exhibition in the city, the gallery is working with acclaimed painter Rob Pruitt to bring new works from his Panda Series to Asia for the first time. The exhibition “Hong Kong Panda” will be on display from 8 September 2016 to 31 October 2016.

Pruitt began making paintings of panda bears 17 years ago. Half black and half white, the panda bear is a symbol of harmony and equality, like a living, breathing yin yang symbol. But the panda bear is also a tragic symbol. With the encroachment of industry on its natural habitat, the species has been reduced to near extinction. Pruitt perceives the panda as embodying the role of the modern day Christ, the panda bear is dying out for our sins of greed and excess.

“Ironically, the campaign to save the panda bear has spawned a new infatuation with the creature, resulting in a growing wave of panda products and a rapacious consumer demand for them. Pandas may be an endangered species, but in our contemporary global culture, they are flourishing,” says Pruitt. The exhibition will see new paintings, in which panda bears have been extracted from their natural habitat and inserted into metaphysical spaces of spectral, gradient color. Alluring and foreboding, the paintings evoke the worlds in which we are most likely to encounter the majestic panda bear today – the sleek, plastic surfaces of product design and the technological glow of computer touch screens.

This will not be the first time Pruitt exhibits new works at a Massimo De Carlo gallery. In 2013, his iconic “Suicide Paintings”, premiered at Massimo De Carlo in London. Massimo De Carlo gallery is excited to work with Pruitt again.

Note to editor:

‘Hong Kong Panda’ is a solo exhibition by Rob Pruitt. The exhibition will run from 8 September 2016 to 31 October 2016 at Massimo De Carlo Gallery in Hong Kong.

Images:

{ MDC }

WWW.MASSIMODECARLO.COM

MASSIMODECARLO



Caption: TBT, 2016, 96x72 inches,
Acrylic, enamel, and glitter on linen
Courtesy MDC Hong Kong



Caption: TBT, 2016, 98 ½ x 74 ½ inches,
Acrylic, enamel, and glitter on linen in hand painted
artist's frame
Courtesy MDC Hong Kong



Caption: Massimo De Carlo gallery in Pedder Building, Hong Kong

{ MDC }

WWW.MASSIMODECARLO.COM

MASSIMODECARLO

High-resolution images can be downloaded here:

Link: gallery.sinclairasia.com

Password: talkofthetown

About Massimo De Carlo gallery:

Massimo De Carlo (MDC) gallery was founded in Milan in 1987 with its first exhibition by Olivier Mosset. Presently, the gallery is located at Via Ventura.

Massimo De Carlo gallery focuses on creating a dialogue between globally acknowledged contemporary artists, young and promising talents and more classical masters from the 50s and the 60s. The gallery actively promotes young European and American artists that play an important role in the international artistic scenery, and works on establishing a vital dialogue between the artists and international institutions, encouraging relationships between galleries, critics, curators, and collectors

The artists of the gallery have all gained international recognition and have been shown in galleries, museums, and biennials in most of Europe and the USA. All the artists are represented in important private and public collections.

Massimo De Carlo gallery works with diverse, internationally-respected artists active in different media, all represented in important private and public collections. The gallery deals in a distinctive combination of painting, drawing, installation, sculpture, photography, and video.

In 2009, Massimo De Carlo opened a new space in central London. As well as working with the historically represented artists, this venue focuses on emerging American artists. After many years of operating on the Asian territory, both in Mainland China and Hong Kong, Massimo De Carlo opens a new gallery in Hong Kong in 2016, located in the Pedder Building in Central.

Massimo De Carlo gallery Artists:

John Armleder, Massimo Bartolini, Gianfranco Baruchello, Sanford Biggers, Chris Burden, Maurizio Cattelan, Paul Chan, Marvin Gaye Chetwynd, Steven Claydon, Dan Colen, George Condo, Elmgreen & Dragset, Roland Flexner, Gelitin, Thomas Grünfeld, Carsten Höller, Christian Holstad, Rashid Johnson, Elad Lassry, Bertrand Lavier, Tony Lewis, Nate Lowman, Matthew Monahan, Olivier Mosset, Matt Mullican, Yan Pei-Ming, Diego Perrone, Paola Pivi, Rob Pruitt, Jim Shaw, Josh Smith, Rudolf Stingel, Piotr Ukiński, Kaari Upson, Andra Ursuta, Kelley Walker, Liu Xiaodong, Aaron Young, Andrea Zittel.

About Rob Pruitt:

Rob Pruitt was born in Washington, DC, and studied at the Corcoran College of Art and Design in Washington, DC, and Parsons School of Design in New York. His work has been included in numerous museum exhibitions, including an encompassing exhibition at the Brant Foundation in Greenwich, CT (2015), a 2013 mid-career retrospective at the Aspen Art Museum, a solo exhibition at Dallas Contemporary (2011), Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit (2015), Freiburg Kunstverein (2012); Le Consortium, Dijon (2002); and group shows such as "Empire State" at the

{ MDC }

WWW.MASSIMODECARLO.COM

MASSIMODECARLO

Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome (2012), “Pop Life” at Tate Modern (2009), and “Mapping the Studio” at Punta Della Dogana/Palazzo Grassi, Venice (2009).

In 2009, he debuted the “Rob Pruitt’s Art Awards,” at the Guggenheim Museum, an award show for the art world fashioned after the Oscars. In 2011, he was commissioned by the Public Art Fund to install “The Andy Monument,” a highly polished chrome sculpture of Andy Warhol (replete with shopping bags) in New York’s Union Square near the site of Warhol’s Factory.

301-302A Pedder Building, 12 Pedder Street, Central, Hong Kong

www.massimodecarlo.com

Instagram – www.instagram.com/massimodecarlo/gallery

Twitter – twitter.com/mdcgallery

WeChat – MDC 画廊

Opening Hours: Mon- Sat 10.30am-7pm.

Media Contacts:

For more information, please contact **Sinclair Communications** at (852) 2915 1234:

Sai Roshini Daswani | sairoshini@sinclairasia.com | (852) 9750 3229

Holly Chan | holly@sinclairasia.com | (852) 6246 7734

{ MDC }

WWW.MASSIMODECARLO.COM