

“TO LOVE TO FRESH 使我爱 使我新鲜”

Exhibition of Walasse Ting Paintings from the 1980s & 1990s

Press Release

Longmen Art Projects (Works from the 1980s)

Opening Reception: March 4, 2011 5-7:30pm

Exhibition: March 4 – May 31, 2011 10am – 6:30pm Daily

Venue Address: 2/F, 23 Sinan Mansions, No. 515 Fuxing Middle Rd., Shanghai

Media Contact: Zoey You (021) 64722838 x101 zoey@longmenartprojects.com

Hwa's Gallery (Works from the 1990s)

Opening Reception: March 4, 2011 7pm

Exhibition: March 4 – April 8, 2011 10am – 6pm Daily

Venue Address: G109 Red Town Art Garden, No. 570 West Huai Hai Road, Shanghai

Media Contact: Jin Jin (021) 61275120 master@hwasgallery.com

In March, 2011, as temperatures begin to warm and the flowers begin to blossom in the city of Shanghai, Longmen Art Projects and Hwa's Gallery, in a joint effort, will present an exhibition of colored ink on paper works by the internationally acclaimed artist Walasse Ting: **“TO LOVE TO FRESH 使我爱 使我新鲜” – Exhibition of Walasse Ting Paintings from the 1980s & 1990s**. Longmen Art Projects will exhibit works from the 1980s, and Hwa's will exhibit works from the 1990s – totaling approximately 70 works. The joint exhibition will bring forth a refreshing, romantic, and vibrant energy to the city of Shanghai as it defrosts from the rigid winter. Shanghai is also a childhood home of Walasse Ting, and the exhibition will be the largest one-man show for the artist since the 1997 exhibition at the Shanghai Art Museum.

Walasse Ting had always lived with passion, and he was also passionate about life itself. In 2002, he suffered a brain hemorrhage and could no longer produce artworks. In May, 2010, Walasse passed away in New York City.

In mid-November, 2010, Walasse's long-time agent, Alisan Fine Arts Gallery in Hong Kong organized an exhibition at the Hong Kong Arts Center – *I Love Flowers All My Life*; in late-November, The Taipei Fine Arts Museum held *From Heroic Expression to Resplendent Color: Walasse Ting Retrospective Exhibition*; and in early-December, Taipei SOKA Art Center launched *The Floral Journey-The Artistic Memoir of Walasse Ting*.

These three back-to-back exhibitions in Taiwan and Hong Kong were hugely successful, and especially in regards to the museum exhibition, enabled many who've followed Walasse Ting's

artistic development to see many previously unpublished works and get reacquainted with Walasse Ting.

Walasse's Son and daughter, Jesse and Mia, on their journeys to attend these exhibitions, twice visited Shanghai, and before their departure, they returned to Walasse's birthplace, Wuxi, and held a formal Buddhist ceremony; surrounded by Walasse's family and friends – a fallen leaf returning to its roots.

Walasse Ting's artistic world has always been filled with joy, power, and seduction. It has always attracted those who share the same passion as he did, and his art never fails to impress upon his audience a visual impression of life. Walasse's audience is often drawn into a fantastical world of grace and magnificence, where the flowers blossom, the songs of youth, and sensual pleasures combine to create a climactic hyperbole.

Walasse Ting gracefully captures female figures, plants, landscapes, and animals, and composes visually pleasing and colorful pictures, expressing his inner, tender emotions. Walasse's works on paper have always been popular with the East and the West, due to their unique vibrant colors and energetic compositions. Walasse's heart has always been filled with Eastern sentiments, as evident from the black ink outlines applied on both paper and canvas works. Since the 1980s, he called himself "The Flower Pirate" and "Mr. Distinguished" – a proud statement of his own celebrity status, as well as proclaiming that he is the real creator and discoverer of the female beauty.