

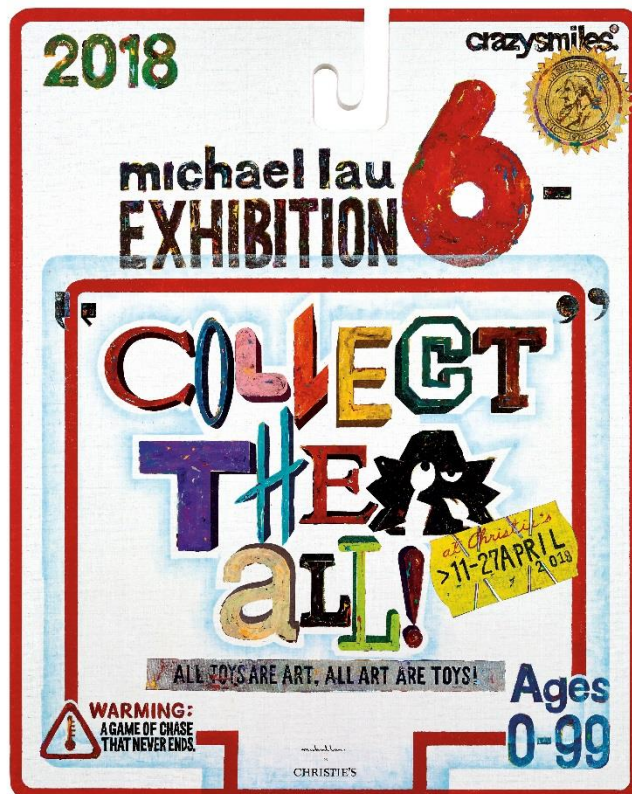
CHRISTIE'S

MEDIA ALERT | HONG KONG | 12 March 2018
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Christie's Hong Kong & Michael Lau Host the Artist's Inaugural Private Selling Exhibition at Christie's “COLLECT THEM ALL !”

| 10 April- Press Call- 11:00am |

| 10-27 April Exhibition |



COLLECT THEM ALL!

Painted in 2018
Acrylic on canvas
152 x 122 cm.

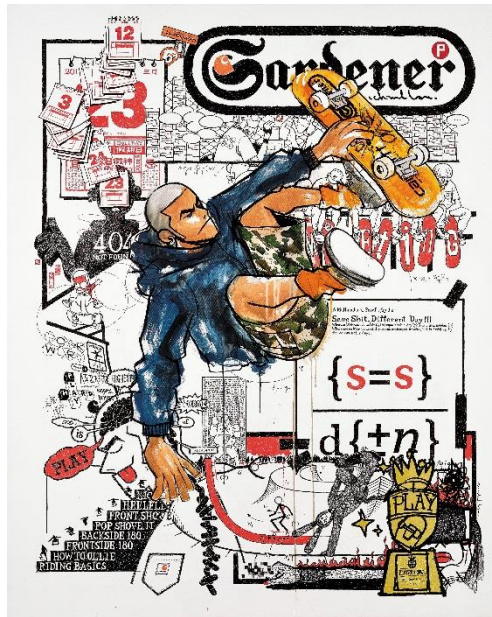
Hong Kong – From April 11-27, 2018, Christie's, in collaboration with Michael Lau, will present a private selling exhibition featuring over 40 unconventional, graphic and three-dimensional works encompassing six original themes. The exhibition will take place in Christie's Hong Kong gallery, offering viewers a fresh perspective on works across a dynamic range of media, exploring the concept of **“All Art Are Toys, All Toys Are Art”**.

Marcello Kwan, Vice President, Asian 20th Century and Contemporary Art Department, Christie's Asia, commented “We are thrilled to be working with Michael to host his first ever private selling exhibition at Christie's. Michael is a one-of-a kind artist whose experience of growing up in Hong Kong gave him a completely unique perspective on art. We hope Michael's innovative art forms will challenge viewers accepted conventions through the disruptive, even provocative dialogues his works create.”

Michael Lau added, “This collection of works is deeply personal to me, resonating with the fond memories and personal emotions I have accumulated throughout my life. When conceptualizing this exhibition, I wanted to move away from the tradition of framed works hanging on blank walls, but instead have my works displayed almost in a home-like setting, allowing the observer to plot a course through the exhibition as if they were in a private space. It is my belief that every work of art is like a collector's toy, and that every passionate individual is driven to keep acquiring until they have built their dream collection”.

Exhibition Themes:

Part I: Gardener 1999



PLAY

Painted in 2017
Acrylic on canvas
152.5 x 122 cm.

As the genesis of Michael's artistic career, the **Gardener** action figure series was first unveiled in 1999, kickstarting the global "ARTOY" cultural phenomenon. The selection of action figure characters was inspired by his friends, which included graffiti artists, skateboarders, DJs and rappers, who are passionate about street culture.

Part II: Crazychildren 2000

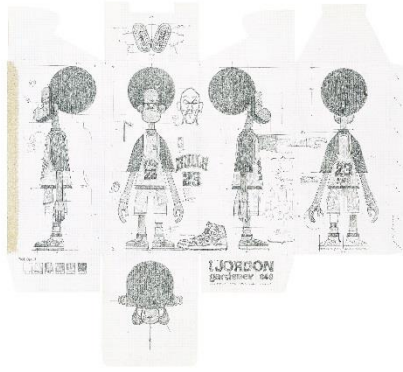


SALVATOR MICHAEL

Painted in 2018
Acrylic on canvas
diameter 152 cm.

Building on the success of the 1999 Gardener series, the **Crazychildren** series features nine figures each coming with a distinctive segment, that could be detached then re-assembled again to form a figure depicting Michael. A standout set of works from the exhibition in both painting and 3D format is **Salvator Michael**, in which the artist uses his likeness, emulating the pose of Da Vinci's *Salvator Mundi*. In this work, the large capsule toy in his left hand represents limitless opportunities, while the right hand with fingers crossed blesses collectors in their pursuit to "collect them all", referring to their desires to grow their art collections.

Part III: 6-inches Vinyl Figures (2003 to 2017)



6" JORDON
Executed in 2018
Pencil on Carton Box
68 x 74.4 cm.

First created between 2003 and 2017, Michael's renowned 6-inch figures have been reimagined, bringing new life to this popular series. The images of these figures have been transferred onto paper boxes, which when unfolded become a sketch pad, transforming the work into a new medium. Also featured is **Jordon**, one of the most popular characters of the Gardener series, which pays tribute to the *Wall of Jordan*, the first large-scale painting jointly presented by the artist and Christie's and sold in a charity sale in 2017 for HK\$1,375,000.

Part IV: Remember-Disc · Time-Table



ONE SWEET ONE
SHIT!!!
Painted in 2018
Acrylic on canvas
Diameter 122 cm.

Under this theme, Michael draws inspiration from Scandinavian vintage wooden tables and discs, emulating their shapes and textures on canvas, then layering phrases and imagery to create eye-catching pieces that push the boundaries of his expressive style. The paintings will also be featured alongside their related sculptures.

Part V: what? we: want!



404 NOT FOUND
Painted in 2016
Acrylic on canvas
122 x 122 cm.

what? we: want! was the title of Michael's solo exhibition held at Times Square Hong Kong in 2016. The three Ws stand for the abbreviation of World Wide Web. This theme explores modern day societies' dependence and continued assimilation with the virtual world, as well as the shifting social relationships between humanity. Created with innovative materials such as sponges, a leading highlight includes **404 Not Found**.

Part VI: Package-Change



WARM

Painted in 2018
Acrylic on canvas
152.5 x 122 cm.

In **Package-Change**, Michael examines the pivotal role attractive packaging plays for toy collectors, and the lengths manufacturers take to ensure this. Exploring this notion further, he examines how people attempt to change their own exterior “packaging” to gain acceptance and recognition with their peers. Reflecting this concept are paintings depicting the packaging of five toys, and three-dimensional sculptures enveloped in acrylic resins. Highlight pieces include: *Passion, Respect, Honesty, Inclusion and Competence*.

Notes to Editors

| 10 April- Press Call- 11:00am |

| 10-27 April Exhibition |

| James Christie Room, 22nd Floor, Alexandra House, 18 Chater Road, Central, Hong Kong |

| Hashtags- #ChristiesXmichaellau #collectthemall #michaellau #christies #allartaretoys

#alltoysareart #contemporaryart |

Click [HERE](#) for images

About Michael Lau



Known as the “Godfather of designer Toys”, Michael Lau Kin-man is an acclaimed Hong Kong artist born in the 1970s when the city was at the peak of industrialization and exported various kinds of toys to leading stores in the U.S. and around the world. Every toy was a rare treasure to young Michael and played a key role in his childhood. His growing passion for toys eventually led him to a career in toy design.

Additionally, Michael Lau has been seen as the godfather of urban vinyl, being largely recognized as the pioneer who launched the trend in the 90s. He was prominently featured in the article “20 Trends Sweeping the Globe” by Forbes Magazine in the January 08 issues.

After graduating from the First Institute of Art and Design in Hong Kong in 1992, Michael held his first solo painting exhibition at the Pao Galleries of the Hong Kong Arts Centre in the following year. In 1999, the prolific graphic designer lent his creativity to action figure design and created the “Gardener” series that juxtaposed his favourite G.I. Joe action figures and street culture. A total of 99 12-inch action figures were featured in his solo exhibition held at the Hong Kong Arts Centre. His passion for figure creation and remarkable achievements garnered global attention and brought him the opportunity to showcase his works in different cities in Japan, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Taipei, London and Paris, leading the global trend of collectible designer toys as an independent designer.





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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in 2017 that totalled £5.1 billion / \$6.6 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and international expertise. Christie's offers around 350 auctions annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$100 million. Christie's also has a long and successful history conducting private sales for its clients in all categories, with emphasis on Post-War & Contemporary, Impressionist & Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery.

Alongside regular sales online, Christie's has a global presence in 46 countries, with 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

**Please note when quoting estimates above that other fees will apply in addition to the hammer price - see Section D of the Conditions of Sale at the back of the sale catalogue.*

**Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and are reported net of applicable fees.*

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Images available on request

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