

PRESS RELEASE

Date: 23 October 2021

The Hong Kong Laureate Forum Partners with the Consulate General of France in Hong Kong and Macau to Showcase Captivating Collaboration between Science and Art at InnoCarnival 2021

The Innovation and Technology Commission of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government announced today the official opening of the nine-day InnoCarnival 2021, at the Hong Kong Science Park. The Council of the Hong Kong Laureate Forum (HKLF) is delighted to partner with the Consulate General of France in Hong Kong and Macau (CGF) to present the Hong Kong debut of the virtual reality (VR) artwork, "I Will Sleep When I'm Dead", created by renowned French artist, Ms Jeanne SUSPLUGAS, at InnoCarnival 2021.

Underscoring the theme "Innovate for a Bright Future", InnoCarnival 2021 will take place from 23 October until 31 October 2021. The event comprises a full array of activities including exhibitions, game booths, a series of online talks and workshops. As one of the exhibitors, the HKLF and the CGF co-present a unique VR experience that allows participants to dive into a headful of neurons and synapses, get lost in an infinite labyrinth and cross "thoughts" illustrated by drawings looking like pictograms. Officiating guests of the opening ceremony, Mr Paul CHAN, GBM, GBS, MH, JP, Financial Secretary, and Mr Alfred SIT, JP, Secretary for Innovation and Technology, together with Mr Alexandre GIORGINI, Consul General of France in Hong Kong and Macau, Benjamin CABOUAT, Consul (Culture, Education & Science), Consulate General of France in Hong Kong and Macau, and Prof Timothy W TONG, BBS, JP, Chairman of the HKLF, marveled at how the crossover between science and art unleased new creativity during their tour of the HKLF booth.

Prof Tong said, "One of the missions of the HKLF is to promote understanding and interests of the young generation in Hong Kong in various disciplines in science and technology. We believe that by collaborating with the CGF to host such a fun-filled yet thought provoking VR

experience, we would enable the public, particularly our young generation, to immerse themselves in the exploration of science and technology."

"Innovate for a sustainable future lies amongst France's top priorities. We are proud of being part of InnoCarnival 2021 through our meaningful partnership with the HKLF. I hope the VR artwork by the French artist Ms Jeanne SUSPLUGAS, crossing over art and science, displayed at the HKLF booth, will be inspiring for all!", said the Consul General of France in Hong Kong and Macau, Mr Alexandre GIORGINI.

The VR experience "I Will Sleep When I'm Dead" presented in Hong Kong for the first time at the InnoCarnival 2021 is a teaser for the "French Science Festival 2021 [BRAIN]STORM", which will be held from 5 to 22 November in Hong Kong, honouring French excellence in neurosciences research.

The HKLF will run the booth throughout the whole InnoCarnival 2021 from today (23 October) to 31 October (10am - 6 pm on weekends and 10am - 5pm on weekdays) at Booth D01, Green Zone, Phase 3, Hong Kong Science Park. The public are welcome to join in the fun-filled event and learn more about how innovation and technology have helped to improve the convenience and comfort of their daily lives. All activities are free-of-charge. For details, please visit InnoCarnival's website (https://innocarnival.hk/en/).

For high resolution photos, please click <u>here</u>.



(From left) Mr Alfred SIT, JP, Secretary for Innovation and Technology, Dr the Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP, Ms Annie CHOI, JP, Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology, Mr CHUA Hoi Wai, JP, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service, Mr Paul CHAN, GBM, GBS, MH, JP, Financial Secretary, Mr Alexandre GIORGINI, Consul General of France in Hong Kong and Macau, and Prof Timothy W TONG, BBS, JP, Chairman of the HKLF, visited the HKLF Booth.



The HKLF partners with CGF to present the Hong Kong debut of the VR work of Ms Jeanne SUSPLUGAS at InnoCarnival 2021.



Mr Paul CHAN, GBM, GBS, MH, JP, Financial Secretary, experienced "I Will Sleep When I'm Dead" at the HKLF booth.



HKLF booth runs from 23 to 31 October at Hong Kong Science Park. Members of the public are welcome to experience the VR and fun-filled event in person.

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About the Hong Kong Laureate Forum

The Hong Kong Laureate Forum (the Forum) is a world-class scientific exchange and networking event to be organised by the HKLF to aspire and connect the current and next generations of leaders in scientific pursuit. The Forum also aims to promote understanding and interests of the young generation in Hong Kong and around the world in various disciplines in science and technology, in particular Astronomy, Life Science and Medicine, and Mathematical Sciences. The inaugural Forum will be held on 7-12 November 2022 at the Hong Kong Science Park.

The HKLF was established in May 2019 and is fully sponsored by the Lee Shau Kee Foundation. The Shaw Prize Foundation - which organises annually the renowned international award, The Shaw Prize, is the major partner of the HKLF. Since its launch, the HKLF has been putting every effort to promote science in the community and around the world as well as in

preparation of the inaugural Forum.

Website: https://www.hklaureateforum.org

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