

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT 主席報告

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The Honourable
Mrs Carrie Lam Cheng
Yuet-ngor, GBS, JP
Chairman of the Board
林鄭月娥女士, GBS, JP
董事局主席

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I am pleased to present the 2014/15 Annual Report of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCDA).

The 12 months under review saw intensive development of the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) project. The architectural design and construction of our planned facilities have moved full steam ahead. Meanwhile, continuous progress was made on audience and capacity building which saw us engage with many thousands of people and build relationships across the artistic community.

It was with great pleasure and excitement that I officiated at the time capsule ceremony held at the M+ site in January 2015 to celebrate the commencement of construction of the museum building. This defining moment underlined the importance the Government attaches to developing Hong Kong into an international arts and cultural metropolis. The museum is scheduled for completion in the second half of 2018 and will open to the public in 2019.

Construction of the Xiqu Centre is also progressing well. The superstructure works commenced in December 2014 to deliver the building in 2017 as planned. Upon completion, the Xiqu Centre will provide a landmark platform for the development of different Chinese theatrical performances in a contemporary setting.

Two smaller theatres previously planned for elsewhere on the site will now be incorporated into the Lyric Theatre to form the Lyric Theatre Complex. This change will enhance the vibrancy in the vicinity of M+ and Artist Square and expedite the delivery of some planned facilities for public enjoyment in a cost-effective manner.

In July this year, the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved the funding for part of the integrated basement and public infrastructure works for WKCD. This will ensure timely commencement of construction works later this year in tandem with the early batch of the WKCD facilities.

Following unveiling of the concept design for the Park in July last year, construction is planned to start in early 2016. The Authority has prepared a set of draft bylaw and guidelines to manage the future Park and other public open spaces within the District and has been engaging various stakeholders to seek their views and comments. I took part in a town hall meeting with members of the 18 District Councils in March 2015 to gauge their views. By the time this annual report is published, a temporary Park, namely the Nursery Park, has been opened to visitors allowing them to experience the atmosphere of the future Park and see how we intend to manage it as a welcoming space for the public to enjoy.

我欣然提呈西九文化區管理局(管理局)2014/15周年報告。

回顧這12個月，西九文化區(西九)項目經歷了緊湊的發展，規劃設施的建築設計及施工均全速進行。與此同時，我們在拓展觀眾群及培育人才方面亦取得持續的進展——數以千計的市民曾參與我們舉辦的活動，而我們亦與藝術界人士建立良好關係。

2015年1月，我在M+博物館的施工現場主持了時間囊放置儀式，慶祝博物館大樓動工興建，實在令人欣慰興奮。這個重要時刻彰顯政府致力發展香港成為國際文化藝術大都會。博物館預期於2018年下半年落成，並於2019年啟用。

戲曲中心的施工進度理想，主上蓋工程已於2014年12月展開，預計於2017年如期落成。戲曲中心竣工後，將為不同種類的中國戲劇表演的當代發展創造一個地標式新平台。

原計劃在西九其他地點興建的兩個中小型劇場，現與演藝劇場合併成為演藝綜合劇場，為M+博物館及藝術廣場附近地區增添活力，令部分已規劃的設施可更早供市民享用，更具成本效益。

立法會財務委員會亦於今年7月通過西九綜合地庫及基礎建設工程的部分撥款申請，以確保有關工程能於本年較後時間適時展開，以配合西九早期設施的啟用。

繼去年7月公布公園的概念設計後，建造工程將於2016年初展開。管理局已就管理未來西九公園及文化區內其他公眾休憩用地草擬一套附例及指引，並已諮詢不同持份者。我曾出席於2015年3月為18區區議會安排的簡介會，聽取區議員的意見。本年報出版之時，名為「苗圃公園」的臨時公園經已對外開放，讓訪客感受未來西九公園的氛圍，以及讓大眾愉快享用公園的管理理念。

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With the project on track, we are devoting increasing efforts to animate the site and build audiences. The Authority has been active in engaging both the local arts sector as well as the wider community. It has embarked on a series of public programmes like the *Mobile M+* series of exhibitions, *Take A Swing, DECADE*, the *M+ Matters* public talks and the *Xiqu Centre Seminar Series*. At the same time, the Authority has sought to strengthen its connections with artists, art groups and other counterparts from Hong Kong, Asia and beyond, through programmes such as *New Works Forum*, *M+ Visiting Artist Programme* and the *M+ / Design Trust Research Fellowship*.

This year, WKCD's two signature events returned with immense success and public appreciation. The *Freespace Fest* attracted a record turnout of over 43,000 people who came to enjoy the best local and international acts in music, dance, literary art and physical theatre, while the *Rising Stars of Cantonese Opera*, which staged performances by emerging talents for 10 nights in February 2015, continued our tradition of celebrating Chinese New Year with the public.

M+ collaborated with the Hong Kong Arts Development Council for the second time in bringing works of talented Hong Kong artists to the Venice Art Biennale. At the opening ceremony of the Hong Kong exhibition at the 56th Venice Biennale presenting the works of Mr Tsang Kin-wah, I had a first-hand experience of the enthusiastic reception and expectation of the WKCD project and Hong Kong artists in the international art community. We should feel motivated by this achievement.

Like any other public project spanning a long period of time, the WKCD project has to deal with fluctuations in costs. We recognise the challenges brought by significant construction cost escalation and attach great importance to the financial management of the project. The Authority will continue to control costs prudently to ensure that its endowment is well spent.

項目按計劃推進的同時，我們亦更努力為西九用地注入活力和拓展觀眾群。管理局一直十分重視本地藝術界及社會各界的參與，先後推出「M+進行」展覽系列、「自由擺」、「拾·年」、「M+思考」公眾論壇、「戲曲中心講座系列」等公眾節目。此外，管理局亦透過「新作論壇」、「M+藝術家到訪計劃」、「M+ / Design Trust研究資助計劃」等項目，致力加強與本港、亞洲以至世界各地的藝術家、藝術團體和其他相關人士的連繫。

今年西九兩大盛事均取得空前成功和公眾的欣賞。「自由野」破紀錄吸引了超過43,000名觀眾入場，欣賞頂尖的本地與國際音樂、舞蹈、文本藝術及形體劇場的精彩表演。而於2015年2月舉行的「西九戲曲中心粵劇新星展」，粵劇新星粉墨登場，呈獻一連10晚的精彩演出，延續我們與市民共慶新春的傳統。

M+博物館再度與香港藝術發展局攜手合作，將本地才華洋溢的藝術家的作品再次帶到威尼斯視藝雙年展。在本地藝術家曾建華於第56屆威尼斯視藝雙年展個展的開幕禮上，我親身感受到國際藝壇對西九項目及香港藝術家的熱烈歡迎和深切期待，我們應為此感到鼓舞。

正如其他需跨越多年發展的公共工程項目，西九項目亦須面對成本變動的問題。我們清楚知道建築成本大幅上漲帶來的挑戰，並十分重視項目的財政管理。管理局將繼續嚴控成本，確保撥款能用得其所。

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In the area of governance, I am delighted to report that Mr Ronald Arculli was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Board. The WKCD has grown enormously in scale and complexity over recent years and Mr Arculli's appointment will help to ensure that, as a Board, we keep pace with that growth and development. My gratitude also goes to the recently retired and current Board members for their wise counsel and valuable contributions over the past three years of my chairmanship.

I am pleased that Professor John Leong Chi-yan has accepted the re-appointment as Chairman of the Consultation Panel for continuing to serve as a bridge between the public and the WKCD at a critical moment of the WKCD development. I also thank all the exceptional people who work at the Authority and on the WKCD project, and who share the vision of making WKCD a unique world class cultural destination.

I would like to conclude my statement by paying tribute to Mr Michael Lynch, the Chief Executive Officer. None of the achievements reported earlier would have been possible without his able leadership, drive, intelligence and determination. He has led the WKCD team for four years and in that time the WKCD project has moved forward from concept to vision and into reality and become a well-known entity in the international art and culture arena. Michael has left us earlier this month. We wish him all the best in his retirement and thank him for his commitment to the project.

We will continue to take forward the WKCD project with determination and strive to create an extraordinary cultural experience that embraces the best of both the East and the West and makes Hong Kong people proud.

Mrs Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, GBS, JP**林鄭月娥女士, GBS, JP**Chairman of the Board of West Kowloon Cultural District Authority
西九文化區管理局董事局主席Hong Kong, 31 August 2015
2015年8月31日於香港

機構管治方面，我欣然報告夏佳理先生已獲委任為董事局的副主席。管理局的規模和架構近年不斷壯大，是項委任將有助確保董事局的步伐緊貼管理局的成長與發展。我亦衷心感謝現任及剛卸任的董事局成員，在我出任主席的三年期間給予賣力貢獻與真知灼見。

我很高興梁智仁教授答應再度接受委任為諮詢會主席，在西九發展的關鍵時刻繼續擔當公眾與管理局之間的橋樑。我亦感謝管理局內所有盡心竭力的員工、為西九項目出力的優秀人員，以及與我們擁有共同願景把西九建設成獨一無二的世界級文化地標的各界人士。

在我總結這份報告之際，我希望向行政總裁連納智先生致以衷心謝意。他的英明領導、推動力、智慧及決心，促成上文所述的累累碩果。他在過去四年帶領管理局的團隊，逐步把西九項目從概念轉化成願景，繼而將之實現，並在國際藝壇大放異彩。連先生已於本月初卸任，謹此為其退休生活送上誠摯祝福，並感謝他對項目作出的貢獻。

我們決意繼續帶領西九項目向前邁進，致力創造出中西薈萃的獨特文化體驗，令香港人引以為傲。