



For Immediate Release

Taipa Village Cultural Association Proudly Presents "Who Heeds a Man who Sits and Wails Out in the Cold? – Illustrations and Drawings by Rui Rasquinho" A collection of artworks inspired by Chinese literature



Macau, 3<sup>rd</sup>April 2020 – Taipa Village Cultural Association is honoured to present a unique art collection entitled "Who Heeds a Man who Sits and Wails Out in the Cold? – Illustrations and Drawings by Rui Rasquinho". The exhibition showcases an array of illustrations by Rui Rasquinho, a Macau-based Portuguese artist whose latest work is inspired by Chinese literature written by controversial Chinese literary scholars.

The exhibition showcases a selection of works from a series that Rasquinho had previously published in a local Portuguese-language newspaper *Hoje Macau* on weekly basis from 2012 to 2019. The illustrations were inspired by ancient Chinese literature written by controversial Chinese literary scholars such as Li He (790-816 AD), Wang Chong (27-100 AD), Huainanzi (139 BC) and Wen Tzu (742 AD). The title of the exhibition is taken from a poem entitled "Let Wine Be Brought In", written by Li He. Despite the work in the exhibition displays strong Chinese and oriental elements, it is also inspired by elements of Western classical and contemporary art.

The wisdom of the Chinese literary scholars intrigued Rasquinho, prompting him to explore their time-honoured work in a pursuit of authenticity and beauty that is also emblematic of the cultural diversity of Taipa Village. To visualise the scholars' wisdom, Rasquinho presents an array of illustrations and drawings by combining his abstract style and the format of Chinese foldable books, the development of which he has dedicated a great deal of time over the past six years. From Rasquinho's stance, the accordion-like





foldable books (known as "Orihon") offer an opportunity for audiences to explore and interpret the work in their own way, revealing a perspective that differs from typical graphical painting.

Originally from Lisbon, Rasquinho moved to Macau in 1996, working as an artist and illustrator specialising in various fields, including drawing, painting and videography. Rasquinho continues to develop his abstract artistic style and explore different possibilities to curate art pieces in different forms to best express his innermost perceptions. Chinese and oriental artistic culture has inspired him greatly and contributed to his growth as an artist over the past ten years.

"We are honoured to exclusively showcase the illustration collection of Rasquinho for Macau art enthusiasts and connoisseurs," says João Ó, President of the Executive Board at Taipa Village Cultural Association. "As a Macau-based Portuguese artist, Rui Rasquinho manifests a defined evolution of his artistic skills in illustrations in his exhibition, inviting visitors to interpret his fascination for delving into Chinese literature through his multicultural and multi-faceted bilingual lens. More importantly, the exhibition bridges East and West to revisit the heritage of ancient Chinese literature dating back to 139 BC within the Pearl River Delta region."

Taipa Village Cultural Association continues to bring together the endeavours of local and international art talents by exhibiting a multitude of artworks at Taipa Village Art Space. Embodying Rasquinho's multicultural background, this exhibition represents another step in further transforming Taipa Village into a lively centre for east-meet-west artistic and cultural intelligence that further promotes the cultural and creative industries in Macau.

Exhibition Period	: 8 <sup>th</sup> April – 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2020
Opening hours	: 12.00 pm – 8.00 pm
Venue	: Taipa Village Art Space, 10 Rua dos Clerigos, Taipa, Macau
Artist	: Rui Rasquinho
Media	: Chinese
Admission	: Free





# About Taipa Village Cultural Association

Taipa Village Cultural Association was established in 2016 as a non-profit association comprised of representatives from both local community and wider Macau. The association aims to highlight the uniqueness of Taipa Village's heritage by raising awareness of its attractions and cementing its position as a distinctive community that benefits all of Macau.

Numerous initiatives are planned to preserve, enrich and cement the village's position as a tourist and cultural destination, including a diverse range of artistic and cultural attractions that will allow visitors and future generations to enjoy a unique experience of the authentic Macau.

## About Taipa Village

Located in an historic enclave on Taipa Island, Taipa Village was originally inhabited by fishermen – a heritage that lives on today in its quaint village street layout and evocative, pastel-hued shop houses, nestled alongside colonial churches and Chinese temples. The village, with its rich history, offers an inspiring, East-meets-West alternative to Macau's casinos, and is a must-go destination for visitors and locals alike.

#### About the Artist

Rui Rasquinho is an illustrator and visual artist based in Macau and Lisbon. He studied painting in the Fine Arts Faculty at the University of Porto and at the Animation Cinema at the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon. He regularly publishes illustrative work in magazines, newspapers and books. He also creates and exhibits drawings, paintings and videos.

## www.taipavillagemacau.org.mo

#### For more information and images, please contact:

Pamela Chan / Kaman Un (Taipa Village Cultural Association) Tel: (853) 2857 6212 / (853) 2857 6116 Email: <u>pamela.chan@taipavillagemacau.com</u> / <u>kaman.un@taipavillagemacau.com</u>