

For immediate release

Media Release

**& Co. Partners National Gallery Singapore to Launch
Gallery & Co.**

Singapore, 14 August 2015 – & Co. together with the National Gallery Singapore have partnered to present Gallery & Co., a new F&B and retail concept housed within National Gallery Singapore. Taking inspiration from Southeast Asian art and culture, Gallery & Co. fuses art and design into a curated retail experience featuring specially designed products for the museum, books, design collectibles and prints, amongst others, as well as a quick-service, casual dining venue (comprising a café and cafeteria). This beautiful space spans the entire frontage of the City Hall Wing on the ground floor, overlooking the historically significant Padang.

The partners of & Co. are local industry heavyweights Loh Lik Peng (Unlisted Collection), Yah-Leng Yu and Arthur Chin (Foreign Policy Design), along with Alwyn Chong (Luxasia). This new venture combines their diverse experience and depth of expertise, creating a unique platform for cross-disciplinary projects spanning retail, F&B, art, design and culture. Leading the culinary direction at Gallery & Co. will be Lik Peng, while Yah-Leng and Arthur oversee the branding, space and product design. Alwyn heads & Co.'s retail strategy, forming a dream team with Yah-Leng to direct & Co.'s merchandising vision, curate brands and identify exciting collaborations exclusive to Gallery & Co.

The partnership between National Gallery Singapore and & Co. epitomises how a well-structured public-private sector collaboration can bring about an inspired outcome that is bold and visionary.

“This collaboration creates a seamless experience for visitors as they extend their art journey into Gallery & Co. to shop, read and dine. We are delighted that & Co. responded to our brief with a pitch that reflects our unique visitor experience

philosophy. We welcome visitors to explore Gallery & Co. when it opens, and be among the first to immerse in an experience that is unique to National Gallery Singapore,” said Ms Chong Siak Ching, CEO, National Gallery Singapore.

Opening out to the Padang, Gallery & Co.’s café, cafeteria and bar will be all-day dining concepts. With Chef Sufian Zain of Restaurant Ember as consultant chef, the cafeteria’s menu will feature the distinctive flavours of Southeast Asia, reinterpreted with his signature pared down style. The café offers cakes, coffee and sweets from choice local purveyors and artisans, a perfect respite between exhibition hopping and a gathering place for friends.

Arthur shares, “At Gallery & Co., we want to dispel the elitist stigma associated with art. Being the first-ever museum shop in the world to house a bookstore, F&B establishments and retail in one continuous space, we hope to create a dynamic visitor experience that not only bookends a visit to the National Gallery Singapore, but is also a destination in its own right. By curating and purveying products that provoke curiosity and inspire, we hope to make art accessible to everyone.”

Conceived as an “Entrepôt of Visual Dialogues”, the Gallery & Co. retail experience emphasises a thoughtful medley of products. Exciting collaborations between Southeast Asian and international artists, designers, makers and labels will further implement the vision of a cross-cultural visual dialogue. In alignment with the Gallery’s focus on Singaporean and Southeast Asian art, the store’s offerings are inspired by culture from around the region – connecting Southeast Asia with the world, while simultaneously cultivating a deeper appreciation and understanding for Southeast Asian art.

Gallery & Co. is slated to open in November this year.

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ABOUT & CO.

Comprising Singaporean industry leaders Loh Lik Peng (Unlisted Collection), Yah-Leng Yu and Arthur Chin (Foreign Policy Design), as well as Alwyn Chong (Luxasia), & Co. is a collective with a shared vision to create interdisciplinary concepts that promote a cross-cultural dialogue. Distinctly Asian yet possessing a global perspective, it is a unique platform spanning their combined expertise in art, design, culture, F&B and retail. & Co. aims to create content that is accessible and inclusive, inspiring curiosity and a sense of discovery. Through projects that respect craft, creativity and the creative process, & Co. espouses an artful way of living.

& Co.'s inaugural project, Gallery & Co., is a progressive retail and F&B destination with a bookstore, café, cafeteria, bar and store in a continuous space. Housed within the historic former City Hall building at Singapore's premier arts institution, this venture is done in partnership with the National Gallery Singapore.

ABOUT NATIONAL GALLERY SINGAPORE

National Gallery Singapore is a new visual arts institution which oversees the largest public collection of modern art of Singapore and Southeast Asia. The Gallery is dedicated to collaborative research, education and exhibitions, highlighting the importance of modern art in Southeast Asia in a global context. The Gallery also provides a unique visitor experience through its collections and innovative programming, positioning Singapore as a regional and international hub for the visual arts.

Situated in the heart of the Civic District, the National Gallery Singapore has been beautifully restored and transformed from the former Supreme Court and City Hall buildings – two important heritage buildings of Singapore's nationhood – into an exciting new visual arts venue. Opening in November 2015, the Gallery will be a leading civic and cultural destination established for the enrichment, enjoyment and engagement of Singapore residents and visitors from all over the world. Information on the National Gallery is available at www.nationalgallery.sg.

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& CO. PARTNERS

Loh Lik Peng (Unlisted Collection)

The man behind numerous award-winning restaurants within Singapore, Shanghai and London, hotelier and restaurateur Lik Peng has an established and well-documented track record of fresh and dynamic F&B concepts. With him leading the culinary programme at Gallery & Co., guests can look forward to carefully crafted menus by chefs from Unlisted Collection's stable, such as Chef Sufian Zain of Restaurant Ember.

Yah-Leng Yu and Arthur Chin (Foreign Policy Design)

Foreign Policy Design's Yah-Leng and Arthur specialise in creating unique branded experiences as a creative think-tank. Featured regularly in design publications, they have spoken at international conferences, and are the recipients of multiple awards and industry accolades. Their portfolio consists of a wide array of art, fashion, lifestyle and hospitality clients, and they are the go-to creatives for many of Lik Peng's projects. Taking the reins for all creative matters at Gallery & Co., Yah-Leng and Arthur oversee everything from conceptualising specially designed National Gallery Singapore exclusive merchandise inspired by its collection, to space planning, interior design, and designing the products, packaging and branding, right down to the uniforms.

Alwyn Chong (Luxasia)

Alwyn sets the retail direction and vision for Gallery & Co., bringing with him a practical and adroit understanding of retail management. As the Country Manager of Luxasia China, Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand, he has led the group to work with principals like the Coty Group, LVMH, Beiersdorf, Burberry, P&G, and PUIG to establish a foothold for their beauty brands in 11 Asian markets. His retail insight and aptitude for picking out products makes him and Yah-Leng a dream team on the merchandising front.