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11 Million Reasons To See Macau Photo Exhibition

A new photo exhibition, entitled 11 Million Reasons, aims to raise social awareness of Macau's underprivileged and disabled community

By Macau Tatler on Aug 01, 2017



The organisers of the Dream With Love campaign hope to shine a light on Macau's disabled community with a trio of photo exhibitions at Taipa Village, special performance sessions by speakers from Macau Autism Association, Macau Deaf Association, the Arts with the Disabled Association Hong Kong, and other individuals who will share their experiences in tackling disabilities.



Red Shoes (Commissioned by People Dancing, photography Sean Goldthorpe)

The campaign, sponsored by the Macao Foundation, and supported by the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Macao S.A.R Government, features the renowned *11 Million Reasons* photographic exhibition, complemented by two Macau photography series, *The Harmony Collection* and *The Dream Collection*, which reveal the beauty and authenticity of disability art.



High School Musical (Commissioned by People Dancing, photography Sean Goldthorpe)

11 Million Reasons, produced by People Dancing, is a photographic exhibition by emerging disabled photographer Sean Goldthorpe, who, with support from Unlimited Impact, was commissioned to create 20 new works inspired by iconic dance moments in film.



Chicago (Commissioned by People Dancing, photography Sean Goldthorpe)

From the classic *Red Shoes* to *Chicago* and *High School Musical*, each image has been re-imagined with a cast of professional and non-professional disabled dancers, resulting in visuals that are both familiar and unique.



"I named the exhibition *11 Million Reasons* as of the time of making the UK government statistics stated that there were 11.6 million people registered as disabled," says Louise Wildish, producer of People Dancing. "Although this number is estimated to be much more than this, the term and title *11 Million Reasons* seemed a way to fully represent disabled people and to send a message that disability affects most families in the UK. We wanted to change perceptions and for disabled people to see themselves within this campaign and ultimately be included in our dance community."



Continental Flair, The Dream Collection (Photo: Courtesy of Taipa Village Destination Limited)

The Dream Collection consists of inspiring images shot by members of the MacauDeaf Association under the guidance of the Macao Digital Photography Association (MDPA). Developed around the theme of “The World in My Eye”, the photos not only share the photographers’ perception of Taipa Village but deliver a positive message to the general public that physical constraints do not affect personal ability.



Changes, The Dream Collection (Photo: Courtesy of Taipa Village Destination Limited)

Meanwhile, *The Harmony Collection* consists of touching images captured over two weekends of Easter egg painting and treasure hunting. These emotive images reflect neighbourhood scenes, as well as the care and attention shown by the volunteers to kids and teenagers with disabilities.



Never Give Up, The Harmony Collection (Photo: Courtesy of Taipa Village Destination Limited)

All three exhibitions, presented by the Taipa Village Cultural Association, in partnership with the British Council and the MDPA, offer a different perspective on disability, demonstrating how photography as a resource and inspiration to deaf and disabled people, can reach out to audiences who would not normally have access to disability arts.

See also: [Vhils Brings His Explosive Murals To Macau](#)

There are more than 20,000 disabled people in Macau requiring care and assistance,” says Joao O, President of the Executive Board, Taipa Village Cultural Association, adding that he hopes the campaign will help to erode social barriers and promote a more caring Macau.

Until August 31

Free admission

10:00am – 7:00pm

Exhibitions Gallery, Taipa Houses-Museum, Avenida da Praia, Taipa Village

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