

Hang it Up

How to display art in your own home – expert tips and tricks from those in the know

專家分享在家陳列藝術品的心得

BY KATE FARR & RACHEL READ



When setting your sights on a beautiful new piece of art, the chances are that you will have done your homework on the artist, school of work and even the potential for appreciation in value. But what about the more practical question of how and where to display your new purchase? With every home having its own specific challenges when it comes to showcasing art, we asked the experts for invaluable advice on how to ensure a new piece has pride of place in your home.

當你定睛注視一幅藝術作品時，大概已對創作人略有認識，或甚為欣賞其價值，然而，實際問題如怎樣和在哪兒擺放新收藏，又應如何處理？每個家居也各自存在陳列藝術品的挑戰性。為此，我們特別請來專家，請教他們如何讓你新買回來的藝術作品在家中發揮最大魅力、完美綻放。

× WHO?



JAY SACHER & SUZANNE LAGASA

WRITER/ILLUSTRATOR & GRAPHIC DESIGNER

HOW TO HANG A PICTURE

Jay and Suzanne teamed up to co-author *How to Hang a Picture: and other Essential Lessons for the Stylish Home* – an easy-to-follow and practical guide to presenting your art to its best advantage. Behind the cover are real spaces that the authors admire, which have been beautifully recreated in watercolours by Jay, adding a charming and timeless quality to this indispensable manual.

著作*How to Hang a Picture: and other Essential Lessons for the Stylish Home*由Jay和Suzanne合作撰寫，是一本簡易實用的陳列藝術品指南。作者帶來多個心水真實空間，並由Jay以水彩重新描繪打造，為手冊加入永恆魅力點綴。

howtohangapicturebook.com

LOCATION, LOCATION

The first question that you should think about is “where?” Taking the space, light and surrounding furniture into consideration is key to finding the perfect spot | 專家們一致認同第一條你應想到的問題是「哪裡？」空間、燈光和周邊傢具是物色完美地點的關鍵

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According to Jay Sacher, you should hang your pictures at eye-level, approximately 144–152cm from the floor. “Space the edge of the piece at least 8cm from other works, and around 12–15cm from the edge of furniture.”

The surrounding environment needs careful consideration, too, when deciding on a location: “One needs to make sure there is not too much exposure to sun, wind or damp,” says Nathalie Edwards. For example, “gilded frames and fabric generally don’t live well in humid spaces like kitchens or bathrooms,” cautions Suzanne LaGasa.

When it comes to positioning multiple pieces on the wall, Nathalie suggests calculating placement by laying everything out on the floor first to identify any items that might not work in your display. She also advises hanging multiple pieces symmetrically if their frames are the same size. If sizes vary, however, Suzanne recommends creating a “salon wall” by hanging artworks at different heights to create an eye-catching display.

If you’re working with sculptures, Nathalie explains that “they’re best enjoyed from all angles, and can be displayed free-standing or on a pedestal, be it marble, wooden, or bespoke.” For a more intimate display, try using a side table.

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MIX MASTER

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Framed prints of varying sizes create an eye-catching collage in this Mid-Levels home by A Square Ltd

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It isn’t just about the size of the frame. Try playing around with the window mat size, too

Jay Sacher建議將油畫掛在水平視線，與地面離大約144至152厘米。「作品之間應預留最少8厘米空位，與傢具則應距離12至15厘米。」

周圍環境也同樣需要仔細考慮。Nathalie Edwards表示：「你要確保該處不會過份曝曬於陽光、風和濕氣中。」例如，Suzanne LaGasa提示道：「鍍金框和布藝多數不能長期擺放在潮濕空間如廚房和浴室。」

要處理多道藝術品的牆上擺放位置時，Nathalie提議先將所有東西放在地面計算擺位，再看看哪件難以配襯。如框架大小一樣，她建議將作品對稱掛放。如大小各異，Suzanne便教你造出「藝廊牆」——以不同高低掛放藝術品，營造有趣視覺效果。

若要處理雕塑，Nathalie解釋「它們應可從所有角度受欣賞，獨立陳列或放在底座上也行，如大理石、木或特製款式。」要打造靚觀效果，試試選用邊桌。

IN THE FRAME

You've found the perfect spot; now you must find the right frame | 完美位置已經找到，現在餘下要做的就是物色適當邊框

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HANGING AROUND

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Make an impact with a large artwork, as seen in Helen Lindman's home

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Simple black or white frames will work with any kind of art

Jay cautions against over-thinking: “The best advice is to just start the process. Take your unframed piece down to a trusted framing store and ask questions.” As for choosing a style of frame, he stresses, “There are no rules! However, simple, black or white frames are great neutrals that will work with any art.” There are budget-friendly cheats to be had along the way, too: “You can buy a pre-made frame, discard the window mat and get a replacement custom-cut at an art shop. This gives you a professional-looking piece for half the cost,” says Jay.

On the other hand, if you're framing valuable art, you'll need to consider the glass quality – be it UV-resistant, non-reflective or museum-quality. “More valuable pieces will require a higher specification finish,” says Nathalie. When choosing a framer, she recommends asking questions about materials, their previous commissions and galleries that they regularly work with to help with your decision.

Jay警告別過分考慮：「最好就是動手開始。將未上框的作品帶到有信譽的上框店問問。」至於風格選擇，他強調：「全無規則可言！但簡單的黑或白框是出色的中性色調，能配襯任何藝術品。」價格便宜亦可，Jay說：「你可以買現成框架，拆去框墊，再到美術手工店買些特別的代替款式，半價打造專業效果。」

另一方面，如果你正為珍貴藝術品上框，你需要考慮到玻璃的質素——防UV、不反光或達博物館級水平。Nathalie指：「愈珍貴的作品愈需要更高要求的特別修飾。」選擇上框師傅時，她建議要問清楚關於物料、以往受委託項目和常與哪些藝廊合作等問題，幫你下決定。

DIY OR CALL THE EXPERTS?

Once your piece is framed and ready to hang, you'll need to decide whether to attempt this yourself, or call in a professional | 如作品已上框、準備掛放，你現在需要考慮親自動手還是請教專業人士

This really depends on your level of confidence, the tools at your disposal and the condition of your walls. If you choose to go it alone, Jay suggests a thorough wall inspection. “If the piece is heavy, use at least two ‘museum-grade’ hangers to help distribute the weight,” he says. “If it's as heavy as a wall-mounted TV, visit a hardware store for advice on anchors appropriate for your needs.”

Meanwhile, Nathalie makes a case for calling the experts. “You really want to ensure the artwork is secured properly,” she says. “It's better to be over-secure than under!”

這視乎你的信心有多大、手頭上有哪些工具和牆身條件。如你決定自己出手，Jay提議先進行詳細的牆身檢查。「如作品重身，要用至少兩個『博物館級』掛架，平衡重量。」他指：「如果與掛牆電視重量相等，你可到五金店詢問更多。」

Nathalie絕對支持尋找專家幫忙：「你必定要確保藝術品擺放安全。過份安全也不為過！」

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NATHALIE EDWARDS

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
LIFE STYLING LTD

Born in the Netherlands and raised in South Africa, Nathalie's design roots stem from her career in the fashion industry. She now heads up her own interior design company in Hong Kong, sourcing unique materials from around the globe to create sophisticated and distinctive spaces for discerning clients.

生於荷蘭、在南非成長的Nathalie，其設計背景植根於時裝界事業。現於香港領導她的自家室內設計公司，搜購來自全球各地的獨特物料，為獨具慧眼的客人打造出精緻獨特的空間。

lifestylingltd.com

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OFF THE WALL

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Art should ideally be hung at eye-level, but if you run out of wall space, propping frames on the floor against the wall can create a fun tableau, too, as Tania Reinert has done (right)

LET THERE BE LIGHT

The right lighting can take your artwork from good to great | 合適的燈光能讓藝術品的效果更佳

Even if your piece is already hung, Nathalie emphasises that there are still plenty of ready-made, lighting options to think about. "Consider soft, wall-mounted lights, or single picture frame lights which are great in softly-lit spaces," says Suzanne. "Art is best viewed in diffused lighting, so avoid very bright lights."

Regardless of what methods you choose to display your artwork, our experts agree that framing should elevate rather than overwhelm a piece, and that the finished effect is all down to personal taste and enjoyment of your art.

Nathalie強調即使你的作品已掛放好，但仍有其他現有因素需要考慮。Suzanne指：「可考慮柔和、掛牆的燈飾，或單個畫框燈，最適合光線柔和的空間。藝術品在散放燈光下觀賞效果最好，故避免選用強光。」

不管你選擇哪種方式陳列藝術品，專家們均同意上框應該起提昇效果而非使作品顯雜亂，製成品應滲透出獨特個人品味和你對藝術的觀賞情感。

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**MARK SAUNDERSON**CO-FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR
ASIA CONTEMPORARY ART SHOW

Alongside fellow Hong Kong resident Douwe Cramer, Mark Saunderson is the co-founder and director of the Asia Contemporary Art Show, which will celebrate its fifth edition this October. The show now boasts 2,500 works from more than 500 artists and 100 galleries around the world. With almost 30 years of experience in Asia to his name, Mark also co-founded Fabrik Gallery, and was a founding member of the Hong Kong Art Gallery Association.

與長居香港的Douwe Cramer一樣，Mark Saunderson是亞洲當代藝術展的合夥創辦人兼總監，今個十月即將來到活動的第五屆。展覽帶來環球500多位藝術家和100間藝廊的2,500份藝術品。在亞洲擁有近30年經驗的Mark合夥創立Fabrik Gallery，亦是Hong Kong Art Gallery Association的創辦成員之一。

asiacontemporaryart.com
CONTEMPORARY COOL

Ahead of the Asia Contemporary Art Show next month, co-founder Mark Saunderson tells us what makes the show unique in Hong Kong | 下月亞洲當代藝術展當前，合夥創辦人Mark Saunderson分享是次香港活動的獨特之處

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**ART MART**

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Ascent Module Part 1:
Here Come the Black
Jets by Mo Shah

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Liberator Final Sequence:
Majesty by Mo Shah

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Quiet Moment by
Zhao Kailin

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Torso by Kwon Oh
Hoon

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The main drive for creating the show was our love for the arts. We identified a real demand for an art fair like ours, which provides a wide range of quality art at accessible prices.

創立活動的主要動力出於我們對藝術品的愛。我們看到大眾對藝術展覽的熱切渴求，希望以可負擔的價錢購得優質作品。

We are the only art show in Hong Kong that takes place twice a year to coincide with the two major art-buying seasons in spring and fall. Our focus is to bring artworks to Hong Kong that wouldn't normally be available here. We're also proud to be a homegrown event – the team works from the ground up with leading galleries, plus international and local art collectors.

我們是香港唯一一個每年舉辦兩次的藝術展，並在春、秋購買藝術品的熱門季節進行，積極將香港不常見的藝術品帶到本地，同時亦自豪能成為本地發展的活動——團隊與各領導藝廊、國際和本地藝術收藏家聯手合作。

The most important element for first-time art-buyers is that you must love the piece and feel a connection to it. Also consider the piece's originality and the artist's background – speak to the galleries and research the artists.

藝術品新手買家最先要考慮自己是否真心喜愛作品，並且能否與之聯繫。同時也要想及作品的原創性和藝術家的背景，你可以跟藝廊查詢一下，或搜尋藝術家的相關資料。

For investment, look at the artist's background, successful exhibitions, success at auction and other collectors. If they tick some or all of these, then the chances of making a good investment are greatly enhanced. But remember, this is art and not science! 投資方面，先看看藝術家的背景、成功的展覽、拍賣和其他收藏家。如項項皆精，作品定會是理想的投資選擇。但請別忘記，這是藝術而非科學！

A favourite at this show is *Splendid Apparel* by Chinese artist Zhao Kailin. The work is exquisite – it took four months to paint. He is also now very “collectible” – his works are sought after and values are increasing. I'm also excited by the works of Mo Shah, a Hong Kong-based Pakistani photographer and visual artist.

展覽上最教我醉倒的是中國藝術家趙開霖的*Splendid Apparel*。作品描繪精緻——花時四個月。他的作品愈來愈受歡迎、值得珍藏，價值也愈見攀升。我也很喜愛駐香港巴基斯坦攝影師和視覺藝術家Mo Shah的作品。