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PRESS RELEASE

Exhibition at Chillon Castle: Leah Linh opens her golden book on the illustrious Peter II of Savoy

Chillon Castle Foundation launches its latest contemporary art exhibition, open from 14 September 2023 to 14 April 2024. <u>Leah Linh – Fortunes and reflections in the era of Peter II of Savoy.</u> Daring and talented Swiss artist, Leah Linh, guides visitors through 12 stunning original gold-tinted pieces exhibited at the historic monument. Through the various facets of the illustrious Count Peter II of Savoy, the Vaud resident reflects the Golden Age of Chillon Castle.

Taking inspiration from the destiny of emblematic prince Peter II of Savoy (1203-1268), Vaud-based artist Leah Linh (2000*) has produced 12 resplendent works of art in monumental, varied formats, on display at the heart of the castle from 14 September 2023. Her creations form a harmonious dialogue with the architecture of the medieval fortress. To capture this auspicious period, the young female artist used one of her favourite materials — gold leaf — to reflect illuminated medieval manuscripts. The result is an imposing installation, reminiscent of an open book, dedicated to the count of Savoy. Leah Linh explains how the challenge has seen her style evolve, "This exhibition has helped me grow in terms of technique; I tried things I would never have dared before, with a new dynamic and a different way of imagining my pieces." Her trademark red, black, white and gold colour palette cuts throughout her entire body of work. In addition to a large-scale installation, the exhibition offers a selection of pieces using varied techniques such as sculpture, paint, and one piece of glasswork, specially introduced for this Chillon Castle Foundation commission. Leah Linh will be giving exclusive guided tours on 28 January, 17 March and 14 April 2024.

For families

Children and families can explore the exhibition with the help of our little Chillon mascot, Drako. Little ones and grown-ups can follow the mischievous dragon along a trail of interactive games that will help them get to know Leah Linh and Count Peter II of Savoy. The artist will also be hosting gold leaf gilding workshops during the October half term holidays and the 'Family Fun at the Museum' event, taking place the first weekend in November.

A brief introduction to Leah Linh and Peter II of Savoy

Self-taught young artist, Leah Linh, exhibited her first painting in Lausanne at the age of 10. Since then, she has continued to hone her craft and now regularly showcases her work in Switzerland and beyond. Linh has a truly remarkable mastery of gilding and a unique way of playing with light. Her work is loaded with pathos, hidden meanings and erudite references that fuse both her western and Asian cultures.

Peter II of Savoy bolstered his family's power by both expanding his territory and implementing effective administrative systems. Nicknamed 'The Little Charlemagne', this emblematic prince left his mark on the defensive architecture at Chillon Castle. Destined for a career in the Church, as canon of Lausanne Cathedral, he inherited the countship upon the death of his nephew.

Photos and videos available to the press on request

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