



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Over the Influence Presents**

**Peter Shire's First Exhibition in Hong Kong**

***Silhouettes, Soufflés & Succotash***



(left) *San Diego Freeway Flying Saucer Tower*, 2015, Stainless Steel, ceramic, wood, two-part polyurethane black and white paint aluminum, 96.5 x 81.3 x 76.2 cm (right) *Garden Grove Freeway Flying Saucer Tower*, 2015, Stainless Steel, ceramic, wood, two-part polyurethane black and white paint aluminum, 120.7 x 58.4 x 43.2 cm

Courtesy of the Artist and Over the Influence

**Media Preview:** 4pm, 23 January 2020 (Thursday)

**Opening Reception:** 6 – 8pm, 23 January 2020 (Thursday)

**Exhibition Dates:** 24 January 2020 – 7 March 2020 (Tuesday – Saturday)

15 Jan 2020, Hong Kong - **Over the Influence** is pleased to present ***Silhouettes, Soufflés & Succotash***, an exuberant exhibition of new paintings, sculptures and design objects by legendary Los Angeles based artist Peter Shire. With an eye towards experimentation, *Silhouettes, Soufflés & Succotash* showcases Shire's unique inventions. A world of color and light derived from Shire's over five-decade career utilizing motifs both old and new, like familiar gradients and paint splatters, mixed with clean lines and curving neon. An opening reception will be held at the gallery from 6 – 8pm on 23 January 2020. The artist will be present.



A founding member of the Memphis Group, the Milan-based, post-modern, radical design collective, Shire is acclaimed for his instantly recognizable design that prioritizes humor, whimsy and the quirky joys of human expression. For his first exhibition with Over the Influence, Shire is exploring a new series of neon paintings, alongside new works on paper, and never before seen ceramic and metal sculptures.



*Night Sky: Leo Minor, 2019, Wood, polychrome paint, neon, 70.5 x 83.8 x 7.6 cm*

Courtesy of the Artist and Over the Influence

These objects and paintings mimic the colors and forms of the domestic objects of Shire's iconic practice while entirely removing the utilitarian aspects often found in his work. Painted in Shire's signature speckled gradient, the neon paintings activate all of our fantasies and associations with neon simultaneously, bringing our love/hate relationship with the glowing, gas-filled tubes into focus. Coupled with gouache works on paper containing small comical characters atop Shire's architectural structures, are metal and ceramic abstract sculptures reminiscent of miniature radio towers.

In the back gallery, a selection of chairs responds to a vintage Ettore Sottsass design that had handles on the edges of the seat. Shire's chairs, adorned with flags, tassels and gradient paint, literally elaborate on Sottsass's spirit of utility.



Concurrent to Peter Shire's exhibition in Hong Kong, Over the Influence Los Angeles in collaboration with Friedman Benda is presenting a solo exhibition of historical works by Ettore Sottsass.

Peter Shire was born in Los Angeles in 1947. He has exhibited profusely throughout much of the world at such places as Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; the Jewish Museum, New York; Art Institute of Chicago, IL; Kayne Griffin Corcoran, Los Angeles, Gallery Saito, Japan; Lulu, Mexico; among others. His work can be found in museum collections such as the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles; Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Stedelijk Museum; the Netherlands; Total Contemporary Art Museum; South Korea; and Victoria and Albert Museum; United Kingdom among others.

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### **Notes to editors**

#### **About Over the Influence**

Over the Influence was founded in Hong Kong in 2015 and expanded to Los Angeles in 2018. The gallery represents an international roster of emerging and established artists working across different mediums and disciplines. Over the Influence is dedicated to championing artists who challenge traditional approaches to studio practice and presents a dynamic program that explores the intersection of contemporary art, architecture, design, music, and other forms of visual expression.

Address: 1/F, 159 Hollywood Road, Central, Hong Kong  
Opening Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 11am – 7pm

#### **Stay connected:**

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#### **Media Inquiry**

For high-res images and interview with **Peter Shire** and/or **Julliana Choi, Director of Over the Influence**, please contact:

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