**Rolls-Royce Motor Cars**

## Media Information

**rolls-royce AND CHARLES KAISIN HOST SURREALIST DINNER IN CELEBRATION OF LONDON INSTALLATION**

*Click* [***here***](https://suttonpr.egnyte.com/fl/9JPOLCy8t3) *to download images and video content of the exclusive Surrealist Dinner and Charles Kaisin’s design installation for the Rolls-Royce Art Programme.*

3 October 2016, Goodwood

Rolls-Royce hosted an exclusive Surrealist Dinner in London last Thursday to celebrate the Art Programme’s collaboration with Belgian designer Charles Kaisin. The event coincided with the premiere of his origami installation, inspired by the Spirit of Ecstasy, the iconic symbol of the marque that has adorned the bonnets of Rolls-Royce motor cars for more than a century. The work, comprising 2500 miniature depictions of the graceful mascot, will be suspended from the ceiling of Rolls-Royce Motor Cars London in Berkeley Square until Sunday 16 October.

The designer conceived the entire concept of the evening which encompassed all five senses and took the theme of ‘The Journey’, engaging with Rolls-Royce’s spirit of craftsmanship and conveyance in true luxury.

100 guests enthusiastically met a dress-code befitting the spirit of the evening ‘Black Tie with a touch of the surreal’. Once seated, the dinner commenced with the arrival of performers, one per every two guests, who served in all white domed attire, unveiling four types of perfumed waters including: wild Italian fennel flowers; citrus fruit, anis and mint; fresh basil; and hibiscus. In collaboration with celebrated Michelin-starred chef David Martin, Kaisin created the design concept of each of the five courses for the evening. The servers wore paper-folded origami structures as collars for the starter course and moved in unison to present guests with king crab, avocado, black sesame, and caviar encased in a golden tin.

Following this, Ellen Vanherck from the Royal Academy of Music in London and Eline Antoinette Vandenheede from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London performed a beautiful rendition of *Flower duet* from Leo Delibes’ opera *Lakmé* and *Canzonetta sull’aria* from Mozart’s *Le Nozze di Figaro*, accompanied by pianist Chavdar Mazgalov. After the performance, the singers revealed that their kimono-style costumes were part of the white tablecloth, which were withdrawn from the table as they exited in a performative fashion, adding a fitting element of theatre. Black cloth was revealed underneath in preparation for the arrival of the next course of a soup served in a chemistry-style flask. The soup was presented by masked servers dressed in silver jumpsuits, representing the Silver Ghost, one of Rolls-Royce’s defining motor cars.

Kaisin had worked with his team meticulously to produce individual booklets with a different letter shaped out of the paper using an intricate folding method, which were handed out to guests as gifts. Each letter on every book combined to spell out a quote from Sir Henry Royce, founding forefather of the marque: *“Strive for perfection in everything you do. Take the best that exists and make it better. When it does not exist, design it.”*

The tables were next covered with grass panels before a main course of black cod was presented by servers who each wore hand-painted panelled landscapes creating unique environment representing a fantastic journey. The finale of the evening took the shape of a wonderful dessert of golden bar, pistachio and apple leaf, presented by servers in magnificent, dreamlike cloud costumes with glowing lights. Guests were treated to a selection of Nyetimber wines – whose home stands just 20 miles from the Home of Rolls-Royce – throughout the evening.

The Surrealist Dinner for Rolls-Royce Motor Cars was the first scenographic spectacular that Kaisin has created in London, having organised concept dinners for patrons of the arts and luxury across the world.

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**Notes to Editors:**

**About the Rolls-Royce Art Programme**

Art and creative endeavour are at the heart of Rolls-Royce and its motor cars are commissioned for their aesthetic power. They are created out of the finest materials at the hands of skilled artisans who, in turn, produce rare, unique and ultimately beautiful automobiles. By creating an Art Programme, Rolls-Royce has formally acknowledged this unique shared ethos with the world of art.

The Art Programme comprises new works commissioned in situ, partnerships with leading organisations, art talks with emerging and established artists, art drives, art walks and art receptions around the world. It fosters creativity and enables artists to realise new projects and to explore new areas of their practice.

To date, Rolls-Royce has worked with leading international artists and key figures from the contemporary art world including: Isaac Julien, Ana Maria Tavares, Morgan Wong, Carlos Rolón/Dzine, Angela Bulloch, Ugo Rondinone, Michael Zavros, Regina Silveira and Will Cotton. Rolls-Royce has recently announced collaborations with Mohammed Kazem, Sudarshan Shetty, and Yang Fudong.

**About Charles Kaisin**

Charles Kaisin graduated from the Royal College of Art in 2001, from Ron Arad’s studio in London, after having completed an Architecture degree in Brussels. Charles Kaisin is a designer whose work explores the processes that generate a form. After two internships in Jean Nouvel’s studio in Paris then with Tony Cragg in 1997, he studied at the Kyoto University for the Arts in 2000 during which he conducted research on new materials. Next to designing objects, Kaisin deals with interior design and is an artistic director. He has carried out projects for the MAC (Museum of Contemporary Art Grand Hornu, Belgium), for the luxury house Delvaux, Pierre Marcolini and works for Hermès on design and scenography. In 2011 he created the Surrealist Dinner – an annual scenographic spectacular, which showcases his creativity and elements of the best of Belgian culture. As an architect, he recently completed the design and build of a luxury Hotel in Marrakech.

**Further information:**

You can find all our press releases and press kits, as well as a wide selection of high resolution, downloadable photographs and video footage at our media website, [PressClub](http://www.press.rolls-roycemotorcars.com/). You can also find the communications team at Rolls-Royce Motor Cars on [Twitter](https://www.twitter.com/RollsRoyceMedia) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/RollsRoyceMedia/)

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