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**OVATION OF THE SEAS BROADENS HORIZONS WITH 11,000-PIECE ART COLLECTION  
AS EXOTIC AS ITS DESTINATIONS**



**MIAMI, April 11, 2016** – Royal Caribbean International’s newest smartship, *Ovation of the Seas*, is setting sail from Southampton, U.K. this week on her 52-day Global Odyssey visiting exotic ports of call from the Mediterranean to the Far East and beyond. Guests onboard *Ovation* will experience these extraordinary ports while enjoying an 11,000-piece, \$4.5 million dollar art collection that has been inspired by the words of Confucius: “Wherever you go, go with all your heart.” The collection was curated by London-based Peter Millard and Partners and features contemporary art from artists from around the world.

“The true essence of a Royal Caribbean vacation is to broaden travelers’ horizons by introducing them to new and unexpected adventures and that includes the art we feature onboard our ships,” said Michael Bayley, President and CEO, Royal Caribbean International. “*Ovation of the Seas* features unexpected and destination-inspired artwork, unique pieces and interactive art experiences that will surprise and delight our guests.”

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### **33-Foot Panda and Cub Set Sail**

One of the ultimate photo ops onboard *Ovation of the Seas* is “Mama and Baby,” a larger-than-life commission designed by a U.K.-based artist Jo Smith. Perched atop the SeaPlex on deck 15, the piece depicts a mother panda and her cub, reaching out to one another. Considered a symbol of good luck and a national treasure in Chinese culture, the peaceful creatures with the distinctive black and white coat were curated with *Ovation’s* primarily Chinese guests in mind, and intended to bestow peace and prosperity on all who interact with them. The pandas are also a playful nod to the cruise line’s newly announced partnership with World Wildlife Fund, which focuses on ensuring the long-term health of the oceans its ships sail upon.

Mama and Baby together weigh approximately six-and-a-half tons. Mama is 10 meters high, or approximately 33 feet, from the deck to the top of the sculpture, while Baby is approximately three meters, or ten feet tall.

### **Smart Art Includes First Moving Sculpture at Sea**

It wouldn’t be a smart ship without smart art, and the Quantum class hallmark of high-tech pieces continues onboard *Ovation* with “[Sky Wave](#),” a piece sure to be a guest favorite. Created by New York-based Hypersonic and Boston-based Plebian Design, Sky Wave is the first ever kinetic moving sculpture at sea. The installation pivots and curves at different points to mirror the flow of both wind and water. Further inspiration was also taken from the ship’s movement, culminating in a piece that combines both maritime elements and engineering.

Each petal in Sky Wave is made of handcrafted fiberglass and varies in length to hone the flawless rolling sway. Located on deck 5 just in the Royal Esplanade, the eye-catching, carefully crafted art piece was commissioned specifically for *Ovation*.

### **Elevator Art Gets an New Look, Still Prime for Selfies**

The elevator art on Quantum class is known for selfie-taking, and *Ovation of the Seas* is no exception. *Ovation* is elevating the selfie art game with all-new imagery from Chinese photographer Huainan Li’s series, “The World of the Senses.” The powerful series features the futuristic faces of women accented in metallic hues and sporting glasses that reflect a variety of whimsical scenes. The collection of 10 pieces is sure to surprise and delight guests each time they ride from deck to deck, and pack an unexpected punch when the doors open.

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### **The Red Thread**

One of the most iconic art locales on Quantum-class ships is the rotunda, which connects mid-ship's Jamie's Italian and Vintages. *Ovation* does not disappoint as passersby can enjoy the work of Bieli Liu, a Chinese artist who played into the natural movement of the ship with an adaptation from her "[Lure](#)" series of installations. The sculpture was created to fit the rotunda location and represents an ancient Chinese legend depicting the red threads that connect Chinese children to their soulmates. A disc may be connected to another, as a pair; and a pair of disks may sprout from a single thread. The installation is designed to suspend from the ceiling forming a vibrant and energetic piece that responds to subtle air currents and movement as the red coils turn, and strands of thread become entangled.

Throughout the entire ship, guests will find curated art at every turn, all inspired by the exotic destinations *Ovation* will visit. Figures from artist Zheng Lu are located outside Two70. The [sculpture](#) – inspired by the artist's father, a Chinese poet – weaves Chinese symbols together in a delicate fashion.

Heading into the Royal Theater, artist Dominic Harris engages show-goers with an interactive piece titled "Flutter Wall." The 120-inch screen showcases butterflies on a black canvas that seemingly fly away as guests walk up for a closer view. A true surprise and delight experience akin to the additional installations that travelers can enjoy onboard. To learn more about the onboard art collection [click here](#).

*Ovation* and her sister ships, *Quantum of the Seas* and *Anthem of the Seas*, belong to the *Quantum* class of ships and are built with the most advanced technology. They feature first-at-sea amenities including the North Star, an observation capsule that gently rises more than 300 feet in the air to treat guests to breathtaking panoramic views; thrilling skydiving and surfing experiences; Two70, a daily social space which transforms into a multifunctional entertainment place in the evening; and SeaPlex, the largest indoor activity space at sea, which includes basketball, roller-skating, bumper cars, and more.

Each ship offers 18 restaurants onboard with a variety of cuisines to choose from as well as the industry's most relaxing and luxurious accommodations at sea with the unique Loft Suites and groundbreaking Virtual Balcony staterooms, interior accommodations that feature large digital screens displaying real-time views, ensuring that every room has a view.

*Ovation* spans 18 decks, encompasses 168,666 gross registered tons, carries 4,180 guests at double occupancy and features 2,091 staterooms. Media can find more details, images and videos at [www.royalcaribbeanpresscenter.com/Ovation](http://www.royalcaribbeanpresscenter.com/Ovation). To learn more about Royal Caribbean International, visit [www.RoyalCaribbeanPressCenter.com](http://www.RoyalCaribbeanPressCenter.com). For additional information or to make reservations, vacationers should call their travel agent; visit [RoyalCaribbean.com](http://RoyalCaribbean.com); or call (800) ROYAL-CARIBBEAN.