

# The passing of Nobel Peace Laureate, Liu Xiaobo

Thursday, 13 July 2017

PRESS ADVISORY - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8 PM

DETAILS BELOW

Event Tonight 8 p.m. Grand Park

Visual Artists Guild mourns the passing of Nobel Peace Laureate, Liu Xiaobo today while still under the guard of the Chinese government in a hospital in China.

Liu Xiaobo had spent a greater part of his life urging for political reform in China. His 2008 manifesto, Charto 08 calls for democratic reform and resulted in his being sentenced on Christmas day 2009 to 11 years in prison. In 2010 he was awarded the Nobel Peace prize. During the Nobel award ceremony, an empty chair became the representation of Liu. He is only the second Nobel Peace laureate who died in custody since the German Carl von Ossietzky who was awarded the peace prize in 1935 for opposing Nazism and died in 1938.

Visual Artists Guild will remember what Liu Xiaobo said at his Final Statement, "I have no enemies and no hatred... Hatred only eats away at a person's intelligence and conscience and an enemy mentality can poison the spirit of an entire people (as the experience of our country during Mao era clearly shows.)"

As Visual Artists Guild's mission in championing the right of freedom of speech and expression, we will forever be guided by Liu Xiaobo's Final Statement, "Free expression is the base of human rights, the root of human nature and the mother of truth. To kill free speech is to insult human rights, to stifle human nature, and to suppress truth."

May Liu Xiaobo rest in peace.

At this time we call on the government of China to release Liu Xia from house arrest, allow her to leave China if she so wishes.

Ann Lau

Chair, Visual Artists Guild

WHAT: Candelight Memorial for Nobel Peace Laureate, Liu Xiaobo

WHEN: Today, July 13 2017 , 8 p.m.

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WHERE:

Grand Park,

200 N Grand Ave, Los Angeles, 90012

between Hill and Broadway, Metro Civic Center, Grand Park

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION:

Hong Kong Forum Paul Ip 626-524-5685

Los Angeles China Democracy Platform Weiming Chen  
702-750-6066

Visual Artists Guild Ann Lau 310-433-0697

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