



For Immediate Release

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### **UNDERWATER 'WUSHU' EXTRAVAGANZA TO USHER IN THE LUNAR NEW YEAR**

Underwater World Singapore is pleased to present an innovative underwater wushu (martial arts) performance to usher in the Lunar New Year of the Golden Rooster.

This power-packed underwater performance by wushu exponents from Kuen Culture, is the first-ever underwater martial arts performance in the world. Traditionally, wushu is a form of impactful gymnastic stunts performed on land. To overcome the challenges of the buoyancy of the water, the performers have undergone extensive dive training to maintain their stability and equilibrium. The entire sequence promises to enthrall visitors with perfectly executed punches and kicks in the water.

The whole routine is specially choreographed and performed by three martial arts exponents, all of whom have won numerous awards and accolades in local and overseas competitions. It is considered auspicious for three persons to perform in the water, as the number *three* signifies "to multiply" and water symbolises "wealth".

The first stunt consists of a "Li Yu Yue Long Men", "鲤鱼跃龙门", which means "the Carp leaping over the Dragon Gate". Legend has it that a carp was swimming against a strong upstream current to reach a lake in the hills. Near the summit, a huge rock barred its way. Mustering all its strength, the carp took a giant leap over the rock. While in the air, the carp was transformed into a celestial dragon. Ever since then, the rock became known as the Dragon Gate. The significance of the Carp leaping over the Dragon Gate signifies the shedding of the old to embrace fortune and prosperity. This action involves the exponents leaping and somersaulting into the water from the top of the reef tank in the tunnel. This is an extremely difficult stunt as they have to land steadily on their feet and compose their posture in the water. With this "Li Yu Yue Long Men", "鲤鱼跃龙门", we wish one and all a giant leap into the Lunar New Year ahead!

The grand finale will be a spectacular "Luo Han He Sui", "罗汉贺岁", in which one of the exponents will jump up and perform a split on top of the shoulders of the other two and unveil a scroll with auspicious characters. This is a symbolic presentation to wish all our visitors a happy and bountiful year. Being a difficult stunt, its success depends on the perfect timing, flexibility and suppleness of the person performing the jump. At the same time all three performers must maintain balance and coordination.

With this spectacular underwater wushu performance, Underwater World Singapore wishes all our stakeholders good fortune, good health and prosperity.

During the Lunar New Year, there will be performances at 4.00 pm from Feb 9 to 13, 19 and 20. The ever-popular "Underwater God of Fortune" will also be making daily appearances underwater to greet visitors with blessings of good fortune.



A Member Of The 美豹 Hawpar Group

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#### About Underwater World Singapore

Underwater World Singapore is a wholly owned subsidiary of Haw Par Corporation. Situated on Sentosa Island, this leisure and educational attraction showcases the rich variety of marine life to be found around the region, with educational and recreational activities available here.

At Underwater World Singapore, visitors begin their 'voyage to the bottom of the sea' passing brightly coloured corals and a myriad of exotic ocean-dwellers along the way. They then come to an 83-metre-long acrylic tunnel, home to great shoals of fish, sharks, rays and a host of other creatures that inhabit the ocean depths. The Dolphin Lagoon, an attraction of Underwater World Singapore houses the Indo-Pacific Humpbacked Dolphins, commonly known as pink dolphins for its coat of "bubbly" pink in contrast to the usual grey appearance of dolphins. At the "Meet-the-Dolphin" sessions, visitors can enjoy a close encounter with these adorable pink creatures.

At Underwater World Singapore, our mission goes beyond making our guests aware of the fascinating marine life. Our commitment to marine conservation and environmental awareness is demonstrated through our work in public education, breeding, rescue and rehabilitation, and research. Underwater World Singapore reinforces its environmental efforts through educational exhibits and a variety of education programmes to children and other guests. School visits are actively supported, and a number of new educational programmes are planned. Underwater World Singapore has also been very active in providing special programmes and assistance to the physically and mentally disabled.

#### About Kuen Culture

Kuen Culture is the first professional Wushu Sports Club in Singapore. The brainchild of a group of ex-National Wushu athletes, its mission is to promote Wushu as a premier sport and provide an optimal training and nurturing environment for the growth and development of Wushu athletes.

Their 7,000 sq ft training centre houses the best professional trainers, training equipment, training programmes and management systems available publicly in Singapore.

The vision of Kuen Culture is to be a centre of excellence dedicated to Wushu and a hub where cultures, philosophies and martial arts aficionados come together.

Its English name "Kuen" (拳) is derived from its Cantonese pronunciation. The font style signifies tradition, cultural heritage and sound teachings passed down from generation to generation. It also represents the structured and scientific methods used to impart these skills and values. Their corporate blue is a mark of firmness and dedication in their pursuit of professionalism in their work.