

LUMINOUS RESIDENT ARTIST TOM BACHER LETS IT GLOW AT W MALDIVES

Maldives, April 21, 2016 - Coming directly from Cincinnati, Ohio to the Maldives, the award-winning glow-in-the-dark artist Tom Bacher will bring W Hotels' passion for design to life at W Maldives by taking his residency from May 21 until June 5, 2016.

Preferring showcasing his paintings rather than himself, Tom Bacher will use the iconic W Maldives as his own workshop and art gallery, showcasing his luminous art and holding art classes for in-house guests and W talents alike. Getting his inspiration from the New York City's vibrant 24/7 skyline and the Indian Ocean's colorful marine life, twinkling stars and phosphorescent plankton, the luminous artist will transform the tropical playground into a magical island set to 'Let It Glow' with sparkling neon colors.

Artists are supposed to love light, but Tom actually works with crystals of phosphorescence that he mixes with acrylic paints. The amalgam that results has a half-life. The paints on the canvas absorb light during the day; as light fails, the colors change, and when darkness invades the studio or gallery, the pictures start glowing, popping off the wall.

"I do paintings that actually incorporate an element of time and change," Bacher describes his creative process. He recalls that his fascination with phosphorescence stems from the glow-in-the-dark toys, religious statues, and rosaries so popular in the USA in the 1950s.

"I consider paintings that glow and emit their own light as new, just as Impressionism was new at one time," says Tom Bacher. "I look at Impressionism as the art movement that captured the sun and daylight effects, while today, with luminous colors, it's possible to capture the night effects because we're looking at the paintings in the dark. I've been using luminous pigments exclusively for 38 years, and I'm still discovering new things."

Tom Bacher's work appears in numerous museums, corporate and private collections in the USA and has been exhibited in Paris, Zurich, and Brussels. The artist has also showcased his paintings in West of Soho Gallery, Cincinnati, Ohio and New York's OK Harris Gallery with world famous art dealer Ivan Karp for 20 years. Bacher is currently represented by Cincinnati Art Galleries, Ohio and 100 Titres Gallery in Brussels, Belgium.

Come and check Tom Bacher's artwork at W Maldives that can be reached by a short and scenic 25-minute seaplane flight from Male International Airport. The resort is set in a wonderland of white sand beaches, turquoise lagoons and breath-taking reefs. It features 78 private retreats – each with its own plunge pool and sundeck; six gourmet eateries and lounge bars, including 15BELOW, the Maldives only underground nightclub and an over-water AWAY® spa for an ultimate escape.

For high resolution images and videos, please explore [this link](#).

For bookings and more information, please explore wretreatmaldives.com/en/letitglow.

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About W Maldives

Connect with your inner peace and go along with the pace of island life. Experience one of the 78 Retreats, either on the beachside or overwater giving you access to endless Indian Ocean views. Succumb to the dazzling blue waters, spectacular reefs and pristine sands in style and be at one with both body and soul. AWAY® Spa at W Maldives is the ultimate sanctuary for well-being with four overwater treatment villas, each with a private outdoor area and a range of treatments designed to remove all the stresses and strains of modern day city life.

About W Hotels Worldwide

W Hotels is a contemporary, design-led luxury lifestyle brand and the industry innovator with 47 hotels and retreats, including 17 W-branded residences, in the most vibrant cities and exotic destinations around the world. Inspiring, iconic, innovative and influential, W Hotels provides the ultimate in insider access, offering a unique mix of cutting-edge design and passions around fashion, music and entertainment. With 15 years of proven success, W Hotels is on track to reach more than 60 hotels by 2018. W Hotels have been announced for Shanghai, Tel Aviv, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Amman, Jakarta, Panama, Muscat, Suzhou, Changsha, Chengdu, New Delhi, Kuala Lumpur, Shenyang, Marrakech and Brisbane, while upcoming W Retreats include Goa, Phuket, Hainan Island and Mexico's Riviera Maya.

For more information

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