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## **PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

### **Latin America present at the Hong Kong Book Fair**

**Important Latin American presence at the Hong Kong Book Fair with hundreds of books, writers presentations, poetry readings, and more from Mexico, Argentina, Peru, and Colombia at the Latin American Pavillion.**

The Mexican Consulate General in Hong Kong is pleased to announce its participation in the joint Latin American Pavilion at the 26th Hong Kong Book Fair, 15-21 July 2016, together with Argentina, Peru and Colombia. On display will be books by authors of the four countries in English and Chinese translation, as well as “Children’s book corner” displaying Spanish-language books for children of all ages.

The Latin American presence at the Hong Kong Book Fair will include a presentation on two of the region’s iconic writers, entitled “Latin American Writers Reading the World: Alejo Carpentier and Octavio Paz”, given by Dr Mercedes Vazquez of Hong Kong University on the Festival’s opening day, 15 July, at 6:30pm. Dr Vazquez will focus on Cuban writer Alejo Carpentier’s celebrated novel “The Explosion in a Cathedral” and Mexican Octavio Paz’s famous essay “The Labyrinth of Solitude”.

This will be followed by a reading from the local poetry collection “Desde Hong Kong: Poets in conversation with Octavio Paz”, co-edited by German Muñoz, Tammy Ho Lai-ming and Juan Jose Morales and published to illustrate how this Mexican Nobel Prize winner continues to inspire across decades, cultures and oceans. It’s an example of trans-Pacific literary inspiration and cooperation, a showcase of Hong Kong poetic talent, an example of how community involvement can catalyze literature and other art and cultural expressions.

Latin American participation in the 26th Hong Kong Book Fair is a recognition not just of the increasingly close relations between the countries of our region and China, but also of how much both societies have to learn from each other and how much of it can be learned through the power of words.

- “Desde Hong Kong” was launched at the Mexican Consulate General in December 2014.
- Tammy Ho Lai-ming is co-founder of the Asian literary journal *Cha*.

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