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Pair are hungry to take HK's art scene out of Hollywood Road

It's uncommon now for galleries to be guerilla operations without their own space. That's the idea behind Steph Chung Yue-ching (left) and Anne Cheung Man-ting's MobArt Gallery. Instead of maintaining a physical space, their mobile art venture will serve more like an agency, lining up artists with such venues as cafes and restaurants. Their first effort, Transcendence, opened on Thursday at the Jia Hotel's new restaurant, appropriately named The Drawing Room.

"We want to bring art to the people,

get them to appreciate and look at artworks, instead of persuading people to go to Hollywood Road," Chung said. The two friends first met in London. Although Chung has more of a business background compared to Cheung's more creative training, they are both hungry for more than just visual art. "Anne and I also love trying out new restaurants, but we both felt that it was a shame that we couldn't have artworks and restaurants together in the same space, so this is how MobArt has come into being."

Cheung added: "At a traditional

gallery, it is usually the artworks against white walls, but here in a restaurant, we need to make sure they can blend into the interior design but still look like an exhibition at the same time, which is more complicated than we first thought."

The chance to exhibit at chef Roland Schuller's new diner bodes well for their business, but Chung maintains art is their priority. "Selling [a lot of paintings] and making buckets of money isn't our objective, but making Hong Kong's art scene better is." Transcendence continues until late September.