

**HISTORIC DUBAI**  
**Desert Palm by Per AQUUM and Creative Art Centre host Retro Photographic Exhibition**  
**by**  
**Michael Hamilton Clark**



**Dubai, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009** - Desert Palm by Per AQUUM is pleased to announce the exhibition, Retro Photos of Dubai by Michael Hamilton Clark in partnership with the Creative Art Centre Dubai in Jumeirah, who have been in Dubai for 13 years and specialize in fine art, framing, antiques, furniture and gifts. The exhibition will take place at Desert Palm Retreat, Dubai from 24th November – 6th December 2009 and will showcase a selection of historic signed images of Dubai taken by Michael before the creation of the United Arab Emirates in 1971. Michael will also be present throughout the exhibition.

Tying in with National Day Celebrations on the 2nd December, the exhibition is a collection of 40 photographs taken between 1965 and 1971 which highlight the beginning of one of the world's most interesting cities and its unprecedented growth in such a short amount of time. Michael's photographs reflect the history and culture which is often overlooked in today's Dubai and this exhibition will be a celebration of the origins of this fascinating region and an eye into the past of a bygone era.

The 24th November 2009 will see the invitation only launch of the exhibition in Villa Layali at Desert Palm by Per AQUUM from 7.30pm – 9pm with private viewings then taking place by appointment on Wednesday 25th November. The exhibition will then move into the lobby of Desert Palm on Thursday 26th November where it will be open to the public for viewing until Sunday 6th December 2009. The framed paintings, all signed by Michael, will be available to buy for AED1650.

The Creative Art Centre is the official agent for Michael's historical photographs and his collection of Dubai and Oman images will be available at the centre to view and purchase following the show.



Michael arrived in Dubai in 1965 as part of a design team for the original Maktoum Bridge, he also worked on the Dubai Airport, the initial Dubai-Sharjah road, Sharjah Airport Civil Taxway and Terminal and the original Dubai Country Club. He has been privileged to see Dubai from a grass roots perspective before the creation of the United Arab Emirates in 1971.

Michael comments on his exhibition and time in Dubai, "It was an interesting time to be in the country – there was considerable development getting under way, yet the traditional way of life was still very much in evidence. Looking around Dubai today it is hard to remember what it was like 10 years ago, let alone 40. I hope these photos will bring back memories for some and help to draw back the curtain on a bygone era for others."

A retired Civil Engineer with a passion for painting and photography, Michael has worked in a variety of locations in England, West Africa, the Arabian Gulf and Canada. Although he now lives in British Columbia, Canada, the UAE holds a strong fascination and personal connection for Michael whose two sons were born in Maktoum hospital.



Above: Michael Hamilton Clark

For more information on the Michael Hamilton Clark exhibition and private viewing appointments on the 25<sup>th</sup> November please contact Stacey Dean on +971 (0) 4 323 8888 or email [stacey.dean@peraquum.com](mailto:stacey.dean@peraquum.com)

For more information on Desert Palm, by Per AQUUM please call +971 (0) 4 323 8888, email [info@desertpalm.ae](mailto:info@desertpalm.ae) or visit [www.desertpalm.ae](http://www.desertpalm.ae)

583 Orchard Road  
The Forum #16-01 Singapore 238884  
Tel: +65 6595 0300  
Fax: +65 6595 0309  
E-mail: [info@peraquum.com](mailto:info@peraquum.com)  
[www.peraquum.com](http://www.peraquum.com)



For more information on Creative Art Centre please call +971 (0) 4 344 4394 or email [artcentr@emirates.net.ae](mailto:artcentr@emirates.net.ae)

- Ends -

Note to Editors:

Desert Palm by Per AQUUM is a boutique retreat with just 26 suites and private pool villas. Set on a private polo estate the property offers two award winning restaurants – Rare and Epicure, an internationally acclaimed LIME Spa and an inviting bar which overlooks one of the four championship sized polo fields and Dubai skyline beyond.

A Universal Enterprise, **Per AQUUM Retreats • Resorts • Residences** is a specialist management and development company that offers a different kind of company ethos: one that is passionate, visionary, imaginative and naturally modern. The architecture and design of each project is inspired by the individual beauty of the property's host culture, while development is based on principles of realism, sustainability and responsibility. Renowned for creating bold, imaginative spaces and signature attention to detail the Per AQUUM name has built significant brand value within the top echelons of the travel industry. The current portfolio includes Huvafen Fushi in the Maldives and Desert Palm in Dubai. Per AQUUM is looking at additional locations in the Indian Ocean and South East Asia regions and in the Middle East.

Float Into The World Of...



**A Universal Enterprise**

For any further information, please contact:

**Stacey Dean**  
Director Public Relations

Email: [stacey.dean@peraquum.com](mailto:stacey.dean@peraquum.com)

Website: [www.peraquum.com](http://www.peraquum.com)

583 Orchard Road  
The Forum #16-01 Singapore 238884  
Tel: +65 6595 0300  
Fax: +65 6595 0309  
E-mail: [info@peraquum.com](mailto:info@peraquum.com)  
[www.peraquum.com](http://www.peraquum.com)