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**BOWERS  
MUSEUM**

## Discover the Radiance of Titanium and Gemstones in Aka Chen's *Eternal Garden* Exhibition



**Santa Ana, CA (August 19, 2024)** – Step into a world of shimmering beauty as Bowers Museum unveils *The Eternal Garden: Titanium Art by Aka Chen*, an extraordinary exhibition featuring the stunning titanium sculptures of acclaimed Taiwanese artist Aka Chen. Opening on November 16 accompanied by a private gala, this exhibition promises to dazzle visitors with artworks crafted from one of the most precious and innovative materials in contemporary sculpture.

*The Eternal Garden* showcases a breathtaking collection of titanium sculptures that illuminate the essence of daily life. Aka Chen's mastery of titanium, a material prized for its strength and iridescent quality, allows him to create artworks that seem to come alive with light. Artworks in this exhibition, from bending branches to and blossoming flowers breaking through the cracks of strange rocks, reflect Aka Chen's understanding of how living things sustain themselves through time and through hardship times, as well as his ideas of self-reflection derived from daily Buddhist meditation.

### **Exhibition Highlights:**

- **Radiant Materials:** Experience the dazzling effects of light and color as they interact with Aka Chen's titanium and rare gem sculptures; using diamonds, sapphires, pearls and more to create a captivating and dynamic visual experience.

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- **Inspired by Nature:** Stemming from his observations of nature during his daily gardening and Buddhist meditation, Aka Chen invites viewers to immerse themselves in a spiritual garden that reflects his humble understanding of the world. Beauty lives in the most ordinary things, from the sparkle of morning dew, the fluttering of butterflies, and the winding of floral branches.
- **Masterful Craftsmanship:** Making his solo debut exhibition in the U.S., Chen's exceptional skill and artistic vision are on full display, making this exhibition a must-see for art lovers and collectors seeking something truly extraordinary.

#### **About Aka Chen:**

Aka Chen, born in 1965, is a prominent Taiwanese artist renowned for his innovative work with titanium. He established his jewelry studio, AKACHEN, in Taipei in 1989. Aka Chen's artistic journey is deeply influenced by Eastern philosophy, particularly Confucianism, Buddhism, and Taoism, which is reflected in his intricate titanium jewelry designs. His work is known for integrating traditional Chinese aesthetics with modern techniques, creating pieces that evoke the tranquility and beauty of nature. His pieces have garnered international acclaim, being showcased globally, collected by European royal families, and worn by Hollywood celebrities.

#### **Exhibition Details:**

- **Location:** Bowers Museum, 2002 North Main Street, Santa Ana, CA 92706
- **Dates:** November 16, 2024 – April 13, 2025
- **Admission:** Included with General Admission to the museum (\$18 adults/ \$15 students and seniors). Tickets at [bowers.org](https://www.bowers.org).

**Media Preview:** November 14, 2024, from 10 AM to 12 PM. Accredited members of the press are invited to attend and experience the exhibition before it opens to the public. Please RSVP to [laguilar@bowers.org](mailto:laguilar@bowers.org) by November 8, 2024, to secure your place.



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#### **About Bowers Museum:**

Located in Santa Ana, California, Bowers Museum has been enriching lives through the world's finest arts and culture for over 80 years. Voted best museum in Orange County for the past 30 years (2023), Bowers Museum is committed to promoting education and understanding by bringing the world's great cultural art to Southern California. Learn more at [bowers.org](https://www.bowers.org).

*The Eternal Garden: Titanium Art by Aka Chen* is organized by Bowers Museum. Major support for the exhibition is provided by the Taiwan Academy of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Los Angeles and the Ministry of Culture (Taiwan). Additional support is provided by Anne and Long Shung Shih, and AUO Display Plus America Corporation.

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