

ASIA ARTS LITERACY

MARCH SAMAG Seminar: Asia Arts Literacy

Date: Monday 25 March 2013, 6pm

Where: Australia Council for the Arts, 372 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills

Admission: Free (SAMAG members) \$10 (non-members) \$5 students

For further information or to register please email Lizzy: info@samag.org

Asia Arts Literacy

The idea of preparing Australia for a time when Asia reaches its 'apex' is one that has been current since Paul Keating claimed that Australia was an Asian country. Since then, Asia's growth has been marked with a proliferation of Biennales, Museums, Art Fairs, auction houses and other arts organisations.

Australia has a long history of engagement with countries in Asia and has benefited from political and financial links and strong relationships in business, tourism, culture and the arts. However 2011 and 2012 marked significant developments in acknowledging the need to further strengthen Asia-Australia relations in policy and pathways including the release of a multicultural policy, the Australia in the Asia Century White Paper, a discussion paper leading to a National Cultural Policy, and the recent Australia Council and UNESCO MOU.

Join us for a panel discussion of these events with a view towards the Asia Century arts and cultural landscape.

SPEAKERS

Aaron Seeto is the Director of Gallery 4A. He was appointed Director at the beginning of 2007 where he was previously its curator (2001-2004). Gallery 4A, a non-profit art space located in Sydney's Chinatown, has a continuous exhibition program dedicated to promoting a discussion of the relationship between Asia and Australia through contemporary art.

Dr Thomas Berghuis is a lecturer in Asian Art at the Department of Art History & Film Studies at the University of Sydney, Deputy Director of the Australian Centre for Asian Art and Archeology (ACAAA), and a Member of the China Studies Centre with the University of Sydney – leading a research group on Cultural Policy and Heritage. Berghuis is a former Faculty Member and Consultant Lecturer at the Sotheby's Institute of Arts in Singapore (2008-2010), and a member of the Advisory Committee of Gallery 4A/Asia-Austrian Arts Center, Sydney. From 2007 until 2008 Berghuis was a Visiting Fellow with the Centre of Contemporary Art & Politics, University of New South Wales, Sydney and in November 2010 Berghuis was a Visiting Scholar/ Teaching Fellow at Leiden University, the Netherlands.

Paschal Daantos Berry is an independent Filipino/Australian writer and dramaturg whose practice is focused on interdisciplinary, cross cultural and collaborative processes. In 2000, Paschal was selected by Australia Council and British Council for the Royal Court International Residency in London. He was the recipient of Belvoir's Asian Australian Young Playwrights Award in 1996 for *Defecating Jesus*. He was short-listed for an Asialink Playwrights Award for *Found Objects* in 2001. As a writer/dramaturg and mentor, he has contributed works for Urban Theatre Projects, Radio National (ABC), Griffin Theatre, The Australian Choreographic Centre, Belvoir Asian Theatre Festival, The Performance Space, Blacktown Arts Centre, PACT, ATYP, Multicultural Theatre Alliance, Platform 27, Canberra Youth Theatre and Tuggeranong Arts Centre. In 2005, he received an Asialink Residency to work with Anino Shadowplay Collective.

Lorraine Chung is currently assisting at Gallery 4A, which has previously included the installation of the Sydney pavilion at the Shanghai Biennale 2012, and she has assisted artist Song Dong at Carriageworks as part of the Sydney Festival 2012. She has been involved with the Blake Prize in Sydney, and other projects in Taiwan and China. Lorraine completed her M.Art Administration COFA, UNSW 2012.

Su-wen Leong is assisting the Curatorial Department at Object Australian Centre for Design, was involved with the installation of *Moving Change* at NAMOC Beijing, in November 2012, and recently co-curated an exhibition at Cofaspace in Sept. 2012. Previously a fashion designer, Su-wen has curated fashion installations at the Cleveland Street Theatre, and for PHM, during the L'Oreal Melbourne Fashion Festival. Su-wen is currently completing her M.Art Administration course at COFA, UNSW.

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