4A CENTRE FOR CONTEMPORARY ASIAN ART

TWENTY YEARS

Together with the Power Institute 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art presents a day long symposium to celebrate the organisations’ twenty-year anniversary. Twenty Years brings together those who have played a role in the development of 4A as a leader in Asian contemporary art in Australia since 1996 and those that will shape the next twenty years.

Friday 4 November 2016
The Foyer, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney, Camperdown, NSW, Australia

9.30 – 10.00 Registration

10.00 – 10.15 Welcome
| Prof. Mark LEDBURY, Director of the Power Institute
| Dr. Mikala TAI, Director of 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art

10.15 – 10.30 Opening Remarks
| Edmund CAPON, OBE AM, Chair of 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art

10.30 – 12.00 Session one – The Last Twenty
| Speakers: Lindy LEE, Prof. Ien ANG, Dacchi DANG.
Session supported by the China Studies Centre, The University of Sydney.
4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art is a creation of the Asian Australian Artist’s Association that was founded in 1996 in the midst of socio-political debates about multiculturalism and Australian identity. This session brings together some of the early members of the organisation to reflect on the context that framed the inception of 4A.

12.00 – 1.00 Lunch

1.00 – 2.30 Session two – The Asian Australian Artist
| Chair: Prof. Jacqueline LO
| Speakers: Abdul ABDULLAH, Mayu KANUMORI, Owen LEONG and John YOUNG
Session convened with the Asian Australian Research Network.
Reflecting on 4A’s foundation as an artist association this session focuses on the cultural politics of Asian Australian art and identity from the perspective of artists. The artist panelists will all reflect on how their diverse histories inform their practice and politics.
2.30 – 3.15  *Afternoon Tea & Launch of The 4A Papers*

3.15 – 4.45  **Session three – The Next Twenty**
| Chair: Dr. Mikala TAI |
| Speakers: Alex BOWEN, Pedro DE ALMEIDA, Dr. Abdullah M.I. SYED and Dr. Stephen WHITEMAN |

*Session convened and supported by the Power Institute, The University of Sydney*

The next era for 4A will see expanded areas of focus, new questions and new challenges. This session brings together a diverse panel of 4A collaborators who are working with the organisation to navigate the future of one of Australia’s most unique and important contemporary art spaces.

4.45 – 5.00  **Closing Remarks**
| Dr Mikala TAI, Director of 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art |

6.00 – 7.30  **Keynote**
| Speaker: Sara RAZA |
| In Conversation with: Edmund CAPON, OBE AM, Chair of 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art |

Sara Raza will present a keynote on her curatorial research exploring questions concerning the critical role of curating and the importance of site specificity in new emerging centers in Central Asia, Caucasus and the Gulf. Correspondingly, Raza will highlight the global stage of the exhibition as a site where the cross circularity of several overlapping and urgent topics concerning the migration of people and ideas and the prohibition of civil liberties converge to create an urgent yet fluid forum for activating ideas through visual culture.