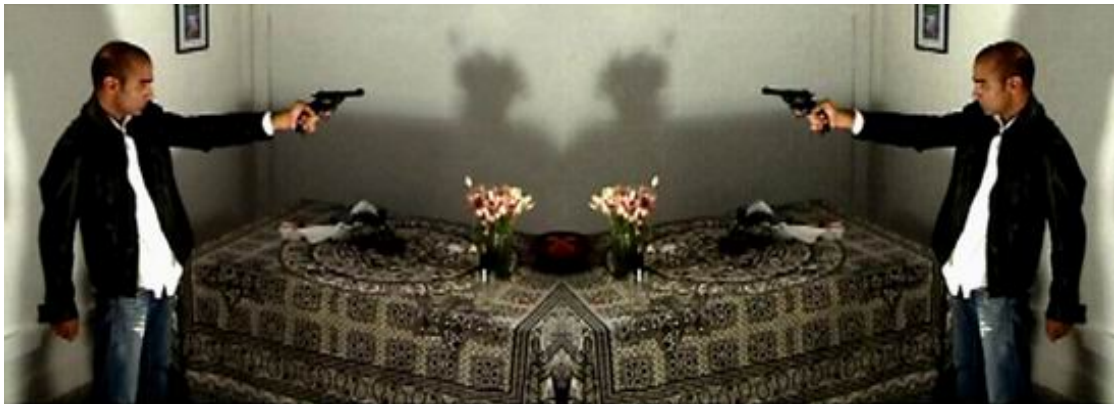




Contact: Elaine Merguerian or Jennifer Suh, Asia Society
212-327-9271

**28 MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES TO PRESENT ASIAN VIDEO ART DURING
ASIAN CONTEMPORARY ART WEEK IN NEW YORK
MAY 22-27, 2006**



Rashid Rana, *Ten Differences* (2004), Video still

An unprecedented group of leading New York City galleries and museums are joining forces to present Asian Contemporary Art Week (ACAW), with a special focus on Asian video art. In its fourth year, ACAW is a citywide event in celebration of the richness and diversity of contemporary Asian art through exhibitions, lectures, performances and public programs. A full schedule is available at www.acaw.net. A fully illustrated color book has been published to coincide with this event.

A highlight of ACAW 2006 is *Fast Futures: Asian Video Art*, an exhibition of 25 works selected by Asia Society Museum Director Melissa Chiu, independent curator Yu Yeon Kim and Museum of Modern Art Curator Barbara London. The artworks were drawn from submissions sent by over 100 artists from locations ranging from Turkey, Dagestan, China, Taiwan, Korea, Thailand and Hong Kong. Comprised of single channel video works by leading and emerging Asian artists, *Fast Futures* will be presented in participating galleries throughout Asian Contemporary Art Week.



Bea Camacho, *Enclose* (2004), Video still

ACAW will showcase works by internationally recognized artists such as Yang Fudong, Lida Abdul, Shilpa Gupta, Vivan Sundaram and Hiraki Sawa, as well as emerging artists from Japan, Turkey, India, Thailand, Afghanistan, Taiwan, China and Korea. These emerging artists are part of a growing international movement of artists who have trained and worked exclusively in video art, “leapfrogging” over classically based artist training and practice.

There are several reasons why many artists in Asia have begun their careers working solely in video. The speed of economic, social, and cultural change in Asia has meant that video works suit the pace of these rapidly changing societies. Other factors include the accessibility of editing programs and ease of shipping and installation. This has allowed international participation in multiple, and sometimes simultaneous, exhibitions around the world.

According to Melissa Chiu, “Asian and Asian American artists are on the cutting edge in video art—it is significant that most of the Asian artists showing in the world’s top contemporary art galleries are video artists.” She adds, “There is an excitement surrounding emerging Asian video artists, many of whose work is less culturally prescribed and more globally accessible. This enthusiasm is reflected in the unprecedented number of galleries and Museums participating in Asian Contemporary Art Week this year.”

Asian Contemporary Art Week kicks off with a panel discussion held at Asia Society on Monday, May 22 at 6:30 p.m., with leading contemporary video artists and curators who will discuss current issues, emerging trends and new directions in the Asian contemporary art scene. The panel will be followed by an exhibition opening reception for *Projected Realities: Video Art from East Asia*, featuring works by artists from China, Korea, Japan, and Taiwan, the leading countries in new media art. Events on subsequent evenings are generally organized by neighborhood location, with events on Tuesday, May 23 happening in midtown and uptown; on Wednesday, May 24 downtown in Tribeca, Soho, and also the Brooklyn Museum; Thursday, May 25 in Chelsea; Friday, May 26 at the Rubin Museum and area galleries as well as live sound works at the Diapason Gallery near Bryant Park; and Saturday, May 27 at the Bronx Museum of the Arts and the Queens Museum of Art.



Nadiah Bamadhaj, *Potert* (2003), Video still

Since its launch in 2002, ACAW has grown each year to include more public and private arts establishments. Previous Asian Contemporary Art Week programs have featured leading curators, collectors and artists, including Vasif Kortun, Shirin Neshat, Shahzia Sikander and Okwui Enwezor, as well as Gary Garrels, Dan Cameron, Francesco Bonami, Yuko Hasegawa, Apinan Poshyananda, Mariko Mori, Kent Logan and Hou Hanru.



Yang Fudong, *Seven Intellectuals in Bamboo Forest Chapter 1* (2003), Video still

Asian Contemporary Art Week is a collaboration of the Asian Contemporary Art Consortium, which includes: Melissa Chiu, Asia Society and Museum; Eleni Cocordas, Japan Society; Ethan Cohen, Ethan Cohen Fine Arts; Esa Epstein, Sepia International, The Alkazi Collection; Michael Goedhuis, Goedhuis Contemporary; Steve Pacia and Shumita Bose, Bose Pacia Modern; France Pepper, China Institute; Jung Lee Sanders, Art Projects International; David Solo and Jack & Susy Wadsworth, Collectors.

Asian Contemporary Art Week 2006 participating organizations include: American Folk Art Museum, Arts Projects International (API), Asian Art Museum, Asia Society Museum, Bose Pacia Gallery, Brooklyn Museum, Bronx Museum of the Arts, Chambers Fine Art, China Institute, Chuk Palu Gallery, Ethan Cohen Fine Arts, Flow Sound Collective, Gallery Arts India, Gallery Korea, Goedhuis Contemporary, James Cohan Gallery, Japan Society, Max Protetch Gallery, M.Y. Art Prospects, Queens Museum of Art, Rubin Museum of Art, Sepia International/The Alkazi Collection, Sikkema Jenkins & Co., Sundaram Tagore Gallery, Thomas Erben Gallery and Tilton Gallery.

ACAW 2006 is sponsored by Art Asia Pacific, Diapason, Chambers Hotel, Sotheby's, SurroundArt and WPS1.org Art Radio.

The complete program agenda and locations follows. For the latest schedule changes and updates, please visit www.acaw.net.

**ASIAN CONTEMPORARY ART IN NEW YORK
28 MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES PRESENT ASIAN VIDEO ART
HELD MAY 22 THROUGH 27, 2006**

Monday May 22-Saturday May 27

Fast Futures: Asian Video Art ACAW Video Program

This year, ACAW features a special exhibition of single channel video works presented at venues across the city. Artists on view were selected through a process of nomination and juried by Melissa Chiu, Asia Society Museum; Yu Yeon Kim, Independent Curator; and Barbara London, Museum of Modern Art. The schedule below announces these artists as ACAW Video Artists.

Monday May 22

Asia Society & Museum

6:30 pm Discussion, 8 pm Reception

Dialogues in Asian Contemporary Art: Take 4. To coincide with the opening of Asian Contemporary Art Week, Melissa Chiu moderates a panel discussion with leading contemporary video artists and curators about current issues, emerging trends, and new directions in the Asian contemporary art scene. Speakers include: Barbara London, Johan Pijnappel and Vivan Sundaram. Followed by a reception for *Projected Realities*, an exhibition of new media works from East Asia.

\$7 students; \$10 members; \$15 nonmembers

725 Park Ave. (70th St.), New York, NY 10021

T: 212-288-6400

www.asiasociety.org

Tuesday May 23 (Uptown)

American Folk Art Museum

5 pm Exhibition Tour, 6–8 pm Reception

Concrete Kingdom: Sculptures by Nek Chand. Curator Brooke Davis Anderson will lead an exhibition tour of this visionary self-taught sculptor (b. 1924) who is revered in India for his magical environment Rock Garden, in Chandigarh, one of the most visited tourist attractions in the country. His elegant figures are created with cement and broken bicycle parts and embellished with discarded materials such as broken crockery and glass bangles.

ACAW Video Artists: Chuhan Kuljit Kooj and Suzuki Atsushi

45 West 53 St. (6th Ave.), New York, NY 10019

T: 212-265-1040

www.folkartmuseum.org

China Institute

8–9:30 pm Screening/Discussion

Seven Intellectuals in Bamboo Forest, Part 1 by Yang Fudong. Part 1 is from a series of five films that are adaptations of the traditional Chinese story and art theme known as The Seven Sages of the Bamboo Grove and was filmed among the craggy and lush, misty environment of Yellow Mountain. Followed by a discussion with Maxwell Hearn, Curator of Chinese Paintings and Calligraphy at The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Barbara Pollock, artist and art journalist who teaches and writes about contemporary Chinese art.

ACAW Video Artist: Yang Fudong

Space is limited. Reservations required.

125 East 65th St. (Lexington & Park Ave.), New York, NY 10021

T: 212-744-8181, x.150

www.chinainstitute.org

Goedhuis Contemporary

6–8 pm Reception

Wang Ningde. Through the medium of photography, Wang Ningde explores the impossibility of separating what is the reality of memory and the memory of reality. This exhibition raises questions about how conceptions of self are at once created by and create memories of previous manifestations of ourselves, and how the processes of acknowledgement, memory, and desire are locked in a mutually dependent but sometimes antagonistic relationship.

ACAW Video Artist: Chieh-jen Chen

42 East 76th St. (Park & Madison Ave.), New York, NY 10021

T: 212-535-6954

www.goedhuiscontemporary.com

Gallery Korea, Korean Cultural Service NY

5–7 pm Reception

Po Kim & Sylvia Wald. In collaboration with 2X13 Gallery and curated by Thalia Vrachopoulos, this exhibition features a variety of works from the 1950s to the present, including Po Kim's early abstract expressionistic works, paper works, and his recent figurative paintings and Sylvia Wald's early serigraphs, abstract oil paintings, and assemblage sculptures.

ACAW Video Artists: Ghazel, Rashid Rana, Rhee Jaye, and Jason Yi S.

460 Park Ave. (57th St.) 6th fl., New York, NY 10022

T: 212-759-9550

www.koreanculture.org

Japan Society

5:30–8 pm Reception

Fast Futures: Asian Video Art. As part of the city-wide Asian Contemporary Art Week, Japan Society's main gallery presents new single-channel video works by three emerging artists selected from the ACAW video program: *Enclose* by Bea Camacho (The Philippines); *Trail* by Hiraki Sawa (Japan); and several works by Koki Tanaka (Japan).

333 East 47th St. (1st Ave.), New York, NY 10017

T: 212-832-1155

www.japansociety.org

Tilton Gallery

6–8 pm Reception

Jiang Hu. Curated by Huang Zhuan, an internationally recognized curator and professor of art theory at the Guangzhou Academy, this exhibition brings together works by thirty of the most important Chinese contemporary artists of our time, including Yue Minjun, Liu Wei, Zeng Fanzhi, Ma Liuming, He Sen, Xu Tan, and others. This exhibition refers to the complex dynamics of contemporary Chinese art within the global art world.

ACAW Video Artist: Kuang-yu Tsui

8 East 76th St. (5th & Madison Ave.), New York, NY 10021

T: 212-737-2221

www.jacktiltongallery.com

Wednesday May 24 (Downtown)

Art Projects International (API)

11–5 pm Exhibition Viewing

IL LEE: New Work is an important survey featuring new large-scale ballpoint pen works on canvas and paper. These ambitious works include Lee's largest ballpoint pen work to date, a twelve-foot-long, blue-ink-on-canvas tour de force. The monumental forms emerging in these recent works seem at once grand and immutable and in flux.

ACAW Video Artist: Shin Il Kim

429 Greenwich St, Suite 5B (Laight and Vestry St.), New York, NY 10013

T: 212-343-2599

www.artprojects.com

Brooklyn Museum

3–5 pm Screening/Discussion

Working with the Diaspora: Asian Contemporary Art. A round-table discussion with three Brooklyn-based artists, Wenda Gu, Yoko Inoue, and Jean Shin, conducted by Charlotta Kotik, Curator and Chair of Contemporary Art, and Tumelo Mosaka, Assistant Curator of Contemporary Art.

Cantor Auditorium, 3rd floor.

This event is free with museum admission.

ACAW Video Artists: Lida Abdul, Nikhil Chopra, and Natalia Mali

200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11238

T: 718-501-6100

www.brooklynmuseum.org

Chuk Palu Gallery/Center for Contemporary Art Afghanistan (CCAA)

6 pm Lecture, 6:30–8:30 pm Reception

Leeza Ahmady, Independent Curator and Managing Director of ACAW, Asia Society, will present a brief introductory lecture to an exhibition of works by four contemporary Afghan artists: Roya Ghiasy (installation), Rahraw Omarzad (video

works in collaboration with CCAA students), Zolykha Sherzad (textile and fashion designs), and Rahim Walizada (carpets).

290 Fifth Ave. (31st and 32nd St.), New York, NY 10001

T: 212-695-1090

www.chukpalurugs.com

Ethan Cohen Fine Arts

6–8 pm Reception, 7 pm Performance

"Action Painting Battle! Ushio Shinohara VS Ryoga Katsuma." Curated by Ethan Cohen & Shinya Watanabe. Ryoga Katsuma, an emerging 26-year-old Japanese action painter, challenges the 74-year-old grand champion of boxing painting, Ushio Shinohara.

ACAW Video Artists: Yang Fudong and Ryoga Katsuma

18 Jay Street (Hudson and Greenwich St.), New York, NY 10013

T: 212-625-1250

www.ecfa.com

Museum of Chinese in the Americas (MoCA)

12-6pm Exhibition Viewing

The Virtual Salon: Transnational Photographers in the Digital Age. A photography exhibit featuring works by the Chinese Artist Network.

70 Mulberry Street, 2nd fl. (Corner of Bayard), New York, NY 10013

T: (212) 619-4785

www.moca-nyc.org

Thursday May 25 (Chelsea)

Bose Pacia Gallery

6:30 pm Discussion/Exhibition Viewing

In Conversation: Shilpa Gupta, Barbara London, and Dr. Irina Aristarkhova
Shilpa Gupta creates artwork using interactive websites, video, gallery environments, and public performances to probe, examine, and subvert such themes as consumer culture, exploitation of labor, militarism, and human rights abuse.

ACAW Video Artists: Yan Chung Hsien

508 West 26th St, 11th fl. (10th & 11th Ave.), New York, NY 10001

T: 212-989-7074

www.bosepacia.com

Chambers Fine Art

6–8 pm Exhibition Viewing

Transmitting the Ancient: Still-Life Photography by Hong Lei. One of the leading conceptual photographers in China presents a suite of meticulously staged *nature mortes*: mock-classical motifs that illustrate the artificiality of their representation.

ACAW Video Artist: Tan Xu

210 11th Ave, 4th fl. (24th and 25th St.), New York, NY 10001

T: 212-414-1169

www.chambersfineart.com

James Cohan Gallery

6–8:30 pm Exhibition Viewing

Hiraki Sawa. Using video animation, Sawa juxtaposes varying images and backgrounds in whimsical and poetic collage. His meditations on ideas of dislocation and displacement are quietly profound—they suggest metaphors for change, evolution, and alienation within our time.

ACAW Video Artist: Pei Lin Kuo

533 West 26th St. (10th & 11th Ave.), New York, NY 1001

T: 212-714-9500

www.jamescohan.com

Max Protetch Gallery

6–8 pm Reception

Chen Qiulin. Chen is a young Chinese artist whose performances, photographs, and videos incorporate sculptural elements and a dramatic, intuitive approach to the changing Chinese landscape.

ACAW Video Artist: Ali Demirel

511 W 22nd St. (10th and 11th Ave.), New York, NY 10011

T: 212-633-6999

www.maxprotetch.com

M.Y. Art Prospects

6–9 pm Reception

My Idol. Mayumi Lake's new photography series revisits childhood romantic fantasies from an adult's point of view, expressing the disillusionment of broken promises while clinging to the hope of finding an ideal mate. Funny and ironic, Lake's images also express a poignant yearning to regain the lost innocence of childhood.

ACAW Video Artists: Mika Tajima, Moo Kwon Han, and Chen Kuo I

547 West 27th Street, 2nd fl. (10th and 11th Ave.), New York, NY 10001

T: 212-268-7132

www.myartprospects.com

Sepia International / The Alkazi Collection

6–8 pm Reception

Re-Take of Amrita. Vivan Sundaram's *Re-Take of Amrita* is a photographic project incorporating the works of his grandfather, Umrao Singh Sher-Gil (1870–1954). Within these fifty-five digital photomontages, Sundaram orchestrates a dialogue with the past: the central "cinematic plot" is the relationship between Umrao and his artist-daughter Amrita Sher-Gil (1912–1941). The exhibition will include photomontages, a dual-video installation entitled *Indira's Piano*, and the photographs of Umrao Singh Sher-Gil, which have never been displayed.

ACAW Video Artist: Vivan Sundaram

148 West 24th St, 11th fl. (6th & 7th Ave.), New York, NY 10011

T: 212-645-9444

www.sepia.org

Sikkema Jenkins & Co.

6–8 pm Reception

Shahzia Sikander: New and recent digital animation works. The images don't stay fixed, but move and change, eluding narrative; the rhetoric remains suspended and the dialogue is open-ended. Using humor, visual reasoning and a self-created methodology, Sikander playfully hints at the problems of representation.

530 W 22nd St, 2nd Fl. (10th and 11th Ave.), New York, NY 10011

T: 212.929.2262

www.sikkemajenkinsco.com

Sundaram Tagore Gallery

6:30–8:30 pm Reception

East/West. This exhibition features the work of six artists and their interaction with Asia. These artists are intimately engaged with the aesthetic or philosophical ideals of the East. The goal of this exhibition is to create a dialogue among cultures and to find points of commonality and elements that inspire new ways of thinking and creating. Curated by Sundaram Tagore. Artists: Natvar Bhavsar, Nathan Slate Joseph, Judith Murray, Anil Revri, Sohan Qadri, Joan Vennum.

ACAW Video Artists: Vivan Sundaram

547 West 27th St, ground fl. (10th & 11th Ave.), New York, NY 10001

T: 212-677-4520

www.sundaramtagore.com

Thomas Erben Gallery

6–8:30 pm Reception

What are you? What do you have? One of the most significant Indian artists of her generation, Tejal Shah employs video, photography, and performance. For her first U.S. solo exhibition, Shah continues from her work with the transgender community and presents a new two-channel video installation, transforming the gallery into a poetic collision of loss, regeneration, and celebration.

ACAW Video Artist: Man Yee So Stella

526 West 26th St. (10th and 11th Ave.), New York, NY 10001

T: 212-645-8701

www.thomaserben.com

Friday May 26

Bose Pacia Gallery

6:30–8 pm Screening/Talk

Video Art in Central Asia: Screening of a number of video works by newly emerging artists of Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan. Independent Curator, Leeza Ahmady, will share insights from her recent trips, and research work about the practice and development of contemporary art in this region. Artists: Alexander Uguy, Murat Djournaliev, Gulnara Kasmalieva, Erbossyn Meldibekov, Almagul Menlibayeva, Rustam Khalfin, Julia Tikhonova, Said Atabekov, Roman Maskalev, Yelena and Victor Vorobyev, and others.

508 West 26th St, 11th Fl. (10th & 11th Ave.), New York, NY 10001

P: 212 989 7074

www.bosepacia.com

Flow Sound Collective at Diapason Gallery

8:30 pm–12 am Live Sound Performances

Flow Sound Collective presents a variety of sound works based on aural phenomena produced through a combination of old and new means. These performances focus primarily on the evolution of electronic sound works. Curated by Patrick Todd at Diapason, the only gallery in the city devoted to sound art.

Performers: Kieko Uneshi (aka oblaat), Kenta Nagai, Chika, Haeyung Lee, (aka Bubblyfish) and others.

Admission: \$10

1026 Avenue of the Americas (38th and 39th St., 2 blocks south of Bryant Park), New York, NY 10018

T: 212-719-4393

www.diapasongallery.org

Gallery Arts India

6–9 pm Reception

Ghost Transmemoire is an exhibition of Krishnamachari's new work. His canvases operate in a formal capacity, with their spectacular combination of color, texture, and contrasting designs; they also have a strong intellectual basis. He questions the validity of the image as a purveyor of fixed meaning. His abstract patterns embody a shifting network of signs, mischievously evading definition and counteracting the assumption of a singular truth.

ACAW Video Artists: Amar Kanwar, Sathit Sattarasart, and Ezawa Kota

206 Fifth Ave, 5th fl. (25th St.), New York, NY 10010

T: 212-725-6092

www.artsindia.com

Rubin Museum of Art

4:30–6:30 pm Screening, 7–10 pm Artists on Art

Fast Futures: Asian Video Art. Selected works from ACAW Video Program will be shown in the museum's theater: Nadiyah Bamadhaj, Chieh-jen Chen, Mariam Ghani, Naeem Mohaiemen /Visible Collective. Contemporary artists including Shahzia Sikander, Naeem Mohaiemen, and Kim Il Shin will give informal talks and tours of the Museum's galleries, contemplating the connection between traditional and contemporary Himalayan art. K2 Lounge hosts a special DJ in honor of ACAW (6 PM-midnight).

Free museum admission after 7PM

150 West 17th St. (6th & 7th Ave)

T: 212.620.5000 Ext 344

www.rmanyc.org

Saturday May 27

The Bronx Museum of the Arts

4-6PM Video Screening

Fast Futures: Asian Video Art. Selected works from the ACAW Video Program will be shown in the museum's screening room: Mathieu Borysevicz, Kimi Takesue, Abidi Bani, and Kawai Masayuki. AIM 26: Exhibition on view featuring the 36 artists in the

2005-06 Artist in the Marketplace (AIM) program, which annually provides professional development seminars and an exhibition venue to emerging artists in the New York metropolitan area.

1040 Grand Concourse Bronx, NY 10456

T: 718.681.6000

www.bronxmuseum.org

Queens Museum of Art

2–5 pm Performances

Contemporary South Asian Music and Dance Festival. A series of performances and collaborations between visual artists, dancers, and musicians of the local South Asian diaspora. The presenting artists push the boundaries of classical Indian dance and music to explore transgressive new realms from a feminist viewpoint. Artists: Siona Benjamin and Ishrat Hoque, Jaishri Abichandani, Samita Sinha, Tenzin Sherpa, Bijli, Anjali, Sharmila Desai, Parijat Desai.

ACAW Video Artists: Michael Shaowanasai, Emily Chua, Rutherford Chang and Lui Xiu Wen

Queens Museum of Art, New York City Building, Flushing Meadows Corona Park, NY 11368

T: 718-592-9700

www.queensmuseum.org

Asian Art Museum (San Francisco)

On View April 7–July 16, 2006

The Three Gorges Project: Paintings by Liu Xiaodong. A series of monumental paintings by one of China's leading artists, chronicling the Three Gorges Project, a seventeen-year effort to dam the Yangzi River. Each work reflects a society in transition, highlighting the issue of environmental degradation in an industrializing China where the psychic landscape is crowded with examples of hope, despair, innocence, detachment, injury, aggression, privilege, loss, and communal celebration.

200 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102

T: 415-581-3717

www.asianart.org