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Asian Contemporary Art Week In New York City To Be Held November 18 Through 22, 2003

New York, November 5, 2003—For the second year running, the Asian Contemporary Art Consortium (ACAC) will celebrate the richness and diversity of Asian contemporary art through a weeklong series of public programs in New York City, on November 18 through 22, 2003. Asian Contemporary Art Week is designed to bring the wider public into direct contact with artists, scholars and a variety of exhibitions at participating galleries and museums around the city.

Asian Contemporary Art Week is the primary public initiative of the ACAC, composed of a broad alliance of curators, museum directors, gallery owners, educators and collectors. Formed in 2001, ACAC helps to promote awareness and appreciation of Asian contemporary art in the United States. A complete schedule of events is attached, and is available at www.acaw.net.

The week will culminate with an evening symposium hosted at the Asia Society and Museum on Friday evening, November 21 at 6:30 p.m. The program, "Dialogues in Asian Contemporary Art," will explore emerging trends and new directions in the Asian contemporary art scene. Speakers will include Vishakha N. Desai, Asia Society and Museum and Francesco Bonami, director of the last Venice Biennale and curator, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago.

The evening will include performance art by Chinese artists Lin Yilin and Qin Feng. The program will be followed by a reception and viewing of Cai Guo-Qiang's exhibition *An Explosion Event: Light Cycle Over Central Park*, and *TOOBA: Shirin Neshat*, currently on view at Asia Society and Museum.

According to Desai, Senior Vice President of the Asia Society and Director of the Museum and Cultural Programs, "In the last ten years, there has been an 80 percent increase in the representation and exhibition of contemporary Asian artists in New York museums, galleries, nonprofit institutions and auction houses. The Asia Society is thrilled to have contributed to this increase through landmark exhibitions of contemporary Asian art, such as *Traditions/Tensions* (1996) and *Inside Out: New Chinese Art* (1998). We are also pleased to be an organizer of Asian Contemporary Art Week."

"When people talk about Asian contemporary art they are often only referring to Chinese or Japanese art," says Melissa Chiu, Curator of Contemporary Art, Asia Society. "Asian Contemporary Art Week is an opportunity for people to see the full diversity of Asian cultures including India, Korea, Vietnam and that of the Asian diaspora through exhibitions, performances, lectures and studio visits."

Other highlights of Asian Contemporary Art Week include a slide lecture on "Today's Artists from Nanjing," by Willow Hai Chang, China Institute Gallery on November 18 at 6:00 p.m., and a lecture on underground Japanese dance at Japan Society, titled "Outcast Samurai Dancer: Japanese Dance Avant-Garde," on November 19 at 6:00 p.m. The Korea Society will host a reception on November 19 at 7:00 p.m. in conjunction with the exhibition, *Marking: Drawings by Contemporary Artists from Korea*. New York City studio visits will include locations in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, on Saturday, November 22.

ASIAN CONTEMPORARY ART WEEK IS MADE POSSIBLE WITH SUPPORT FROM TANIA AND ANILESH AHUJA.

Arnold Chang
KAIKODO

Ethan Cohen
ETHAN COHEN FINE ARTS

Vishakha N. Desai
Melissa Chiu
ASIA SOCIETY

Esa Epstein
SEPIA INTERNATIONAL
ALKAZI COLLECTION

Michael Goedhuis
GOEDHUIS
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Yu Yeon Kim
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Margo Machida
ASIAN/PACIFIC/
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Christophe Mao
CHAMBERS FINE ART

Stephen McGuinness
PLUM BLOSSOMS

Alexandra Munroe
JAPAN SOCIETY

Steve Pacia
Shumita Bose
BOSE PACIA

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