

February 5th, 2024

Agency for Cultural Affairs International Roundtable: The Possibility of Collaborating in a Divided World

Aiming to build international networks for the next generations artists, curators, and researchers

The Agency for Cultural Affairs is pleased to announce its **International Roundtable: The possibility of Collaborating in a Divided World**, scheduled to take place on February 16, 2024 at the National Art Center, Tokyo. The aim of this roundtable is to discuss specific ideas for building an international network of curators from/in Asia region among the next generation, as well as involving artists and researchers, and creating new collaborative possibilities in the mid- to long- term perspective. In Session 1, we welcome Ms. Kataoka Mami, Ms. Kim Sunjung, and Dr. Pi Li as panelists to explore international networking and collaboration in the coming era through case studies of international collaborative projects since the early 2000s. In Session 2, following the presentations, the three panelists and several young emerging curators will join the discussion.

■Program Overview

Agency for Cultural Affairs International Roundtable: The Possibility of Collaborating in a Divided World

Date & Time: Friday, February 16, 2024, 4–6pm (JST), Doors open at 3:45pm
Venue: 3rd Floor Auditorium, The National Art Center, Tokyo
Language: Japanese and English (with simultaneous interpretation)
Capacity: 100 people
Registration: Free (advanced registration required, first come first served)
Organizer: Agency for Culture Affairs, Government of Japan

* This symposium will not be live streamed. The archives will be posted on the website.

Program:

- Panel Presentations (10 min each)
 - KATAOKA Mami (Director, Mori Art Museum / Director, National Art Research Center)
 - Kim Sunjung (Artistic Director, Art Sonje Center and Real DMZ Project)
 - Pi Li (Head of Art, Tai Kwun Contemporary)
- Roundtable Discussion
 - Discussants: Emerging curators and researchers (TBC)
 - Advisors: Kataoka Mami, Kim Sunjung, Pi Li
 - Moderator: Yamamine Junya (Curator/Producer/CEO, NYAW Inc.)
- Q&A

* Please refer to the attachment for more information.

Registration: <https://forms.gle/i6SMQJf5FqLEzRWT8>



■About the project

This project is intended to advance initiatives needed to: build networks of emerging artists, curators, creators, researchers, and other inspired minds in mainly Asia, explore new visions for art driven by the synergies generated by those networks, and find ways to expand their potential and sustainably communicate it to the world.

【Attachement】

Agency for Cultural Affairs International Roundtable: The Possibility of Collaborating in a Divided World (pdf)

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February 5, 2024

**Agency for Cultural Affairs International Roundtable:
The Possibility of Collaborating in a Divided World
Building international networks for the next generation of artists, curators, and researchers**

The Agency for Cultural Affairs is pleased to announce its **International Roundtable: The Possibility of Collaborating in a Divided World** will take place on **February 16, 2024** at the National Art Center, Tokyo. The aim of this roundtable is to discuss specific ideas for building an international network of curators from/in Asia among the next generation, as well as involving artists and researchers, and creating new collaborative possibilities from the medium- to long-term perspective. In Session 1, we will welcome Ms. Kataoka Mami, Ms. Kim Sunjung, and Dr. Pi Li as panelists to explore international networking and collaboration in the coming era through case studies of international collaborative projects since the early 2000s. Following their presentations, Session 2 will bring together the three panelists and several young emerging curators for a roundtable discussion.

The Agency for Cultural Affairs positions this roundtable as the initial step toward the medium- to long-term project. In fiscal 2023 (April 2023–March 2024), we launched a long-term initiative aimed at building and strengthening networks of emerging artists, curators, creators, and other inspired minds in mainly Asia, and for exploring new visions for art driven by the synergies generated by those networks, as well as ways to expand their potential. Over the years, a wide variety of international art projects have been carried out with the collaboration of Asian countries. Today, however, the significance of locality is being re-examined in the context of our globalized world, and the act of being different and breaking away from the traditional art context is rather seen as offering value in its potential for opening up new directions and dimensions. The countries of Asia may share the same region, but they represent a tremendously rich array of cultures, societies, histories, and environments. By coming together and interacting as diverse neighbors, these countries can inspire and transform one another in new ways.

To design a medium- to long-term sustainable project, we have held multiple online discussions this fiscal year with the participation of the three panelists of this roundtable, who have long been active on the international frontlines, and 25 young emerging curators from/in Asia. With the aim of establishing medium- to long-term goals and frameworks, based on these online discussions, this roundtable will discuss the ideal platform for the next generation as well as designing the direction of the specific programs, while referring to various case studies.

The initial discussions this fiscal year are intended to form the groundwork for discussions thereafter that will create a vision for the next 20 years and establish a sustainable framework that can be passed on to the next generation of leaders. This will ultimately pave the way for the development of a diverse program of collaborations—research projects, discussions, exhibitions, and other events—that will be carried out by mainly emerging curators over a span of several years.

■Program Overview

(subject to change)

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Program:

4:00pm	Opening Remarks
4:05-4:40pm	Session 1: Panel Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Kataoka Mami (Director, Mori Art Museum / Director, National Art Research Center)– Kim Sunjung (Artistic Director, Art Sonje Center and Real DMZ Project)– Pi Li (Head of Art, Tai Kwun Contemporary)
4:45-5:45pm	Session 2: Roundtable Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Discussants: Emerging curators and researchers– Advisors: Kataoka Mami, Kim Sunjung, Pi Li– Moderator: Yamamine Junya (Curator/Producer/CEO, NYAW Inc.)
5:45-5:58pm	Q&A
6:00pm	Closing

Registration: <https://forms.gle/eJPtw2zccFHqxe9A>



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■Panelists and Moderator

Kataoka Mami

Director, Mori Art Museum / Director, National Center for Art Research

Kataoka Mami joined the Mori Art Museum in 2003, taking on the role of Director in 2020. While continuing this role, she was appointed director of the National Center for Art Research in 2023. Prior to this, she was researcher on cultural policies at the NLI Research Institute and inaugural chief curator at the Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery. Beyond Tokyo, Kataoka has held positions at the Hayward Gallery in London, where from 2007 to 2009 she was the institution's first International Curator; she has also acted as Co-Artistic Director for the 9th Gwangju Biennale (2012), Artistic Director for the 21st Biennale of Sydney (2018) and Artistic Director for the Aichi Triennale 2022. Kataoka served as a Board Member (2014-2020) and the President (2020-2022) of CIMAM [International Committee for Museums and Collections of Modern Art]. From 2018 to 2022, she also chaired the Contemporary Art Committee Japan, a starting committee of the Art Platform Japan, an initiative undertaken by the Agency for Cultural Affairs. Kataoka has been a committee member and judge for numerous organizations and initiatives, including the Policy Subcommittee of the Council for Cultural Affairs and the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO.



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Kim Sunjung

Artistic Director, Art Sonje Center and Real DMZ Project

Sunjung Kim has worked as chief curator/deputy director (1993–2004) and director (2016–2017) of Art Sonje Center in Seoul, where she is currently the artistic director (2022–). She is also the chair of ICOM Republic of Korea (2023–) and board member of ICOM ASPAC (International Council of Museums Asia-Pacific Alliance). She was the artistic director of the ACC Archive & Research at the Asia Art Culture Center (2014–2015), and the president of the Gwangju Biennale Foundation (2017–2021). Additionally, she is the founder and artistic director of the REAL DMZ PROJECT, an art and research project designed to cross the boundaries of the museum and launched to explore the (in)visible borders of DMZ through the critical lens of art and to raise awareness about the division of Korea since 2011. At Art Sonje Center, she has curated exhibitions since 2007 focusing on artists such as Martin Creed, Kim Beom, Haegue Yang, Lee Bul, Sung Hwan Kim, Abraham Cruzvillegas, World Weather Network and MOON Kyungwon & JEON Jonho: *Seoul Weather station*. Furthermore she co-curated Heidi Bucher's show in 2023.



Pi Li

Head of Art, Tai Kwun Contemporary

Pi Li is the Head of Art of Tai Kwun Contemporary, Hong Kong. He was a former Sigg senior curator and Head of Curatorial Affairs of M+ Hong Kong. He previously served as the deputy executive director of the art administration department at the Central Academy of Fine Arts (CAFA, 2001–12); the co-founder and director of Universal Studios-Beijing (2005–12), later Boers-Li Gallery in Beijing.

Exhibitions Pi Li curated include *Right Is Wrong: Four Decades of Chinese Art* in M+ Sigg Collection at Whitworth Gallery in Manchester and Bildmuseet in Umea 2015 and 2014; *Moist: Asia-Pacific Media Art* at the Beijing Millennium Monument Art Museum in 2002; *Fantasy Zone* at Art Museum of DongA Daily in 2001 and Beijing Modern Art Center in 2002; *Image Is Power* at He Xiangning Art Museum in Shenzhen in 2002.

He was the curator of *Under Construction* at Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery in 2002; and *Media City Seoul* in 2006. He has also served as curator for the Shanghai Biennial in 2002; and *Allôrs la Chine* at Centre Georges Pompidou in 2003. Publications include *From Action to Concept* (2015), *Farewell to Moralism* (2018) *M+ Sigg Collection: Four Decades of Chinese Art* (2021) and *Madame Song: A Life in Art and Fashion* (2023). Pi Li earned his Ph.D. degree in art history from the Central Academy of Fine Arts.



Yamamine Junya

Curator/Producer/CEO, NYAW Inc.

After working as a curator at the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa and Contemporary Art Centre, Art Tower Mito, he established and directed ANB Tokyo. He later established NYAW Inc. to plan and consult on culture and art-related projects.

Major exhibitions include *Hello World: For the Post-Human Age and Resistance of Fog: Fujiko Nakaya* (Art Tower Mito) and *The world began without the human race, and it will end without it*. (National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts). Also, Meet Your Art Festival "NEW SOIL", an art festival organized by avex; Music Loves Art in Summer Sonic 2022, a joint project of the Agency for Cultural Affairs and Summer Sonic; and *Moriyama In* addition to the KOBE Re:Public Art Project, which he co-curated with Mirai Moriyama, he also supervises art programmes and special features for magazines and television. He has also written, lectured and served on numerous juries, and was a 2015–2016 fellow of the program of MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology – Japan).



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