



SHARJAH ART FOUNDATION

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Shimabuku, *Shimabuku's Boat Trip*, 2013, Participatory Performance, Abra Boat Station, Sharjah Biennial 11. Commissioned by Sharjah Art Foundation, Image courtesy of Hoor Al-Qasimi.

**SHARJAH ART FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES DETAILS OF
MARCH MEETING 2014: COME TOGETHER, TO BEGIN DEVELOPMENT OF SHARJAH
BIENNIAL 12, OPENING IN MARCH 2015**

March Meeting 2014: Come Together

March 13 -16, 2014

www.sharjahart.org

Sharjah, United Arab Emirates— Sharjah Art Foundation (SAF) announces details about speakers, topics of discussion, and the correspondent programme for **March Meeting 2014 (MM2014)**, taking place March 13-16, 2014, in Sharjah, UAE. **Sharjah Biennial 12 (SB12) curator Eungie Joo** has organised the seventh annual March Meeting as a point of departure using this public symposium to create a shared context and body of knowledge from which to develop the biennial in the months leading up to its opening.

By coordinating the March Meeting 2014 with Sharjah Biennial 12, Joo aims to begin a sustained conversation that addresses international, regional, and local audiences in a way that demands an engaged investment in the development of the Biennial and SAF. Featured speakers include artists commissioned for SB12 in the earliest stages of their research, positioning artists in discussion with Sharjah, each other, and the public from the outset of their projects. Such a structure will allow the public to be introduced to the artists' practices and

thinking prior to the exhibition of their work in 2015, while creating the conditions for artists to exchange ideas and observations about the city in which they will be working.

Beyond these case studies, MM2014 follows several additional strands: “Sustained engagements” – focusing on past work in Sharjah; “From here” – presenting perspectives on collection building and exhibitions; Collective research and evaluation sessions; and Keynote addresses and conversations.

Sharjah Art Foundation President and Director Hoor Al-Qasimi will discuss the process of establishing contemporary art collections in conversation with **Rodrigo Moura** of Instituto Inhotim, Brazil. March Meeting 2014 will feature presentations on recent work by artists **Tarek Atoui**, **CAMP**, and **Abdullah Al Saadi**, who will each share insight from extended periods of research and work in Sharjah. **Christine Tohme** of Ashkal Alwan, Beirut, will present a keynote address in conversation with artist and filmmaker **Ahmad Ghossein**. An international group of artists, including **Hassan Khan**, **Iman Issa**, **Cinthia Marcelle**, **Adrián Villar Rojas**, and **Danh Vo** will share key elements of their recent work and practices in a series of “case studies” panels. Curator **Doryun Chong** of M+ Museum, Hong Kong, will present on his Museum of Modern Art exhibition, *Tokyo 1955-1970: A New Avant Garde* (2012) that examined the formation of contemporary art in Tokyo in relation to the development of the city and nation. **Gabi Ngcobo** of Center for Historical Reenactments, Johannesburg, will present on a panel on recent initiatives that propose innovative ways of contributing to emerging art scenes in Jeddah, Cairo, Johannesburg, and Istanbul, that also features **Mohammed Hafiz**, **Sarah Rifky**, and **Zeynep Oz**. And five collective research sessions by artists and researchers including **Eric Baudelaire**, **Kristine Khouri**, and **Rasha Salti** will provide opportunities for in-depth investigation and informal exchange.

In addition, this year SAF will host eight correspondents with research goals and interests in the region, who will each respond to March Meeting sessions through writing, photography, video and digital forms. The programme aims to recognise the importance of writers, scholars, and curators in the development of a contemporary art scene, and models the kind of sustained engagement with place that is foundational to SB12.

Exhibition openings that coincide with the opening of March Meeting include *Wael Shawky: Horsemen Adore Perfumes and other stories*; *Rasheed Araeen: Before and After Minimalism*; *Susan Hefuna: Another Place*; and the *March Project*. Other exhibitions on view include *Eduard Puterbrodt: Between my East and my West*; *Ahmed Mater: 100 Found Objects*; and *Abdullah Al Saadi: Al-Toubay*.

MM2014 and related events are free and open to the public. Register at register@sharjahart.org.

The full schedule is available online at <http://www.sharjahart.org/march-meeting/march-meeting-2014/programme>

March Meeting 2014: COME TOGETHER
March 13 – 16, 2014

Thursday, March 13 – Day 1

- 9:30** **Registration**
- 09:45** Welcome by Abdullah Al Owais (Sharjah Department of Culture and Information)
- 10:00** Introduction by SAF President Hoor Al-Qasimi and SB12 curator Eungie Joo
- 10:30** Sustained engagements –Tarek Atoui, CAMP and Abdullah Al Saadi
- 12:30** **Lunch**
- 14:00** From here #1: Doryun Chong (M+ Museum) on *Tokyo 1955-1970: A New Avant Garde*
- 14:45** Case studies #1: Developing a language of cultural production – Leonor Antunes, Abraham Cruzvillegas, Michael Joo and Wael Shawky
- 16:45** **Break**
- 17:00** Discussion session led by Sarah Rifky (Beirut) and Ryan Inouye (SAF)
- 18:00** Opening reception: exhibition by Susan Hefuna
- 19:00** Opening reception: exhibitions by Wael Shawky & Rasheed Araeen
- 22:00** Screening – *Traitors* (2012) by Sean Gullette

Friday, March 14 – Day 2

- 13:45** **Registration**
- 14:00** Keynote #1: History of cultural production and institutions in Sharjah – Hisham Al Madhloum (Sharjah Directorate of Art)
- 14:45** Case studies #2: Engaging with a place, a moment, a built environment – Iman Issa, Hassan Khan, Rayyane Tabet and Danh Vo, moderated by Doryun Chong
- 16:45** **Break**
- 17:00** Keynote #2: Christine Tohme (Ashkal Alwan) in conversation with Ahmad Ghossein

17:45 Collective research session #1: *International Art Exhibition in Solidarity with Palestine* – Kristine Khouri and Rasha Salti

18:30 Dinner

20:00 Collective research session #2: *From Gulf to Gulf to Gulf* (2013) – Screening and discussion with CAMP

Saturday, March 15 – Day 3

09:30 Registration

10:00 From here #2: On building a collection – Hoor Al-Qasimi (SAF) and Rodrigo Moura (Instituto Inhotim)

11:30 Keynote #3: Tarek Abou El Fetouh

12:15 Lunch

13:45 Case studies #3: After history – Basel Abbas and Ruanne Abou-Rahme, Nikhil Chopra, Ntone Edjabe, Cinthia Marcelle and Adrián Villar Rojas, moderated by Ryan Inouye

15:45 Break

16:00 Collective research session #3: Alternative Seascapes: The Construction, Restoration and Regeneration of Cultural Heritage in Sharjah – Samia Rab (American University of Sharjah)

16:30 Discussion session led by Kaelen Wilson-Goldie

20:30 Collective research session #4: *The Ugly One* – Screening and discussion with Eric Baudelaire

Sunday, March 16 – Day 4

9:30 Registration

10:00 From here #3: Imagining the future – Mohammed Hafiz (Athr Gallery), Sarah Rifky (Beirut), Gabi Ngcobo (Center for Historical Reenactments) and Zeynep Öz (SPOT), moderated by Kaelen Wilson-Goldie

12:00 Closing discussion session

13:15 Lunch

18:00 Opening reception: *March Project*

19:00 Dinner

20:30 Collective research session #5: Tarek Atoui's *Revisiting Tarab* (2013) Project – screening of film by Fouad Elkoury and discussion with the filmmaker and Tarek Atoui

Schedule subject to change

About Sharjah Art Foundation (SAF): Sharjah Art Foundation brings a broad range of contemporary art and cultural programmes to the communities of Sharjah, the UAE, and the region. Since 2009, SAF has built on the history of cultural collaboration and exchange that began with the first Sharjah Biennial in 1993. Working with local and international partners, SAF creates opportunities for artists and artistic production through core initiatives that include the Sharjah Biennial, the annual March Meeting, residencies, production grants, commissions, exhibitions, research, publications, and a growing collection. SAF's education and public programmes focus on building recognition of the central role art can play in the life of a community by promoting public learning and a participatory approach to art.

For more information on SAF and its programmes, visit www.sharjahart.org

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