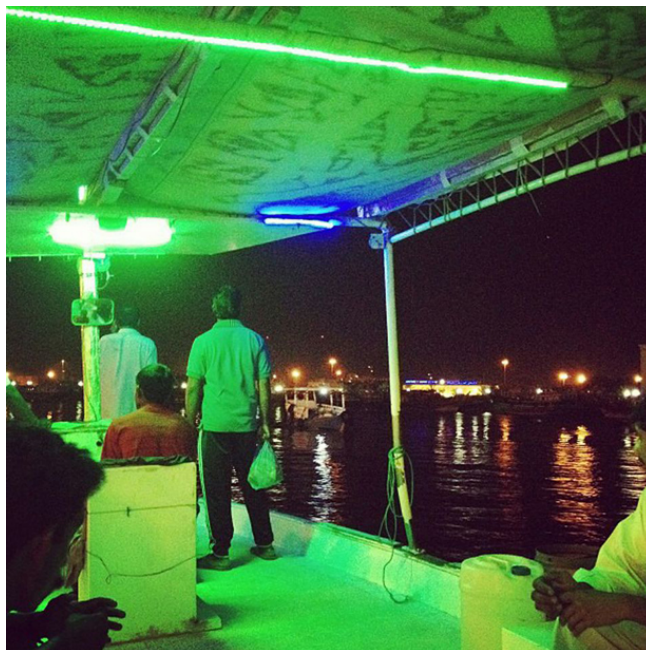




SHARJAH ART FOUNDATION

For Immediate Release
November 19, 2013



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 EUNGIE JOO AS CURATOR OF SHARJAH BIENNIAL 12, OPENING IN MARCH 2015

March Meeting 2014: Come Together

March 13 – 17, 2014

www.sharjahart.org

Sharjah, United Arab Emirates—Sharjah Art Foundation (SAF) announces the appointment of Eungie Joo as Curator of Sharjah Biennial 12 (SB12), opening in March 2015. Joo is Director of Art and Cultural Programs at Instituto Inhotim in Brumadinho, Brasil, and previously served as Director and Curator of Education and Public Programs at the New Museum of Contemporary Art in New York.

Joo's proposal for SB12 builds upon SAF's commitment to artistic production and the unique contribution of the annual March Meeting to organisational and artistic development in the region. For Joo, SB12 offers an opportunity to contemplate how artists' positions help us

consider new possibilities for social organisation and ways to transcend cultural and political confinement. Sustained engagement and new commissions will be central to SB12—discussion of which will begin during the March Meeting.

Sharjah Art Foundation President Sheikha Hoor Al-Qasimi comments, “We look forward to working with Eungie Joo on the realisation of her vision for the next Biennial. Reflecting a career focused on working closely with artists and communities, Joo’s collaborative perspective will find resonance in Sharjah and enrich the experience of SB12.”

According to Joo, “Sharjah is a very special place that calls you back again and again. I am truly excited to work with Sheikha Hoor and the Sharjah Art Foundation to develop a meaningful conversation with artists, cultural practitioners, and Sharjah through both the March Meeting and the Biennial.”

March Meeting 2014: Come Together – March 13-17, 2014: MM14 will address issues in contemporary culture, institutional formation and cultural production, such as how to develop education and research initiatives. In addition to presentations, MM14 will feature informal discussions to promote active participation among attendees. Speakers will include artists commissioned for SB12 who are in the earliest stages of research for their projects.

March Meeting 2014 Open Call – Correspondent Travel Grants (Deadline December 20, 2013): This year’s March Meeting Open Call offers travel grants to between five and eight artists, writers and curators with a focus on the region, who will attend the event and contribute essays, blog posts, or other responses. Proposal guidelines are available at sharjahart.org.

About Eungie Joo: Eungie Joo is Director of Art and Cultural Programs at Instituto Inhotim in Brumadinho, Brasil, a position she has held since 2012. Previously, she was Keith Haring Director and Curator of Education and Public Programs at the New Museum, NY (2007-2012) where she commissioned the yearlong seminar *Night School* by Anton Vidokle; edited the volume *Rethinking Contemporary Art and Multicultural Education* (Routledge and New Museum, 2009); published the *Art Spaces Directory* (ArtAsiaPacific and New Museum, 2012), a guide to over 400 independent art spaces from over 96 countries; and was curator of the 2012 New Museum Triennial, *The Ungovernables*. Joo served as commissioner of the Korean Pavilion at the 53rd Venice Biennale (2009), where she presented *Condensation: Haegue Yang*. As founding Director and Curator of the Gallery at REDCAT, Los Angeles (2003 - 2007), she commissioned projects by Mark Bradford, Sora Kim, Damián Ortega, Taro Shinoda, SUPERFLEX, Kara Walker, Apichatpong Weerasethakul, and others.

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.

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

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