



ENCOUNTER:

THE ROYAL ACADEMY IN ASIA

14 September – 21 October 2012

**Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore
at Lasalle College of Arts**

On 14 September 2012, the Royal Academy of Arts will present *Encounter: The Royal Academy in Asia*, an exhibition featuring 100 works of art in a wide variety of media by 25 Royal Academicians and 25 prominent artists from across Asia.

Encounter offers a unique concept in showcasing the best of contemporary art practice around the globe. Eschewing the presentation of a single curatorial point of view or theme, *Encounter* enters into the spirit of engagement with the international art community and the general public by inviting important artists from different countries to exhibit side-by-side with a selection of prominent Royal Academicians.

The aim of *Encounter* is to provide a platform for dialogue amongst practitioners working in a wide range of media – painting, sculpture, assemblage, photography and video – and for an international team of curators to exchange ideas about different communities and environments and how this translates into visual art experience.

The Royal Academy of Arts counts among its members many of the world's most renowned artists, spanning generations and working in a variety of styles and techniques. Many are rightfully recognised as influential pioneers of contemporary art. The participating Asian artists are among the most established and eminent talents emerging from around the region. This unique combination of Eastern and Western artists presents a rich and dynamic cross-section of cultural perspectives.

“I am delighted to announce the first-ever exhibition by the Royal Academy in Singapore. *Encounter: The Royal Academy in Asia* offers a wonderful opportunity to showcase the best of the leading artists from the RA alongside an impressive selection of prominent artists from across Asia. It is hoped that this exhibition will foster the creative dialogue amongst a wide variety of artists, countries, cultures and visual art practices,” says Charles Saumarez Smith, Secretary and Chief Executive of the Royal Academy.

Howard Rutkowski of Fortune Cookie Projects states: “As an institution run by and for artists, the Royal Academy was an obvious and natural partner. Our concept for the project was not to

present a static exhibition from a museum's inventory, but to encourage a dialogue, artist to artist, community to community."

Dr. Charles Merewether, Director of the ICAS adds: "The Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore is delighted to host this ground-breaking event that brings together some fifty artists from two distinct parts of the world. Through one exhibition across the seven galleries of the ICAS and a public program in September/October this year, you will see and hear some of the most important artists living and working in Asia and those associated with the Royal Academy in London. The event will celebrate the value of international collaboration and the significance of the visual arts today."

A Royal Academy exhibition in association with Fortune Cookie Projects and the Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore at Lasalle College of the Arts



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Royal Academy of Arts

The Royal Academy of Arts was founded by King George III in 1768 with a mission to promote the arts through education and exhibition. The first Royal Academy exhibition of contemporary art was held in 1769. This exhibition, now known as the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, has been staged annually without interruption to the present day. It is the world's largest open submission exhibition and the profits support the running of the Royal Academy Schools, the oldest art school in the UK. Each year the RA presents a programme of exhibitions, ranging from Old Masters, Classic Modern to Contemporary.

Encounter: The Royal Academy in Asia

Singapore: 14 September to 21 October 2012

Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore, Lasalle College of the Arts.

Exhibition Outline

50 artists, equally distributed between Royal Academicians and noted Asian artists, comprising 80 works in a wide range of media.

Curatorial Team

Prof. Paul Huxley, RA, Treasurer of the Royal Academy of Arts

Michael Craig-Martin, RA

Richard Wilson, RA

Lisa Milroy, RA

Dr. Charles Merewether, Director, Institute of Contemporary Arts, Lasalle College of the Arts, Singapore

Josef Ng, Independent curator, director of Gallery VER, Bangkok,

Organizers

Fortune Cookie Projects (Singapore) Pte Ltd, a curatorial and art advisory firm led by Mary Dinaburg and Howard Rutkowski, with offices in Singapore and New York. With over 30 years' experience, Fortune Cookie Projects has organised and curated major exhibitions throughout Asia and around the world.

Participating Royal Academicians

Phyllida Barlow RA, Tony Bevan RA, Olwyn Bowey RA, Eileen Cooper RA, Tony Cragg RA, Michael Craig-Martin RA, Richard Deacon RA, Tacita Dean RA, Tracey Emin RA, Antony Gormley RA, David Hockney RA, Nigel Hall RA, Gary Hume RA, Paul Huxley RA, Albert Irvin RA, Christopher Le Brun PRA, Richard Long RA, Lisa Milroy RA, Cornelia Parker RA, Grayson Perry RA, Fiona Rae RA, Jenny Saville RA, Gillian Wearing RA, Richard Wilson RA.

Participating Asian Artists

China: Liu Xiaodong, Sun Xun **Taiwan:** Michael Lin, Chen Chieh-Jen **Cambodia:** Sopheap Pich **Hong Kong:** Lee Kit **Japan:** Chihiro Kabata, Hiraki Sawa **Malaysia:** Yee I-Lann **Philippines:** Jose Legaspi, Lani Maestro **Vietnam:** Dinh Q. Le, Tiffany Chung **Indonesia:** FX Harsono, Tintin Wulia, Rudi Mantofani **Korea:** Om Mee Ai, Kim Jongku **Singapore:** Ho Tzu Nyen, Donna Ong, Ian Woo, Ng Joon Kiat, Zhao Renhui **Thailand:** Sudsiri Pui-Ock, Udomsak Krisanamis

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