Arts & Museum Summit
Asia Society Hong Kong Center
November 21–22, 2013

What should museums of the twenty-first century look like? How should they display art and engage viewers? Is there a kind of disruption taking place within current thought that should be addressed? There is no doubt that most museum growth in the next few decades will be in Asia. Bringing together museum leaders from across Asia, Europe, and the United States, the Arts & Museum Summit explores the future of museums and navigates the challenges and opportunities in the cultural sector today; the developing museum ecology in Asia; and opportunities for professional development and partnerships among museums.

Pre-registration online is required for the full program. The online registration will close on Thursday, November 14 so please plan accordingly.

Thursday, November 21

3:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. Registration

4:30 p.m.–6:00 p.m. Museum Leaders in Conversation:
Making a Museum in the Twenty-first Century
Leading museum professionals join in conversation on the future of museums in the twenty-first century. Free and open to the public. Please RSVP to MSummit@asiasociety.org as seats are limited.

Caroline Collier, Director, Tate National, London
Glenn D. Lowry, Director, The Museum of Modern Art, New York
Lars Nittve, Executive Director, M+, Hong Kong
Wang Chunchen, Head of Curatorial Research, CAFA Art Museum, Beijing
Moderated by Melissa Chiu, Museum Director and Senior Vice President, Global Arts and Cultural Programs, Asia Society

Friday, November 22

8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introduction
Melissa Chiu, Museum Director and Senior Vice President, Global Arts and Cultural Programs, Asia Society

9:15 a.m. Keynote Address
Glenn D. Lowry, Director, The Museum of Modern Art, New York
Respondent: Alan Chong, Director, Asian Civilisations Museum, Singapore

10:00 a.m. “Museums of the Future: An Artist’s Perspective”
Hiroshi Sugimoto, Artist

10:30 a.m.–11:00 a.m. Coffee Break
11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Panel Discussion One

The Museum in the World
Museums today exist far beyond their physical spaces and localities. New technologies and media have made museum collections accessible in myriad ways and from practically anywhere in the world, with far-reaching implications for museums’ educational missions and curatorial strategies. In addition, the rapid proliferation of museums in Asia has brought a growing desire for international partnerships and collaborative exchange. This session will explore the potential for museums to look beyond their physical spaces for opportunities to create new transnational experiences.

Janet Carding, Director and CEO, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto
Sophie Makariou, Présidente, Musée national des arts asiatiques Guimet, Paris
Jessica Morgan, The Daskalopoulos Curator, International Art, Tate Modern, London
Moderated by Hammad Nasar, Head of Research and Programmes, Asia Art Archive, Hong Kong

12:30 p.m.–1:30 p.m. Lunch

1:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m. Panel Discussion Two

The Museum in the City
With prominent locations at the heart of cities, museums are well positioned to engage with audiences. For the first time in history, more than half the world’s population is living in towns and cities. This presents great challenges. How can museums use their locations to become truly participatory spaces? What is their value within their communities and are they accessible to everyone in the community? What role do public and private museums play in the cultural ecology of a city? This panel will focus on the museum in situ, exploring the different ways in which museums and art organizations engage with and create a community.

Caroline Collier, Director, Tate National, London
Yongwoo Lee, President, Gwangju Biennale Foundation, Gwangju
Sabyasachi Mukherjee, Director, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya, Mumbai
Moderated by Lars Nittve, Executive Director, M+, Hong Kong

3:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m. Coffee Break

3:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m. Panel Discussion Three

Inside the Museum: Future Propositions
As many Asian countries become more focused on arts and culture, the most extensive museum construction of the next decade will take place in Asia. This discussion will tackle the pertinent issues on this subject, suggesting potential new models for the changing social and economic environment.

Michael Brand, Director, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Wang Chunchen, Head of Curatorial Research, CAFA Art Museum, Beijing
Yuko Hasegawa, Chief Curator, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo
Moderated by Kimery Rorschach, Illsley Ball Nordstrom Director, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle

5:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m. Concluding Remarks
Melissa Chiu, Museum Director and Senior Vice President, Global Arts and Cultural Programs, Asia Society