

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SHARJAH ART FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2016 MARCH MEETING WEEK PROGRAMME

March 11-15, 2016
Sharjah, UAE



Papy Ebotani, *Fanfare funérailles* (Funeral brass), 2014–15. Performance view, Sharjah Biennial 12, 2015.
Image courtesy of Sharjah Art Foundation.

Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, February 22, 2016—Sharjah Art Foundation announces the 9th annual March Meeting that takes place during a week of events from March 11–15 that includes exhibition openings, performances and other discursive programmes.

March Meeting 2016: Education, Engagement and Participation, March 12–13, will consider how institutions, initiatives, curators and artists have increasingly prioritised their relationships with audiences and communities. The two-day convening will bring together local, regional and international practitioners to explore issues, concerns and initiatives surrounding this work in a series of programmed keynotes, case studies and panel discussions, as well as through informal conversations shared over the week of events.

Panels will explore topics such as how institutions can become more open and representational through programming and policies that recognise the diversity of audiences and communities or the essential role of biennials particularly in areas where there is little existent art infrastructure or support for discourse and the production of art. Also examined will be expanded notions of curatorial practice including discursive, collaborative and open-ended models of exhibition and event production and how libraries and archives offer communities a way to reclaim their histories, while performative and live programming gives agency to individuals and collective audiences. Traditional and alternative models of art school will be considered in the context of regional priorities and urgencies. Finally, a group of artists will talk about their community-based work.

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March 11–15 programme

On **March 11**, artists **Uriel Barthélémi** and **Taro Shinoda** will present *Lunar Reflection Transmission Technique*, a collaborative performance in the Sharjah Desert, developed from conversations during Sharjah Biennial 12.

On **March 12**, March Meeting sessions will be followed by the opening of exhibitions of work by **Simone Fattal** (March 12–June 12, 2016); **Joana Hadjithomas & Khalil Joreige** (March 12–May 8, 2016), an exhibition coproduced by Jeu de Paume (Paris), Sharjah Art Foundation, Haus der Kunst (Munich), and IVAM (Valencia); **Farideh Lashai** (March 12–May 14, 2016) and *The Time is Out of Joint* (March 12–June 12, 2016), commissioned by Asian Culture Complex – Asian Arts Theatre and Sharjah Art Foundation.

The Time is Out of Joint, curated by Tarek Abou El Fetouh, is the second phase of the exhibition programme for Home Works 6, Beirut, in 2013. Building on Ibn Arabi's concept of time as a fluid place and place as a frozen time, the project examines our current and future locations and conditions. It confuses different times, places, cities and artistic events that took place in the past or will take place in the future.

The exhibition will feature works by **Zainab Al Hashemi, Basma Alsharif, Hicham Benohoud, Ali Cherri, Venzha Christ, Cao Fei, Tzu-Nyen Ho, Meiro Koizumi, Maha Maamoun, Basim Magdy, Radouan Mriziga, Khalil Rabah, Kyohei Sakaguchi, Tita Salina, Wael Shawky, Konrad Smoleński, Song Ta, Jalal Toufic, Mark Teh, Aleksandra Waliszewska** and **Raed Yassin**.

From **March 12–15**, an extensive programme of events will take place as part of the project including the launch of the exhibition book co-edited by **Ala Younis**, a series of performances, film screenings, artist talks, presentations and discussions.

The Time is Out of Joint includes a one day conference titled “Equator Conference Jogjakarta 2022 held in Sharjah 2016” with speakers **Bassam El Baroni**, independent curator and art theory teacher at the Dutch Art Institute, Arnhem (Netherlands); **Hilmar Farid**, scholar, cultural activist and lecturer, and General Director of Cultural Affairs, Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs (Indonesia); **Taneli Kukkonen**, Professor of Philosophy, NYU Abu Dhabi (UAE) and Global Network Professor at NYU (US); and **Enin Supriyanto**, independent art curator and writer, Equator International Symposium, Yogyakarta Biennale Foundation (Indonesia).

Another component of the project, *The Time is Out of Joint* Reading Room programme, organised by **Marwa Arsanios** and **Samer Frangie**, will also start that week with a presentation and reading group session by **Dr. Vandana Shiva**, scholar, environmental activist and Founder of the Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology and of Navdanya (India).

For the complete list of events, information on the exhibitions and schedules for March Meeting 2016 and *The Time is Out of Joint* please visit our website sharjahart.org.

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do it [bil'Arabi] is organised by Sharjah Art Foundation and co-curated by Hoor Al Qasimi and Hans Ulrich Obrist. *do it* is a project originally founded and curated by Hans Ulrich Obrist in 1993.

About Sharjah Art Foundation

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, Sharjah Art Foundation creates opportunities for artists and artistic production through core initiatives that include Sharjah Biennial, the annual March Meeting, residencies, production grants, commissions, exhibitions, research, publications and a growing collection. Our 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. All our events are free and open to the public.

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