

Experimenter Curators' Hub returns 27-29 July 2017 South Asia's leading debate on contemporary art practice

16 May 2017: Experimenter Gallery is pleased to announce the first group of participants for the 7th edition of the Experimenter Curators' Hub (ECH). The three-day programme of talks and debates will take place at Experimenter Gallery in Kolkata, India, on 27-29 July 2017.

Annually, ECH brings together ten leading curators from around the world to present and reflect on their work in the presence of their colleagues, artists, writers, critics, historians, architects, designers and art enthusiasts, to debate and critique the latest concerns and positions on the process of exhibition making. Since it was founded, ECH has hosted 50 leading practitioners.

The first participants to be announced for 2017 are: **Jeebesh Bagchi** and **Monica Narula of Raqs Media Collective**, **Lauren Cornell**, **Catherine David**, **Reem Fadda**, **Roobina Karode**, **Hammad Nasar**, and **Sudarshan Shetty**. **Natasha Ginwala** will moderate the event.

Each of the participants will be invited to share a short presentation on their recent projects. The presentations will act as a springboard for debate and exchange between the audience and the presenting curators. The hub is web-streamed live and gives an opportunity for the online audience to interact with, or question the curators in real time and be part of the proceedings from anywhere in the world. In 2016, 15,000 people were connected to the hub via web-stream.

Experimenter Gallery Directors and Founders of the Curators' Hub, Priyanka and Prateek Raja, said:

"Experimenter Curators' Hub has been a deeply enriching journey for us, one that has grown manifold since its inception in 2011. Dialogue and debate are crucial in the process of exhibition making, and the Hub acts as an intimate yet important platform for the same. It gives one the rare opportunity to retreat into the curator's mind and, in a way, make them think about their own process and throw it open for new possibilities. We are thrilled to have some of the foremost minds in curatorship with us every year."

Hans Ulrich Obrist, Director of Serpentine Galleries and ECH 2016 participant said: *"The ECH brings people together from a range of artistic backgrounds, locations and experiences for a captivating debate on the latest trends and ideas informing exhibitions worldwide. It's a unique chance to share your own work with people contributing to the arts, and an important event for South Asia's cultural calendar."*

All of the presentations by curators will be added to the Experimenter Gallery website, offered as a resource to enable further audiences to experience the event.

Films from the previous editions can also be viewed here:
<http://www.experimenter.in/web/node/49>

Ticket Information

The Experimenter Curators' Hub is free to attend. Places at the event will be offered on a first come first serve basis. Please email admin@experimenter.in to register for the date/s on which you would like to attend.

The event will take place at Experimenter Gallery: 2/1 Hindustan Road, Kolkata 700029, India.

Press Contacts:

Phoebe Moore

SUTTON

phoebe@suttonpr.com

+44 (0) 207 1833577

About Experimenter Gallery

The Experimenter Curators' Hub brings together some of the foremost minds in curatorship from all over the world. Founded in 2009 by Priyanka and Prateek Raja, the event is a crucial platform for developing and sustaining discourse on curatorial practice and exhibition making. Each year, ten curators, artists, designers and architects are invited to present and discuss their practice in depth through presentations on recent exhibitions they have personally conceived. Experimenter Curators' Hub presentations and ensuing discussions are extensively video documented and archived as an online, freely-accessible resource offered to fellow curators, researchers, scholars, artists and members of the public.

Further information on the 2017 Participants:

RAQS Media Collective was founded in 1992 by Jeebesh Bagchi, Monica Narula and Shuddhabrata Sengupta. Raqs Media Collective have been variously described as artists, media practitioners, curators, researchers, editors and catalysts of cultural processes. Their work, which has been exhibited widely in major international spaces, locates them in the intersections of contemporary art, historical enquiry, philosophical speculation, research and theory – often taking the form of installations, online and offline media objects, performances and encounters. They live and work in Delhi, based at Sarai-CSDS, an initiative they co-founded in 2000. They are members of the editorial collective of the Sarai Reader series.

Lauren Cornell is Curator and Associate Director, Technology Initiatives at the New Museum in New York City. She was previously executive director of Rhizome. Cornell, along with artist Ryan Trecartin, curated the New Museum's 2015 Triennial.

Catherine David (born 1954) is a French art historian, curator and museum director. David was the first woman and the first non-German speaker to curate documenta X in Kassel, Germany (June 21 – September 28, 1997). David is currently deputy director of the National Museum of Modern Art (Musée National d'Art Moderne) at the Centre Georges Pompidou. She was born and lives in Paris.

Reem Fadda is Associate Curator, Middle Eastern Art for the Abu Dhabi Project of the Solomon R. Guggenheim and is currently based at the Guggenheim headquarters in New York City. In 2005-07, Fadda was Director of the Palestinian Association for Contemporary Art (PACA) and worked as Academic Director to the International Academy of Art – Palestine (founded 2006).

Roobina Karode, an art historian, curator and critic, is the Director of the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art in New Delhi. She has been the Project Editor and author on various significant catalogues and books published by the Delhi Art Gallery. Roobina has taught Art History & Aesthetics at various institutions in Delhi, including Jamia Millia Islamia, College of Arts, National Museum Institute, and School of Art & Aesthetics, JNU.

Hammad Nasar is a curator, writer, and Head of Research and Programmes at Asia Art Archive (AAA), Hong Kong, where he oversees a broad array of initiatives, many in partnership with leading institutions, including the Clark Institute, Hong Kong University, Paul Mellon Centre and MOMA. Formerly based in London, Nasar co-founded the non-profit arts

organisation Green Cardamom, and has curated more than 30 exhibitions and programmes internationally.

Sudarshan Shetty (born 1961) is a contemporary Indian artist who has worked in painting, sculpture, installation, video, sound and performance. He has exhibited widely in India and more recently he has become increasingly visible on the international stage as an important voice in contemporary art. His work has been exhibited at the Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Fukuoka, Japan, and the Tate Modern, London, England. The artist has been a resident at the Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh, United States, and was a Ford Foundation Fellow at the New School for General Studies, New York.