

Shanghai Project Chapter 2 Exhibition *Seeds of Time* To Be Unveiled on April 22

Curated by **Yongwoo Lee** and **Hans Ulrich Obrist**, the Shanghai Project Chapter 2 exhibition *Seeds of Time* will be inaugurated on April 22, 2017. Taking its title from the documentary of the same name, which shares the project's call for action regarding the climate situation, the exhibition seeks to explore sustainability so as to better understand possible solutions for urgent environmental and social problems.

Seeds of Time is a single chapter within ongoing investigations by Shanghai Project participants. With each new chapter, the ever-unfolding structure develops further beyond the biennial format to which it first responded. The exhibition will present the projects of Root Researcher interdisciplinary teams led by **Bruno Latour**, **Sophia Al-Maria**, **Qiu Anxiong**, **Otobong Nkanga**, and **Zhang Haimeng**, coming from one of five fundamental disciplinary frameworks.

The contribution of **Bruno Latour**'s team "Reset Modernity! Shanghai Perspective" concentrates on a set of issues that modernity encounters at a time of deep ecological mutation. **Sophia Al-Maria**'s "The Limerent Object," combines video, dance, and text in a series of offerings intended to future-proof and bless 2116. Venturing out into the city in the form of a bus, **Qiu Anxiong** imagines in "Route of the Future" what shape an underwater Shanghai may take in a century's time, visually responding to science-fiction writer Ken Liu's "Shanghai in 48 Hours, a Weekend Itinerary for International Visitors by Roaming Planets Guides, 2116." Already fully realized in the fall of 2016, **Otobong Nkanga**'s "Landversation Shanghai" and **Zhang Haimeng**'s "Fast Forward Future" both connect to our conception of land and the role of technology in the future, respectively.

Exploring the causes and effects of ecological transformation, Shanghai Project participants, address sustainability through the lens of interdisciplinarity. **Diller Scofidio + Renfro**'s "EXIT", which was commissioned by the Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, co-quantifies and displays global human migratory conditions and causes, and explores their far-reaching consequences. **Liu Chuang** engages with the research of **Thomas Hartung** and **David Pamies** as well as that of **Stuart Kim**, shedding light on our efforts to find scientific solutions to environmental problems, while also suggesting the limits we encounter. Responding to the role of inventor and visionary **Leonardo da Vinci**, **Li Naihan** has developed "Mind Palace," a virtual reality

experience that explores the potential methods and practices of future polymaths.

Yoko Ono's long commitment to spreading peace and love with humanity is embodied in different forms in the exhibition, including the performance "Bells for Shanghai," sound installation "We're All Water" and ongoing project "WISH TREE," offering a glimpse of hope and comfort in the midst of intense discussion about how to affect change. The documentary "**Seeds of Time**" follows Cary Fowler as he champions the creation of the world's first global seed vault. Located in Norway and a vital defense against rapid loss of crop diversity, the Svalbard Global Seed Vault consists of a seed collection on a scale larger than any other. **Maya Lin**'s installation "What is Missing? Empty Room" is a tribute to vanished and endangered species and speaks to a sixth mass extinction. *Seeds of Time* also includes an homage to **Gustav Metzger** (1926–2017), a world renowned artist and tireless anti-consumerist, anti-capitalist activist who challenged us to act against extinction. Adapting the WH Auden quote, he wrote: "We must become idealists or die."

From its initiation in 2016, the Shanghai Project has been an experiment, a laboratory for testing the boundaries of existing assumptions, and for considering how ideas might expand beyond the confines of individual silos of knowledge. For 100 days, *Seeds of Time* will engage with the public in Shanghai through an exhibition, a publication and public programs such as screenings, performances, workshops and social interventions. Facing the specter of extinction, we seek to inspire discussion and action regarding the sustainability of our futures in the 22nd century and the potential for solutions through interdisciplinary collaboration.

The Shanghai Project is organized by the **Shanghai Himalayas Museum**, co-organized by the **Shanghai International Culture Association**, with lead sponsors **Envision Energy** and **Zendai Group**.

Shanghai Project, Chapter 2

Envision 2116

Exhibition: **Seeds of Time**

April 22 – July 30, 2017

Venues: Shanghai Himalayas Museum, Envision Pavilion, Zendai Zhujiyajiao Art Museum

ROOT RESEARCHERS

Bruno Latour (Anthropologist, Philosopher and Sociologist)

Team Members: Jamie Allen, Martin Guinard-Terrin, òbelo (Claude Marzotto & Maia Sambonet), Donato Ricci

Otobong Nkanga (Artist)

Team Members: Adib Dada, Helena Ramos, Sun Haiyan, Peter Webb

Sophia Al-Maria (Artist, Writer and Filmmaker)

Team Members: Vera Mey, Alvin Tran

Qiu Anxiong (Artist)

Team Members: Li Qian, Yang Lei

Zhang Haimeng (Consultant, McKinsey Global Senior Partner and Shanghai Managing Partner)

Team Members: Chang Hsiao-Ching, Feng Kai, Lu Yunbo, Yin Zhongrui

RESEARCHERS:

Aaajiao, Etel Adnan, Alessandro Bava, Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, Cai Guo-Qiang, Chen Xi, Chen Zhen, Ian Cheng, Leonardo da Vinci, Dai Zhikang, Diller Scofidio + Renfro, Du Yun, Peter Galison, Liam Gillick, Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster, Thomas Hartung, Adrian Hon, Huang Rui, Jennifer Jacquet, Ina Christel Johannessen, Stuart Kim, Rem Koolhaas, Li Naihan, Maya Lin, Lin Shu-Min, Little Sun (Founded by Olafur Eliasson & Frederik Ottesen), Liu Chuang, Ken Liu, Gustav Metzger, Katja Novitskova, Yoko Ono, David Pamies, Qiu Zhijie, Sarah Schlesinger, Seeds of Time, Miriam Simun, Bruce Sterling, Wang Xu, Yu Hong

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Attachment 1: researcher list

ROOT RESEARCHERS TEAMS

RR: **Sophia Al-Maria** (Artist, Writer and Filmmaker)

Vera Mey (Independent Curator)

Alvin Tran (Visual Artist and Choreographer)

RR: **Bruno Latour** (Anthropologist, Philosopher and Sociologist)

Jamie Allen (Designer, Researcher and Artist)

Martin Guinard-Terrin (Artist and Curator)

òbelo (Claude Marzotto, Designer; Maia Sambonet, Visual Artist)

Donato Ricci (Design Lead and Post-Doc Researcher, médialab | Sciences Po)

RR: **Otobong Nkanga** (Artist)

Adib Dada (Founder of theOtherDada [tOD] Integrated Architecture Lab)

Helena Ramos (Producer, Cultural Manager and Set Designer)

Sun Haiyan (Chief Editor of Business Ecology Magazine)

Peter Webb (Ecopsychologist)

RR: **Qiu Anxiong** (Artist)

Li Qian (Documentary Maker, Curator and Art Consultant)

Yang Lei (Animator and Media Designer)

RR: **Zhang Haimeng** (Consultant, Principal and Managing Partner at McKinsey Shanghai)

Chang Hsiao-Ching (Advertising Specialist)

Feng Kai (Game Developer)

Lu Yunbo (Professor & Simulation Expert at Tongji University)

Yin Zhongrui (Entrepreneur and Founder of XiaoSolar)

RESEARCHERS:

aaajiao (Artist)

Etel Adnan (Artist)

Alessandro Bava (Architect and Chief Editor of ECOCORE)

Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists

Cai Guo-Qiang (Artist)

Chen Xi (Artist)

Chen Zhen (Artist)

Ian Cheng (Artist)

Leonardo da Vinci (Artist and Inventor)

Dai Zhikang (Entrepreneur)

Diller Scofidio + Renfro (Architect Studio)

Du Yun (Composer)

Peter Galison (Professor of History of Science at Harvard University)

Liam Gillick (Artist)

Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster (Artist)

Thomas Hartung (Professor at Johns Hopkins University and University of Konstanz)

Adrian Hon (Author, Co-founder & CEO of Six to Start)

Huang Rui (Artist)

Jennifer Jacquet (Assistant Professor of Department of Environmental Studies at New York University)

Ina Christel Johannessen (Artistic Leader and Choreographer of Zero Visibility Corp.)

Stuart Kim (Biologist and Professor of Developmental Biology at Stanford University)

Rem Koolhaas (Architect and Professor of the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University)

Li Naihan (Architect and Designer)

Maya Lin (Architect and Artist)

Lin Shumin (Artist, Designer, Curator)

Little Sun (Founded by Olafur Eliasson & Frederik Ottesen)

Liu Chuang (Artist)

Ken Liu (Author, Translator of Speculative Fiction, Lawyer and Programmer)

Gustav Metzger (Artist)

Katja Novitskova (Artist)

Yoko Ono (Artist)

David Pamies (Researcher at the CAAT Johns Hopkins University)

Qiu Zhijie (Artist)

Sarah Schlesinger (Artist)

Seeds of Time

Miriam Simun (Artist)

Bruce Sterling (Science Fiction Author)

Wang Xu (Artist)

Yu Hong (Artist)