

8th ASEMUS General Conference

New curatorial perspectives for a changed world



#ASEMUS2018
#sarawakmuseumcampus
#ASEFculture



14-16 November 2018
Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia

Dates: Wednesday 14 – Friday 16 November 2018
Location: Waterfront Hotel (Ball room), Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia (Borneo)

Expected participants : 150 - 200
External speakers : 15 (+ 3 moderators and 8 Masterclass lecturers)

New curatorial perspectives for a changed world

The landscape within which museums operate has changed dramatically. The world is becoming increasingly fractured and divided across nationalistic and ideological lines. Audiences have become more sophisticated and demanding. Technology, in particular digital technologies, have revolutionised the delivery of knowledge and content to end users. In the meantime, issues of ethics and provenance have become more pertinent than ever before in museological practice.

The role and relevance of the museum and the curator in contemporary society is shifting in light of these changes. An international line-up of speakers from European and Asian museums will present perspectives, experiences and best practices on the ground, offering conference participants practical insights into how their museums can respond and adapt.

DAY 1 – MASTERCLASSES FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Wednesday 14 November

Location: Waterfront Hotel, 3 conference rooms

(PARALLEL SESSIONS)

09.15 – 10.00 Welcome coffee and registration for participants (50 - 70 Pax total)

Masterclasses (15 – 20 Pax max. per class)

10.00 - 12.00 **Master Class Exhibition Development** by Ms Yasmin Khalid Nicholls, Exhibition Content Manager Sarawak Museum Campus & Ms Laura Miotto, Design Director GSM projects Singapore.

10.00 – 12.00 **Master Class Scientific communication** by Ms Tanu Patodia, Scientific Communication Associate and Dr Moritz Mueller, Associate Professor, Swinburne University of Technology

With break at 11.00 to collect coffee / tea & snack

12.00 - 02.00 Lunch @ Fort Margeritha (for all 60 - 80 participants + teachers)

02.00 - 05.00 **Master Class Curating a space for Communities** by Dr Sadiyah Boonstra, Senior Manager (Programmes), National Gallery Singapore

02.00 - 05.00 **Master Class Developing Digital Interactives & multimedia for exhibitions**, by Ms Aurelia Liu, *Digital media developer Sarawak Museum Campus & Dr Bertha Chin, lecturer in Social Media Swinburne University of Technology*

02.00 – 05.00 **Workshop Collections management and care – “The Evolved Museums-Shifts in Collection Management & Care Practices”** offered by ICOM-ICTOP (trainers TBC)

With break at 03.30 to collect coffee / tea & snack

07.30 – 10.00 **WELCOME DINNER @ Waterfront Hotel (200 pax)**
Open to all (hosted by Sarawak State Government)

DAY 2 – CONFERENCE

Thursday 15 November

Location Waterfront Hotel, Ballroom (400 Pax max.)

08.30 - 09.00 Welcome coffee and registration

09.00 - 09.40 **Opening Ceremony & Welcome addresses by:**

- YAB Datuk Patinggi Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Abang Haji Openg, Chief Minister Sarawak State Government
- Kennie Ting, ASEMUS Chair, Director Asian Civilisations Museum, Singapore

09.40 - 10.30 **THE CHANGING ROLE OF THE MUSEUM AND THE CURATOR**
Keynote speaker Ms Jette Sandahl (ICOM)

Facilitated Discussion on key issues impacting the museum landscape

10.30 - 11.00 Coffee break

11.00 – 12.30 **1st Panel: “THE BIG PICTURE” – MUSEUMS IN TRANSITION**

In response to new academic approaches, as well as changes in visitor demand and in funding, museums are undergoing dramatic shifts in structure and curatorial narrative. This panel provides insights into new directions major museums are embarking on to prepare themselves for the future.

CASE STUDY 1: The Sarawak Museum Park, it's vision for a world-class museum complex.

12.30 – 14.00 **Lunch**

14.00 – 15.15 **2nd Panel: THE ETHICS OF COLLECTING – NEW STANDARDS AND APPROACHES**

Collecting and building collections is core to the work of the museum, even as perspectives on the how and the why a museum collects have changed over time. What constitutes ethical collecting today? What are some new approaches to managing historical collections? This panel provides latest insights in the field of museum ethics.

CASE STUDY 2: Ayesha Keshani, PhD candidate Goldsmiths University, *The old Sarawak Museum: from a natural history to a cosmopolitical future.*

15.15 - 15.45 Tea break

15.45 – 16.45 **3rd Panel: THE ENGAGED MUSEUM – CURATING WITH THE COMMUNITY**

As communities worldwide become more vocal, museums increasingly need to be more engaged with and reflective of community needs and aspirations. At the same time, new technologies also allow for more innovative approaches to audience involvement. This panel provides best practice in involving and curating with the community.

CASE STUDY 3: Wendy Teo Boon Ting, "From Pan Borneo Road Trip to Borneo Laboratory - a platform for driving Borneo Aesthetics."

16.45 – 17.30 ASEMUS History and Way Forward,
Speakers: ASEF, ASEMUS Chair and Vice-Chair

17.30 - 17.45 Closing remarks by YB Datuk Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah, Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture, Youth and Sports

18.30 – 20.00 **CLOSING RECEPTION @ COMMONS, THE COURTHOUSE**
All invited (hosted by Sarawak Government)

DAY 3 – ASEMUS EXCO MEETING (AND CULTURAL EXCURSIONS)

Friday 16 November

FOR ASEMUS EXCO ONLY

09.00 - 11.00 ASEMUS Exco Meeting

11.00 – 12.00 Hard hat tour of the New Museum (only for Exco members)

12.00 – 02.00 Lunch (hosted by ASEF for Exco Members)

FOR OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Whole day Cultural Visits & Excursions

Choice of two activities / Transport and guides will be arranged for

- Visit to the Orang Utans at Semengo Rehabilitation Nature Park
- Visit & guided tour Urang Sarawak exhibition
- Guided tour Chines Museum & Carpenter street
- Visit & guided tour Brooke Gallery, Fort Margeritha
- Visit & guided tour Tun Juga Foundation
- Visit & guided tour Anah Rais Longhouse
- Visit to Sarawak Cultural Village
- Tour & introduction in the food culture of Kuching

DAY 4 – RAINFOREST TREK

Saturday 17 November

One-day trek in the Rainforest of Borneo (optional for all participants)

1 activity / Transport and guides will be arranged for / needs proper walking gear

- Visit & jungle walk in Bako National Park
- Visit & jungle walk in Kuba National Park
- Visit & jungle walk Santubong Mountain & Permai Beach
