

asian cultural council

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



Installation of washi for the performance of *Recycling: Washi Tales*, directed by Elise Thoron (ACC 2008, 2010) at the Asia Society in New York City



Cover: **Leeroy New's** (ACC 2015) stage installation at a meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) held in Boracay Island, Philippines

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

2

Board
of Trustees

3

Message from the
Executive Director

4

Message from
ACC Tokyo

5

Message from
ACC Hong Kong

6

Message from
ACC Taipei

7

Message from
ACC Manila

8

Program Overview
+ 2015 Grants

20

John D. Rockefeller 3rd
Award

22

Alumni News

26

Events

33

Statement of
Activities

34

Donors

36

Partners

37

Staff

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Officers

Wendy O'Neill
Chairman

Hans Michael Jebesen
Vice Chairman

Josie Cruz Natori
Vice Chairman

Jonathan Fanton
Treasurer

Hope Aldrich
Secretary

Trustees

Jane DeBevoise

Ernest de Leon Escaler

John H. Foster

David C. Halpert

Douglas Tong Hsu

J. Christopher Kojima

Richard S. Lanier

President Emeritus

Erh-fei Liu

Elizabeth J. McCormack

Chairman Emeritus

Carol Rattray

Missie Rennie

David Rockefeller, Jr.

Lynne Rutkin

Marissa Fung Shaw

William G. Spears

Yuji Tsutsumi

Valerie Rockefeller Wayne

Life Trustees

Colin G. Campbell

Kenneth H.C. Fung

Stephen B. Heintz

Abby M. O'Neill

Russell A. Phillips, Jr.

Isaac Shapiro

Michael I. Sovern

As of June 1, 2016



Akiko Kitamura in India during her 2015 ACC fellowship for research in Cambodia, Myanmar, and India

MESSAGE FROM
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Miho Walsh



Asian Cultural Council Alumni: Our Future, Building on our Past

“Most importantly, it is our individual grantees who embody our mission. They are artists, scholars, innovators, and more, and their work as cultural ambassadors is a lifelong endeavor.”

The word alumni is typically associated with the past. In academia, sports, the arts, and other contexts, it denotes people who have previously taken part in a program but are no longer active.

At ACC, we call our past grantees and fellows alumni, but to us this word means anything but inactive. ACC alumni—along with our donors, board, and staff around the world—have always been among the most vital and intrinsic components of our organization, for several key reasons.

Most importantly, it is our individual grantees who embody our mission. They are artists, scholars, innovators, and more, and their work as cultural ambassadors is a lifelong endeavor. As we exist to empower them, they enable us to carry out our mission, enrich our program offerings, and identify and connect with promising new grantees. Their on-the-ground observations and ideas help to inform our strategic and responsive grantmaking. They promote our mission every day, because they live it. Our relationship with our alumni is a perfect circle of complementary connections: one could not exist without the other.

Investing in individuals for more than 50 years—one person at a time, through active listening, thoughtful conversation, and relationship-building—has also made it possible for ACC to, over time, nurture an ever-growing, dynamic, and extraordinary worldwide alumni network. Grantees cherish their ACC experience, and keep connecting, collaborating, and learning from one another. This network is our most valuable asset.

Furthermore, our alumni are our best storytellers. We are both a grant-making and a grant-seeking organization—an unusual structure which makes our alumni the link connecting our two halves. Not only do alumni give back to ACC with donations of their work and

financial support, they also speak personally to the impact of what we do, which plays a crucial role in advancing our work. They help us show the world what our mission looks like in action.

I believe that ACC’s founding premise has always been true and relevant: that mutual respect and understanding on a grand scale can be achieved, and are perhaps best achieved, incrementally and individually, on the person-to-person level. ACC’s alumni are changing perceptions and inspiring cross-cultural collaborations globally. And they’re sharing their success stories through public-facing events like this year’s first ACC Benefit Cocktail Party & Art Auction in New York City, where more than 200 guests connected and celebrated the work of over 30 ACC alumni and friends. Also this year, we were honored to present our John D. Rockefeller 3rd Award to Duk-Hyung Yoo, President of the Seoul Institute of the Arts and an ACC alumnus. Mr. Yoo’s tireless efforts to strengthen and share Korean culture and build meaningful relationships internationally are a lasting inspiration. In 2015, we also launched our Cultural Conversations program, through which our alumni share their work personally with our principal supporters and community. These occasions are just some of the ways ACC’s alumni play a leading role in our work.

For ACC, the term alumni means so much more than a group who has completed a task. For us, the word is a lifelong proposition. We often speak about ACC being a family, a partnership, the result of many remarkable individuals coming together to serve a common mission. Along with our visionary donors, committed board, and hardworking staff around the globe, our alumni are a fundamental element of ACC’s identity, endeavors, and success. Through them, our past becomes our future.

MESSAGES FROM ACC'S ASIA DIRECTORS



Ritsu Yoshino, ACC Tokyo

“By cultivating diverse opportunities for our community and beyond, ACC continues to engender cross-border encounters and build enduring connections.”

In 2015, ACC Tokyo successfully concluded the fundraising efforts we began in celebration of ACC's 50th anniversary in 2014, and began embarking on our next chapter. The donations we raised were added to ACC's Japan-United States Arts Program (JUSAP) endowment and will go toward supporting future life-changing fellowships for exceptional artists and cultural ambassadors.

A standout among the many meaningful fundraising efforts we undertook in 2015 came about through the generosity of Mr. Kimpei Nakamura (ACC 1970). SPIRAL/Wacoal Art Center in Tokyo hosted a solo exhibition of Mr. Nakamura's work in June, and the artist very kindly donated a portion of the show's sales to ACC's fellowship program. The exhibition, titled *Uritsukushi*, celebrated Mr. Nakamura's 80th birthday by displaying over 100 small works he created throughout his prolific career; many had been only rarely shown. The event was an exciting anniversary for both Mr. Nakamura and ACC, and we will remain grateful for his lasting commitment to our unique program.

One of Japan's top jewelers, Mikimoto, also supported ACC this year by creating an initiative called "Mikimoto for ACC." Through this initiative, the company donated to ACC a portion of the sales of the limited-

edition products they released for the winter gift season. Both of these very generous acts meant so much to our organization, and to the global mission we share across all our offices.

In 2015, the staff of ACC Tokyo, members of ACC Japan Advisory Board, and ACC grantees met with supporters of ACC Taipei at a gathering hosted by the Taiwan supporters while they were in Tokyo. We also attended the ACC Taiwan Foundation's 20th Anniversary Gala in Taipei, and in the fall, we held an ACC grantee gathering to make new connections and celebrate long-lasting friendships. By cultivating diverse opportunities like these for our community and beyond, ACC continues to engender cross-border encounters and build enduring connections.

In closing, I would like to recognize the fantastic support ACC Tokyo received from the Saison Foundation and other individuals and organizations in 2015. ACC board members, particularly Mr. Yuji Tsutsumi, helped the ACC Tokyo office in our every effort, while our grantees put all their energy into reaching their creative and personal goals through their fellowships. To our community at home and abroad, I sincerely express our deepest appreciation for your generosity. As a proud member of ACC's global network, I say with confidence that ACC Tokyo will keep working every day toward our mission of advancing international dialogue, understanding, and respect through transformative cultural exchange.

2015年、ACC日本オフィスにおいては2014年から継続したACC50周年記念事業を成功裡に締めくくるとともに、次の時代に向かうスタートをきりました。この50周年事業でお寄せいただいたご寄附は、ACCの「日米芸術交流プログラム」基金へと増殖され、ACCのフェロウシッププログラムの資金となります。アーティストや専門家の方々にとって、人生を変え得る大きなチャンスとして、このフェロウシップが役立てられることを期待しています。

2015年に新たにいただいた多くのご寄附の中にも素晴らしい出来事がありました。中村錦平様は、ACCの前身であるロックフェラー三世基金の1970年のグランティとして、青山のスパイラル/ワコールアートセンターにて6月に開催された展覧「東京焼小品 賣りつくし展」での売上の一部をACCの日本プログラムにご寄附頂きました。氏の80歳の記念として開催された本展では、これまでの展覧会であまり紹介されることのなかった初期作から近作まで100点を超える作品が一堂に会しました。中村錦平先生ご自身の素晴らしい記念であったことはもちろんのこと、ACCにとっても誇るべき記念であり、改めてACCの活動への長年に渡るお力添えに心から感謝申し上げます。

また、日本を代表するジュエラーである株式会社ミキモト様は、ACCの活動へ共感いただき、「MIKIMOTO for ACC」と題したドネーションプログラムを設立いただきました。このプログラムで、冬のギフトシーズンに合わせて販売されたMIKIMOTO限定商品の売上の一部をご寄附いただきました。それぞれの大きなご芳志は、ACC Japan、そして、同じ理想と目標を共有する各国のACCオフィスにとっても、大変大きな意味をもったご支援です。

また2015年、ACC台湾の支援者の皆様の来日の折に主催くださった会においては、ACC Japan アドバイザリーボードのメンバーの皆様、ACC Japanのグラ

ンティの皆様との交流の機会を持つことができました。ACC台湾の20周年記念ガラにも参加させていただくとともに、秋には日本のグランティの皆様にお集まり頂き、新たな出会いとともに昔からの親交を深めていただく機会もありました。このような様々な機会を通じ、分野や専門、立場を横断したそれぞれの皆様に新たな出会いと素晴らしい友情がもたらされるであろうことにも大きな期待をよせています。

公益財団法人セゾン文化財団様を始めとする多くの団体、ご個人の皆様から素晴らしいご支援をいただきました。そして、堤猶二様を始めとする各国ACCの理事の皆様には、日頃からきめ細かにACCスタッフの努力を支えていただき、そして、グランティの皆様においては、あふれるエネルギーをもってそれぞれの目指す目標を達成していただきました。国内、そして海外の多くの皆様に、改めて心からの感謝を申し上げます。これからもACCの世界に広がるネットワークの一部として、ACC日本オフィスは一步ずつ前進してまいります。



Josephine Wai, ACC Hong Kong

韋志菲 亞洲文化協會香港分會

“We are pleased to continue to receive a great number of grant applications from talented individuals from China, Hong Kong, and Macao.”

ACC Hong Kong moved to a new home in 2015 and is now a part of the Sheung Wan community: long a vibrant district full of art, culture, and heritage. This move was made possible by the generosity of ACC Hong Kong Chairman Mr. Hans Michael Jebsen, who graciously offered to underwrite the renovation costs for our new office. Mr. Kenneth H.C. Fung, Ms. Marissa Fung Shaw, and Ms. Mabel Lui also provided valuable assistance throughout the process of our relocation search and planning. We would also like to acknowledge the assistance of three ACC alumni: Benjamin Tsang (ACC 2011), Billy Tam (ACC 2005), and Yip Chun Hang (ACC 2014), who have been instrumental in the design and construction of our new office space.

Following the corporatization of ACC Hong Kong into a local charitable organization on September 22, 2015, we were able to enhance our support base through the establishment of the Patrons' Circle, a new platform of benefactors who are equally passionate about the arts and the cultural exchange work of ACC. It has been an absolute delight and a fruitful experience working together with Ms. Marissa Fung Shaw, Ms. Jean Ho, Ms. Janet Nathanail, Ms. Anne Witt, and Ms. Tasha Lalvani in realizing this initiative.

We are also pleased to continue to receive a great number of grant applications from talented individuals from China, Hong Kong, and Macao. For the arts professionals we have been able to support with our specialized program and network of contacts, this exchange experience has yielded transformative creative and personal results, while enhancing respect and understanding across peoples and cultures. My heartfelt thanks also go to our ACC alumni for carrying forward our mission and continuing to support the work of ACC Hong Kong.

As we reflect on our work in 2015, I would like to express my utmost appreciation to our ACC HK Friends Committee and to our new Patrons' Circle members for their patronage and generosity. In particular, I would like to thank Mr. Hans Michael Jebsen for his leadership and support throughout the years. We are also most indebted to our cherished donors, without whom we would not be able to succeed in accomplishing our work.

亞洲文化協會香港分會於2015年遷址至位於上環的新會址，成為上環這個充滿歷史、藝術及文化氣息的社區的一員。新會址的成立，全賴我們香港委員會的支持協助。我們深深感謝捷成漢先生的慷慨解囊，贊助新會址的裝修費用，同時亦感謝馮慶鏘先生、邵馮詠愛女士及呂馮美儀女士為今次搬遷的選址及規劃過程提供寶貴的協助。我們還要感謝三位新昌——葉庚年教育基金、青年建築師獎得主曾本治、譚漢華及葉晉亨為我們設計打造我們的新會址。

承着香港分會於2015年9月22日正式註冊為香港慈善團體的同時，香港分會亦增設了藝術贊助人友會以支持本會工作。友會是一個新平台，匯聚了一群酷愛藝術和熱誠的藝術贊助者。在此，我們十分慶幸能與邵馮詠愛女士，何晶潔女士，Ms. Janet Nathanail, Ms. Anne Witt及 Ms. Tasha Lalvani緊密合作及實現這個嶄新項目。

我們也很高興每年收到不少中國、香港和澳門優秀藝文人才的申請。他們透過我們的專業支援，以及廣泛的網絡聯繫，獲取具改變性的交流經驗，同時促進了各地人士及文化之間的尊重和理解。我想藉此向秉承本會工作宗旨及曾經支持回饋本會的ACC會友表示衷心感謝。

回顧本會今年的工作，本人在此向香港委員會各成員和藝術贊助人致深深謝意。我特別向捷成漢先生致謝，感謝他多年來的領導和支持。我們亦十分感激我們珍愛的捐贈者，他們的慷慨支持是我們工作得以完滿完成的關鍵因素。



Rita Chang, ACC Taipei

“2015 marked ACCTF’s 20th anniversary, and we took the happy occasion to reflect on the historical context of its founding, the life-changing work it has made possible in the past two decades, and all the exciting ways it is poised to move forward in the next 20 years.”

The mission of ACC Taipei is to implement the shared vision of ACC and the ACCTF (Asian Cultural Council Taiwan Foundation), namely: to support cultural exchange through grants to talented arts professionals from Taiwan to the U.S. and Asia, and from the U.S. and Asia to Taiwan. We do this to advance international respect and understanding between people and societies.

2015 marked ACCTF’s 20th anniversary, and we took the happy occasion to reflect on the historical context of its founding, the life-changing work it has made possible in the past two decades, and all the exciting ways it is poised to move forward in the next 20 years. Our story began when the JDR 3rd Fund, ACC’s predecessor, was established by John D. Rockefeller 3rd in 1963. At this time, Taiwan was a crucial component of the Fund’s grantmaking program from a geographical standpoint, as there were then no diplomatic ties between the United States and the People’s Republic of China (P.R.C.). This deficit made an exchange program between these two societies virtually impossible. From the U.S. perspective, Taiwan was the only platform that might be able to facilitate such endeavors.

Throughout the 1960s and 70s, more than 30 Taiwanese artists were awarded JDR 3rd Fund fellowships.

The majority of these grantees were focused on museum studies, and assisted Taipei’s world-famous National Palace Museum in enhancing their staff’s professional development in curation, research, and administration. In 1979, when the U.S. and P.R.C. regained their diplomatic ties, ACC embraced the opportunity to officially begin cultural exchanges with mainland China. As a result, the number of Taiwanese grantees decreased in the 1980s, but rebounded in the 1990s, under the visionary leadership of ACCTF Chairman Douglas Tong Hsu.

Since its founding, the ACCTF has grown substantially in both its fundraising and grantmaking capacities, awarding more than 300 grants to visual and performing artists from Taiwan or traveling here. We have established our reputation as a widely-known nurturer of artists and leaders in the artistic community, with a special focus on facilitating interaction between international peers. We extend our gratitude during this special anniversary to the members of our board, Taipei’s Group 33 donor circle, and our many other loyal partners. Without them, continuing our work to fulfill ACC’s mission of better international understanding through transformative individual cultural exchange would not be possible.

Our story does not end here: the journey continues. A new leadership team was formed in 2012, with Wendy O’Neill as Chairman of the Board, Miho Walsh as Executive Director of ACC, and myself as Director of the Taipei office. With the guidance of this team, ACCTF has grown even stronger. Our sincere thanks go to Mr. Hsu and all our other board members for their terrific leadership, fundraising support, and assistance with our administrative and grantee selection processes. Special thanks should also go to the Group 33 North, South, and Taichung chapters for their enthusiastic engagement with Taiwanese grantees and their extension of hospitality towards grantees from other countries.

The story and legacy of ACC Taipei will only grow from here. We look forward to having you with us as we see what connections, surprises, and enlightenments come our way in the next 20 years.

支持台灣有才華的藝術家赴國外交流，吸引世界各地藝術家來台灣考察，藉由文化交流促進國際間人與社會的相互尊重與了解，是ACC與ACCTF（亞洲文化協會台灣基金會Asian Cultural Council Taiwan Foundation）的共同願景。

2015年是ACCTF在台灣成立的第二十年，我們趁著這個歡慶的時刻回顧ACCTF的成立，及其二十年間足以改變許多人的人生的獎助計畫，這些令人興奮的工作成果讓我們更有信心迎向下一個二十年。我們的故事始於JDR三世基金(ACC的前身)，是由約翰·D·洛克菲勒三世於1963年成立。從地理的角度來看，台灣是JDR三世基金在亞洲的獎助計畫中重要的一環，因為在當時的時空背景下，美國和中國之間並無外交關係，而且在有限的經費下，也幾乎不可能讓兩國進行交流計畫。因此，從美國的角度來看，台灣是當時能夠實踐國際交流計畫的唯一平台。

縱觀1960年至1970年間，共有三十多位台灣藝術家、學者被授予JDR三世獎學金。多數的獎助內容集中在博物館學，以協助當時的台灣故宮博物院之學術研究、展覽策劃、及該院工作人員的專業深造。1979年美國和中國恢復了外交關係，正式開啓美國與中國大陸文化交流的契機。其結果是，授予台灣藝術家的獎助項目數量在八零年代急速下降。所幸1990年代在台灣成立了ACC台灣基金會，在董事長徐旭東的富有遠見的領導之下，台灣受獎人數在九零年代後期逐漸攀升。

1995年成立至今，ACCTF逐漸強健成熟，目前已贊助三百多位台灣視覺和表演藝術家赴國際交流，並吸引國際藝術家來台灣交流。我們特別側重於促進國際交流間的互動關係，因此在藝術圈中成為聲譽良好的藝術贊助平台中之佼佼者。能夠達成如此精彩的成就，要感謝ACCTF的董事會、贊助團體 - 三三小集、以及我們其他許多忠實的合作夥伴。感謝來自各方的支持，讓我們得以持續進行ACC的任務，也就是：通過個人文化交流及轉化過程來推動人與文化之間的國際尊重及理解。

我們的故事並沒有到此結束，2012年ACC有了新的領導團隊，由Wendy O'Neill出任董事會主席，Miho Walsh擔任執行長，以及我自己作為ACCTF執行長，我們持續成長茁壯。衷心感謝徐旭東董事長和所有ACCTF的董事會成員，他們對本會提供卓越的領導、對募款的支持、及對本會會務及評選過程的指導。也特別感謝北三三小集、中三三小集、南三三小集，不僅與台灣受獎人建立連結，也常將這份熱情拓展至國際來台交流的藝術家。

亞洲文化協會台灣基金會的故事與傳奇邀請您一同參與，我們將從現在開始再度成長，期許與您一起見證所有的連結、驚喜和啟發，共同在下一個二十年譜出精彩的篇章。



Teresa Rances, ACC Manila

"We feel blessed and thankful for new beginnings and the start of wonderful partnerships."

Following the fruitful gains of the previous year, we ushered in 2015 with fresh hopes and strengthened aspirations for new alliances and worthy endeavors.

2015 marked the start of our invaluable partnership with Jaime Ponce De Leon for our annual fundraising art auction. With Leon Gallery's dynamic and efficient initiatives, the ACCPF (Asian Cultural Council Philippines Foundation) board worked constantly to unite artists, collectors, art patrons, and friends to help support our cause. The auction's success was the remarkable result of inspired collaboration and commendable teamwork. We sincerely thank and acknowledge the various artists—including several ACCPF alumni—who shared in the work and fun and made our fundraising efforts flourish.

As we continue to support Filipino artists and take further steps toward our program's aim of advancing international respect and understanding between people and cultures through transformative cultural exchange, we welcome with deepest gratitude our new benefactor, Ms. Bernadine Siy, who is supporting our fellowship program. It is through the big hearts of selfless individuals like Ms. Siy that we witness kindness in its truest form. Likewise, we acknowledge with gratitude the visual artists Riel Hilario (ACC 2012 grantee), by way of Cesar Villalon of the Drawing Room Gallery, and Marina Cruz, by way of Soler Santos of the West Gallery, for their generous donations to ACC Philippines.

Also marking this year were accomplishments by several of our alumni led by Nestor Jardin, a winner of ACC's prestigious JDR 3rd Award in 2007. As project director, Mr. Jardin collaborated with other artists and ACC fellows to produce world-class performances for delegates and guests of the APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) Ministerial Meetings that culminated in the APEC Summit in Manila in November. We were delighted to organize a grand performance of outstanding Filipino talents for this discerning audience. We also took pride in the momentous honor accorded to ACC fellows Denisa Reyes (ACC 2001), Basilio Villaruz (ACC multiple grants 1974–2002), and (posthumous) Roberto Chabet (ACC 1968) by the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP). In a special tribute in October, the CCP bestowed on these three ACC alumni the highest award given to distinguished individuals in recognition of their artistic achievements and contributions to Philippine arts and culture.

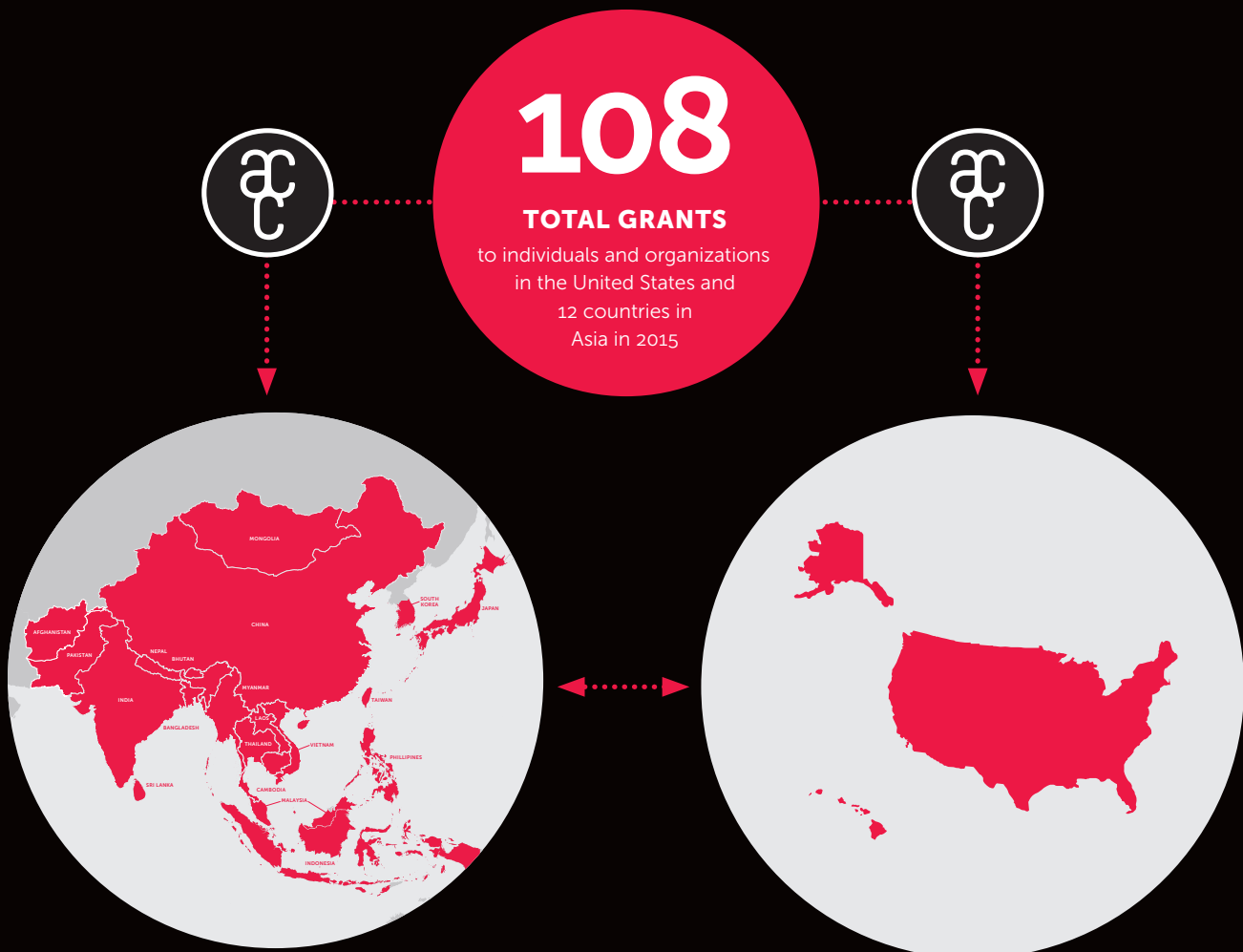
With such an eventful year just behind us, we feel blessed and thankful for new beginnings and the start of wonderful partnerships, for the gift of sharing and generosity that is ever alive in the hearts of our supporters and benefactors, and for the inspirations drawn from the creative triumphs of our artist-grantees. These reasons and more motivate us to continue on, and make our work for ACC's mission meaningful beyond words.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The goal of ACC's grantmaking is to invest in artists, scholars, and specialists who advance mutual understanding between individuals and communities in Asia and the U.S. We believe that cultural exchange is uniquely effective in enhancing international dialogue and fostering meaningful and lasting respect.

The primary mechanism for the activities supported by ACC has always been fellowships to individuals, and our alumni have become influential thinkers, artists, and specialists whose work has significantly impacted the way the United States and Asia have understood each other. In 2015, ACC made a total of 108 grants to exceptional individuals and organizations from the United States and 12 countries in Asia. These grants represent a wide

range of activity, from travel opportunities for emerging choreographers from Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the U.S., and Vietnam, to boatbuilding in Taiwan, a conservation needs assessment in the Kathmandu valley after a devastating earthquake, and from traditional Chinese opera to experimental music—all amounting to meaningful beginnings for future work from these extraordinary individuals.





Grantee **Ji Chao** collaborating with ACC alumna and *komungo* player **Jin Hi Kim** (ACC 1992, 2014) at the Composers Now Festival at the Tenri Cultural Institute in January 2016

“This great city [New York City] gave me so many things I had never known before. I see that we all have the capacity of love and understanding for each other; that we are human beings first, and then we are Chinese, American, Japanese...” — **Ji Chao, China**

**2015
GRANTS
BY THE
NUMBERS**



GRANTEE HIGHLIGHTS



AMRITA PERFORMING ARTS Cambodia

In 2015, ACC awarded grants to Amrita Performing Arts in Phnom Penh and STREB Inc. in Brooklyn to support movement workshops for performing artists in Phnom Penh, Siem Reap, and Battambang. STREB artists Cassandre Joseph and Fabio A. Tavares da Silva traveled to Cambodia and spent two weeks teaching workshops and engaging with diverse arts organizations and communities across the country.

Amrita executive director Rithisal Kang (ACC 2009) reported, "ACC's strength in creating considered, artistically respectful connections between arts organizations was absolutely invaluable in the success of this collaboration. Without ACC facilitating the introduction and ongoing dialogues between Elizabeth Streb, her company, and Amrita, this would not have been possible. More than simply providing funds, it was the ACC that enabled the collaboration to be as valuable as it was through their understanding of both organizations and what connections would be of most mutual benefit."



YANDAN WU China

Yandan Wu graduated from the pioneering modern dance program founded by Yang Meiqi (ACC 2002) at the Beijing Dance Academy. In 2007, Ms. Wu established her own dance project, one that seeks to shift a common preoccupation with Chineseness and national culture toward a more honest expression of the human body. Following a series of notable international performances, Ms. Wu sought a 2015 ACC grant to investigate the boundaries between performance art and other performance forms in the United States, and to augment her techniques, ideas, and artistic networks.

Ms. Wu's explorations in New York City led her to a surprising and entirely new medium: stand-up comedy. "I had a lot of experience with all kinds of stages and performances, but none of them were anything like this," says Ms. Wu. "As a performing artist, I learned my confidence won't last forever if I do not continue to work on it. I have to never stop learning. By doing things like trying stand-up comedy, I allow myself to start again from zero, over and over. I see this as a way of taking myself from being a performing artist to becoming a great performing artist."



CONNIE SUK YEE LAM Hong Kong

"This trip has brought about long-term impacts that cannot be measured quantitatively," says Connie Suk Yee Lam, Executive Director of the Hong Kong Arts Centre. In 2015, Ms. Lam received an ACC grant for a ten-week fellowship in the United States to observe best practices in her field—particularly as they related to organizational identity and branding—and to network with U.S.-based peers. She spent much of her time in New York, but also made visits to Chicago, Kansas City, Philadelphia, and San Francisco.

"My fellowship has been exceptionally meaningful to my personal growth and, more importantly, to the Hong Kong Arts Centre, the organisation which I have been serving for over 18 years," Ms. Lam says. "I realized that the learning process is the key to making the spark of good ideas last. My personal creative journey will now be transformed into solid ideas which I can share with others. My fellowship reinforced my passion to bring art to a wider audience."



CAMBODIA

Rady Nget *Dancer, Phnom Penh, exchange with United States*

to take part in the International Choreographers Residency Program at the American Dance Festival in North Carolina, and to observe contemporary arts, take dance classes, and meet artists in the U.S. for six months.

Amrita Performing Arts *Phnom Penh, exchange with United States*

to enable creative workshops for Cambodian artists in Phnom Penh, Battambang, and Siem Reap given by two American artists from the Brooklyn-based Streb Lab for Action Mechanics, and to provide an immersive two-week cultural experience for the Streb artists.

Cambodian Living Arts *Phnom Penh, exchange with Myanmar* to support the participation of fellows from the nonprofit organization Cambodian Living Arts in a ten-day professional exchange program in Myanmar.



CHINA

Rujing Huang *Music scholar, Xiamen, exchange with Taiwan* to research the revival of the Chinese classical music *gayue* in Taiwan for six months.

Chao Ji *Librettist and playwright, Beijing, exchange with United States* to seek out contemporary theater activities and traditional performing

“I had a lot of experience with all kinds of stages and performances, but none of them were anything like this.”—**Yandan Wu, China**

arts, and to meet and undertake research with theater artists in the U.S. for six months.

Shurui Li *Visual artist, Chongqing, exchange with United States* to observe the contemporary art world, meet artists, and participate in an artist residency program in the U.S. for six months.

Chuanhong Liu *Visual artist, Beijing, exchange with Taiwan* to examine historical documents and research contemporary art activities in Taiwan for three months.

Ta Song *Visual artist, Guangzhou, exchange with United States* to meet artists and engage with contemporary art practices in the U.S. for six months.

Yan Tang *Architect, Beijing, exchange with United States* to attend the Special Program for Urban and Regional Studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for five months.

Sishun Wang *Visual artist, Beijing, exchange with United States* to partake in contemporary art activities and meet artists in the U.S. for three months.

Yandan Wu *Performance artist, Shanghai, exchange with United States* to observe new developments in independent performance art, theater, and dance, and to meet peers in the U.S. for six months.

Jun Yan *Sound-poetry artist, Beijing, exchange with United States* to perform in concerts, meet fellow musicians, and explore contemporary music in New York City for one month.

Wuyi Zhang *Arts Administrator, Shenzhen, exchange with United States* to investigate small-scale, independent performing arts festivals in the U.S. for three months.



HONG KONG

Stephanie Wai Ting Cheung *Curator, exchange with United States* to research the artistic medium of social practice, observe contemporary art activities, and meet artists and other arts professionals in the U.S. for six months.

ShunYin Ho *Pianist, exchange with United States* to take part in the Aspen Music School at the Aspen Music Festival in Colorado.

Alan Tsz Wai Kwan *New media artist and filmmaker, exchange with United States* to undertake year two of graduate studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Connie Suk Yee Lam *Arts administrator, exchange with United States* to attend a ten-week program in arts administration best practices and network with peers in the U.S.

Jass Wai Sze Leung *Theater critic and researcher, exchange with United States* to research adapted spaces for the performing arts, and museums commemorating sites of memory in the U.S. for three months.

Davie Man Lok Law *Visual artist, exchange with United States* to participate in an eight-week residency at the Vermont Studio Center, the largest international artists' and writers' residency program in the U.S.

Jolene Chung Ling Mok *Documentary filmmaker and video artist, exchange with United States* to study and participate in intensive workshops on analog film in the U.S. for five months.

Chun Hang Yip *Architect, exchange with United States* to research architectural design and fabrication in the U.S. for three weeks.

Asian Young Musicians' Connection *exchange with Japan, Korea* to support the participation of musician HyoSun Kang (ACC 2013) and composer Koji Nakano (ACC 2008) in the conference and workshop "Innovation from Tradition: Re-Engaging Society Through Asian Traditional Music and Culture" in Hong Kong.



INDONESIA

Garin Nugroho *Film director, Jakarta, exchange with United States* to meet artists and filmmakers, create collaborative work, and develop a new film project in the U.S. for three months.

Danang Pamungkas *Dancer, Surakarta, exchange with United States* to participate in the International Choreographers Residency Program at the American Dance Festival in North Carolina, and to explore the contemporary dance scene in the U.S. for six months.

Mohamad Ugoran Prasad *Theater scholar, Yogyakarta, exchange with United States* to continue for ten months in a program of study leading to a Ph.D. in theater from the City University of New York.



JAPAN

Keigo Ayusawa (Hidejiro Honjo) *Shamisen player, Kawasaki, exchange with United States* to meet scholars, musicians, and artists, and to research contemporary music in the U.S. for six months.

Aki Inomata *Visual artist, Tokyo, exchange with United States* to view contemporary art activities, meet curators and artists, and participate in an artist residency program in the U.S. for three months.

Akiko Kitamura *Dancer and choreographer, Tokyo, exchange with Cambodia, Myanmar, India* to study traditional dance and martial arts in Cambodia, Myanmar, and India for three months.

Yasuno Miyauchi *Composer, Tokyo, exchange with United States* to explore the contemporary music scene, meet artists and curators, and experience performing arts activities in the U.S. for six months.

Nao Nishihara *Sound artist, Tokyo, exchange with United States* to visit museums and galleries, meet curators and artists, and explore the contemporary art world in the U.S. for six months.

Kohei Nishikawa *Musician, Yokohama, exchange with Taiwan* to research the nose flute tradition in Taiwan for three months.

Japan Center, Pacific Basin Arts Communication (PARC) *Tokyo, exchange with United States* to facilitate the participation of New York City's Wooster Group ensemble in the Sound Live Tokyo music festival



KOREA

Duk-Hyung Yoo *President of Seoul Institute of the Arts, Seoul, exchange with Asia* to continue research and educational work through international exchange. *John D. Rockefeller 3rd Awardee*



MALAYSIA

Bilqis Hijjas *Dancer, Kuala Lumpur, exchange with United States* to lecture on the state of contemporary dance in Southeast Asia and to build

"People from everywhere share each other's culture in New York, so during my grant, I really traveled not just to one new country, but to many new countries."

—Keigo Ayusawa, Japan



DANANG PAMUNGKAS

Indonesia

Danang Pamungkas is one of the most sought-after dance artists in Indonesia. Trained from age six in classical Javanese dance, he graduated from the Indonesian Institute of the Arts Surakarta, and danced for years with renowned choreographer Sardono Kusumo (multiple ACC grants 1984–2009) and international artists such as Chen Shi- Zheng and Hiroshi Koike (ACC 1994, 2014). In 2008, Mr. Pamungkas met dance legend and 2006 JDR 3rd Awardee Lin Hwai Min while Mr. Lin was visiting Indonesia with grant support from ACC. Mr. Lin was so impressed with Mr. Pamungkas's talent that he invited him to come to Taiwan to work with his company, Cloud Gate Dance Theatre. Mr. Pamungkas remained with them for three years.

Prior to his 2015 ACC grant, Mr. Pamungkas had previously only visited the U.S. while touring. He began his fellowship by participating in the American Dance Festival's International Choreographers Residency Program, where he had the opportunity to take classes, see work, present Javanese dance, and create new choreography. This was followed by four and a half months in New York City, where he had the chance to collaborate with interdisciplinary artists and experience the city's dynamic arts scene.



NAO NISHIHARA

Japan

During his six-month fellowship in New York City, Tokyo-based multidisciplinary artist Nao Nishihara spent a total of only five evenings at home in his grantee apartment. "I was so fascinated with the large spectrum of differences I found in New York," he says. "I met many musicians and artists who truly concentrate on their work, and who have lived their own way of life resolutely."

Prior to his 2015 ACC fellowship, Mr. Nishihara had collaborated with many of Japan's most celebrated visual artists, dancers, and musicians. During his time in New York, Mr. Nishihara exemplified ACC's ideal of an immersive fellowship experience for every grantee, as he was engaged and active in his new community from the very first day. He traversed the city regularly to see live music and attend art events, and performed at several notable venues, including Experimental Intermedia, Harvestworks Digital Media Arts Center, Judson Memorial Church, and the Queens Museum. "New York society seems to have a great appetite for their large variety of life," Mr. Nishihara notes. "I will always love to go back there."



ROSLISHAM "ISE" ISMAIL

Malaysia

Roslisham Ismail (aka Ise) is a leading figure in Malaysian contemporary art, not only as an artist with a rigorous and expansive practice, but also as an advocate for other artists and critical discourse in Malaysia. He sculpts situations and environments into participatory events that expand into opportunities for dialogue and interaction, particularly between cultures—whether Brisbane and Kuala Lumpur, or science and art. These encounters are particularly powerful within the Malaysian context. His long-running home and artist space, Parking Project, has invited visiting artists and curators to stay with him and get to know the local art community, building connections between Malaysian artists and their peers around the world.

Mr. Ismail arrived in New York in mid-December and jumped straight into the city's vibrant cultural mix in spite of his misgivings about timing his arrival in the dead of winter. ACC placed him in a two-month residency at Residency Unlimited in Brooklyn, and the rest of the time he spent pursuing connections, cooking for friends and strangers alike, and vastly broadening people's understanding of Malaysia's contemporary arts scene.

GRANTEE HIGHLIGHTS



GLENN SEVILLA MAS Philippines

"My fellowship inspired and challenged me, and opened my eyes to the limitless possibilities of art-making," says Glenn Sevilla Mas, an award-winning Manila-based playwright and widely respected theater artist. Mr. Mas was awarded a six-month ACC fellowship in 2015 to travel to the United States, where he endeavored to refresh his practice, gain insights to improve his capacity as a mentor, and bolster his ability to inspire more theater practitioners and playwrights to nurture their craft.

"The ACC grant gave me the opportunity to think about the work that I've done and still want to do, and to see it in the context of the much bigger world that we live in," he says. "It gave me the opportunity to live and breathe art in the cultural melting pot that is New York City; the realization that the world—this here, our world—is both big and small; and the knowledge that we are similar in so many ways but are also different in just as many ways, and our similarities and differences can lead to very meaningful interactions."



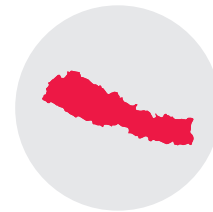
MING-JIUN TSAI Taiwan

Ming-Jiun Tsai is an active curator in Taiwan who sought a 2015 ACC grant as a vehicle for refreshing her curatorial approaches and bringing new insights back to her peers. During her six-month fellowship, Ms. Tsai became an experienced navigator of the United States' vast curatorial network, which stretches from the largest museums to the smallest galleries, and made many lasting professional and creative connections.

"I have never felt so welcomed in a new country as I did in New York, because of the ACC office's warm greetings and meetings," she says. "Not only did they update me with information about interesting things happening here, they also linked me to other grantees, who are truly one of the most extraordinary and valuable resources I found here. I participated in other grantees' projects, joined their daily explorations of the city, and had a lot of inspiring conversations about art. It was a wonderful experience."

networks for future collaborative projects during a two-week study tour in California.

Roslisham "Ise" Ismail *Artist and arts advocate, Kota Bharu, exchange with United States* to experience contemporary art practices, meet artists, and participate in an artist residency program in the U.S. for six months.



NEPAL

Kesang Tseten *Documentary filmmaker, Kathmandu, exchange with United States* to take a summer guest researcher position at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts.



PHILIPPINES

Asian Composers League *Quezon City, exchange with Asia* to enable the participation of musicians from Asia in the Asian Composers League Festival and Conference in the Philippines.

Roberto Balarbar *Museum specialist, Manila, exchange with United States* to apprentice in the Conservation Department of the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, and meet professionals at the American Museum of Natural History in New York and the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. for six months.

“I came to New York on a mission to experience the most it has to offer. My work is not regarded as art in Malaysia, so NYC was my last stab at being an artist. I received amazing feedback and now I have more confidence. The ACC has boosted my future.”

—**Roslisham “Ise” Ismail, Malaysia**

Dexter Dela Peña *Filmmaker, Manila, exchange with United States* to study best practices in digital filmmaking; interact with filmmakers, editors, and cinematographers; and visit film schools and film festivals in the U.S. for three months.

Glenn Sevilla Mas *Playwright, Manila, exchange with United States* to meet playwrights and directors, investigate university theater and playwriting programs, and observe the theater world in the U.S. for six months.

Leeroy New *Visual artist, Manila, exchange with United States* to examine best practices in developing technologies, public art processes, and contemporary arts at large for six months.



TAIWAN

The Bamboo Curtain Studio *Taipei, exchange with Indonesia* to enable Taiwanese artist Chen Chia-Jen to take part in a residency program at Cemeti Art House in Indonesia.

Yin-Chen Cheng *Actor and traditional opera performer, Taipei, exchange with Indonesia, Korea* to carry out theater-related research in Indonesia and South Korea for six months.

Kai-Yuan Chi *Visual artist, Kaohsiung, exchange with United States* to seek out the newest trends in contemporary art, attend exhibitions and performances, and meet artists in the U.S. for six months.

Yih-Chang Chou *Theater director, Taipei, exchange with Indonesia, South Korea* to undertake theater-related research in Indonesia and South Korea for four months.

Contemporary Legend Theatre *Taipei, exchange with China* to support the participation of Jie-Hua Pan in Contemporary Legend Theatre’s Opera Camp.

Sumi Dungi *Visual artist, Fengbin Township, exchange with Japan* to examine diverse models of community-building through art in Japan for one month.

Elug Art Corner *exchange with Japan* to commence an exploration of ritual vocabulary and its variation among ethnic groups with the Ainu tribe at the Kagura Festival in Iwade prefecture, Japan.

Yu-Wei Hsieh *Composer and musician, Taipei, exchange with United States* to meet music scholars and musicians and observe traditional and contemporary music activities in the U.S. for six months.

Yi Huang *Dancer and choreographer, New Taipei City, exchange with United States* to accept a special invitation from New York City-based 3LD Art & Technology Center.

Wern-Ying Hwang *Filmmaker, New Taipei City, exchange with India* to visit traditionally-crafted film sets, participate in fabric and costume design workshops, and meet Indian film directors and producers for four months.

Wei-Lung Lin *Performance artist, Taipei, exchange with China* to carry out a residency at Thousand Plateaus Art Space in Chengdu, China for three months.

Taiyuan Puppet Theatre Company *Taipei, exchange with U.S., Singapore, Japan* to allow theater scholars from the U.S., Singapore, and Japan to attend an international symposium in Taipei.

Ming-Jiun Tsai *Curator, Taichung, exchange with United States* to explore the contemporary art world and meet curators and artists in the U.S. for six months.



THAILAND

Anchalee Chaiworaporn *Film scholar, Omnoi, exchange with United States* to spend three months meeting filmmakers and film specialists in New York and conducting research on Thai arthouse directors who were educated in the U.S.

“What we witnessed in Phnom Penh, Battambang, and Siem Reap were artists who were well-trained, impressively strong, and who found themselves confronting the fears that often come with exploring things unknown—things foreign and risky. Their enthusiasm and willingness instantly bridged common ground.”

—Cassandra Joseph, STREB INC., United States



UNITED STATES

Amara Antilla *Curator, New York City, exchange with Bangladesh* to conduct three weeks of research that will culminate in an exhibition on the Bengal School of Art at the Dhaka Art Summit in Bangladesh.

Arts Indonesia *New York City, exchange with Indonesia* to provide for a creative residency by Balinese composer and musician I Dewa Ketut Alit and New York City-based Indonesian music ensemble Gamelan Dharma Swara.

Asia Society *New York City, exchange with Myanmar* to present the traditional Myanmar performing arts troupe Shwe Man Thabin at Asia Society in New York City.

Asian/Pacific/American Institute *New York City, exchange with Japan* to support the participation of Mark Johnson, Professor of Art and Gallery Director at San Francisco State University, in the Global Asia/Pacific Art Exchange in Tokyo.

John Bellezza *Archaeologist and cultural historian, New Hope, Pennsylvania, exchange with T.A.R.* to undertake fieldwork in Tibet.

Douglas Brooks *Boatbuilder, writer, and researcher, Vergennes, Vermont, exchange with Taiwan* to investigate boatbuilding traditions among the Tao indigenous group of Orchid Island, Taiwan for three weeks.

Buddhist Film Foundation (for the Dharamshala International Film Festival) *Berkeley, California, exchange with Japan, Myanmar, Vietnam, and India* to facilitate the attendance of filmmakers from Japan, Myanmar, and Vietnam at the Dharamshala International Film Festival in India.

Carnegie Hall *New York City, exchange with Korea* to enable South Korean musician Beomjae Kim to continue an advanced training program in New York City for a second year.

Joseph Celli *Musician, Bridgeport, Connecticut, exchange with Indonesia* to travel and carry out research in Indonesia for ten weeks.

Lawrence Chua *Architectural historian, Syracuse, New York, exchange with Thailand* to embark on a two-month trip to Bangkok and Lopburi, Thailand and undertake archival research to examine the historical relationship between modernism and fascism in the architecture of urban public space in Bangkok.

Tiffany Chung *Visual artist, Houston, Texas, exchange with Hong Kong, Southeast Asia* to research sites of former Vietnamese refugee camps in Hong Kong and Southeast Asia for a new work about the experience of Vietnamese “boat people.”

Amanda Culp *Theater scholar, New York City, exchange with India* to participate in a one-month residency at the Kalidasa Akademi in Ujjain, India that coincides with the Kalidasa Samaroh Festival performing arts event.

The Drama League of New York, Inc. *New York City, exchange with China* to enable key staff of the Drama League to visit Beijing and Shanghai and establish the groundwork for future exchanges between Chinese and American theater directors.

Film Forum *New York City, exchange with Cambodia* to fly six musicians from Cambodia to New York City in connection with a concert for the American premiere of the documentary *Don't Think I've Forgotten: Cambodia's Lost Rock and Roll* at Film Forum.

Fractured Atlas (for Line Storm Productions) *Bethany, Connecticut, exchange with Japan* to allow American theater artists and collaborators Elise Thoron (ACC 2008, 2010) and Karen Kandel (ACC 2006) to travel to Kyoto and Tokyo to prepare for the Japanese premiere of their production *Recycling: Washi Tales*.

FringeArts *Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, exchange with Japan* to support the participation of playwright Toshiki Okada and performers from Japan on the U.S. tour of Mr. Okada's newest theater project, *God Bless Baseball*.



ANCHALEE CHAIWORAPORN

Thailand

Anchalee Chaiworaporn received a three-month fellowship to meet filmmakers and film specialists in New York and conduct research on Thai arthouse directors who were educated in the United States. In addition to her research and traveling to film archives outside of New York, Ms. Chaiworaporn had the opportunity to spend time with her fellow ACC grantees: visual artists, musicians, dancers, and playwrights. Over shared meals in their adjacent apartments, group trips to museums and galleries, and time spent together at the ACC office, Ms. Chaiworaporn's appreciation for a range of art forms grew enormously. "The experience in New York changed my perspective and how I think about my future as a whole," she wrote. "Before my ACC fellowship, I was never interested in arts because nobody can explain to me what is the value of good arts. In New York, for the first time in my life, I studied arts. My experience in New York expanded not only my future work in the field of cinema, especially on art cinema, but also my perspective on the world. For the first time, art museums become my first visit wherever I go. I hope that I can use my newfound perspective in my future work and share this knowledge to Thai society."



TIFFANY CHUNG

United States

The work of conceptual artist Tiffany Chung is recognized internationally for its exquisite examinations of conflict, migration, shifting geographies, and transformation in relation to history and cultural memory. Her Vietnam Exodus Project is an in-depth study of the post-1975 Vietnamese exodus, with a primary focus on the largest group of refugees: those who were reductively termed "boat people." Ms. Chung received an ACC grant in 2015 to support her travel to Southeast Asia to investigate former Vietnamese refugee camp sites and interview local people who interacted with the refugees.

"The Vietnam Exodus Project remaps the geographical breadth of these refugees beyond the western sphere," Ms. Chung explains. "They disseminated in the most unexpected regions of the world. This remapping de-centers the typical narrative of refugees resettling in the U.S. and Europe; it also aims to unpack the refugee and asylum policies applied towards the already traumatized and distressed Vietnamese during this time. I hope this study can go beyond the realm of art and contribute to international policymaking to bring about new changes for current and future refugees globally."



THANH PHUONG NGO

Vietnam

Thanh Phuong Ngo is an outstanding choreographer and dance artist poised to have a substantial impact on the field of contemporary dance in Vietnam. Ms. Ngo grew up in Ho Chi Minh City in a family of dancers, and in 2004 she was introduced to modern and contemporary dance when she received a scholarship to attend the Folkwang University of the Arts in Germany. She returned to Vietnam in 2008 and in 2010, she joined Arabesque, HCMC's leading contemporary dance group. Since then, Ms. Ngo has seized every possible opportunity to stretch intellectually and further her development as an artist, especially embracing chances to work collaboratively with other artists in other disciplines. In 2015 she received a six-month grant to participate in the International Choreographers Residency Program at the American Dance Festival in North Carolina and to observe and take part in the range of dance activities in New York City.

During her time in New York, Ms. Ngo was a frequent collaborator with her fellow ACC grantees, performing in a multi-disciplinary work titled *I-Land* that involved artists from the Philippines, Japan, Taiwan, and Indonesia; and joining the *Composers Now Creative Residency Program* at the Rockefeller Brothers Fund's Pocantico Center.



Lee Kit installing an exhibition organized by Walker Art Center:
Lee Kit: Hold your breath, dance slowly, May 2016

Keiko Fukazawa *Visual artist, Pasadena, California, exchange with China* to take part in a two-month residency at The Pottery Workshop in Jingdezhen, China.

Susanne Gänsicke *Conservation specialist, Boston, Massachusetts, exchange with Nepal* to assess damage done to metal icons in shrines and temples in Nepal during the April 2015 earthquake, and to conduct research for their future restoration and preservation.

Bruce Gundersen *Photographer, New York City, exchange with Myanmar* to embark on a month-long trip to Myanmar to collaborate with regional artists on a series of narrative photomontages.

Rebecca Hall *Art historian, Richmond, Virginia, exchange with Thailand* to study the funerary arts of Chiang Mai and surrounding areas of Thailand for two months.

Milad Hosseini-Mozari *Sound artist, Chicago, Illinois, exchange with Hong Kong* for a one-month residency at the nonprofit arts organization soundpocket in Hong Kong.

Joseph Houseal *Dance scholar, Benton Harbor, Michigan, exchange with India, Nepal* to research Vajrayana Buddhist dance for three months in India and Nepal.

ISSUE Project Room *New York City, exchange with Japan* to enable a two-week U.S. tour for Japanese sound artist Akio Suzuki (ACC 1980, 2000).

Japan Society *New York City, exchange with Japan* to provide for a collaborative residency by Japanese experimental artist Otomo Yoshihide at Japan Society in New York City.

Ronald Jenkins *Theater scholar, New York City, exchange with Indonesia* to travel and carry out research in Indonesia for two months as part of a collaborative theater project involving an Indonesian visual artist and choreographer.

Laurel Jenkins *Dancer and choreographer, Los Angeles, California, exchange with Cambodia* to undertake a month-long creative residency in Cambodia.

The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art *Sarasota, Florida, exchange with Asia* to enable performing artists from Asia to participate in the 2015 Ringling International Arts Festival in Florida.

Katonah Museum of Art *Katonah, New York, exchange with Japan* to provide for the participation of a Japanese visual artist in an exhibition at the Katonah Museum of Art in New York.

Nam Kim *Archaeologist, Middleton, Wisconsin, exchange with Vietnam* to commence a three-week research trip to Co Loa in Vietnam's Red River Delta.

Gabriella Miller *Artist and curator, San Francisco, California, exchange with Vietnam* to collaborate with artists Nguyen Phuong Linh of Vietnam and Lu Yang (ACC 2013) of China at the Nha San Collective in Hanoi, and to participate in a residency in Vietnam for three months.

Tiffany Mills *Dancer, New York City, exchange with Korea* to collaborate with a Korean choreographer on a new work to be presented at the International Performing Series: Seoul Dance Collaboration Concert.

Tracie Morris *Multimedia performer, Brooklyn, New York, exchange with Korea* to initiate a month-long creative project with a Korean artist in Seoul.

Music from Japan *New York City, exchange with Japan* to support the participation of composer Misato Mochizuki and musicologist Yuji Numano in public programs connected with the 41st season of Music From Japan.

David Neumann *Dancer and choreographer, Thornwood, New York, exchange with Japan* to see performances at the National Noh Theater and meet with members of the traditional dance and theater communities in Tokyo during a two-week trip to Japan.

Terry O'Reilly *Theater director, New York City, exchange with Taiwan* to collaborate on a theater production slated to premiere in Taiwan in 2017.

Michael Pestel *Multimedia performer, Middletown, Connecticut, exchange with Japan* to perform and collaborate with musicians and artists in Tokyo.

Emmanuelle Phuon *Choreographer, New York City, exchange with Cambodia* to complete work on a new dance based in the movement vocabulary of Brodal Serei Cambodian kickboxing with dancers in Phnom Penh.

Ping Pong Productions *Washington, D.C., exchange with Hong Kong* to facilitate the attendance of cultural consultant and contemporary dance researcher Alison Friedman (ACC 2004) at the 2015 Hong Kong Producers' Network Meeting and Forum.

Barbara Pollack *Curator, New York City, exchange with China* to travel to China and conduct two months of research on Chinese contemporary art's cultural identity shift for an exhibition and book.

Jeffrey Roberts *Musician, East Hempstead, New Hampshire, exchange with Korea* to collaborate with Korean musicians and research the traditions of *ganggangsueolrae* dance and *sinawi* music.

Mari Spirito *Curator, New York City, exchange with Bangladesh* to take part in the Dhaka Art Summit in Bangladesh.

Spoletto Festival *Charleston, South Carolina, exchange with China* to support the participation of lighting designer Lihe Xiao (multiple ACC grants 1995 - 2013) in the world premiere of *Paradise Interrupted* at the Spoleto Festival in South Carolina.

STREB Inc. *New York City, exchange with Cambodia* to allow Cassandre Joseph and Fabio A. Tavares da Silva, members of the Brooklyn-based Streb Lab for Action Mechanics, to carry out two weeks of creative workshops with movement artists in Cambodia.

Nhat Tran *Visual artist, Indianapolis, Indiana, exchange with Japan* to take a guest researcher position in the use of *urushi* lacquer in large-scale public art at the Kyoto City University of Arts.

Triangle Arts Association *New York City, exchange with Pakistan* to enable the participation of Zoya Siddiqui in the 2015 Triangle Artists' Workshop and accompanying public program series.

University of California, Los Angeles/Getty Conservation Program *Los Angeles, California, exchange with Sri Lanka* to facilitate comprehensive documentation and research of wall paintings located in the ancient site of Sigiriya, Sri Lanka by professionals from UCLA's Getty Conservation Program.

University of Kansas Endowment Association (for the Spencer Museum of Art) *Lawrence, Kansas, exchange with India* to provide a site visit and multi-week residency for Indian visual artist Rohini Devasher in conjunction with the exhibition *Temporal Turn: Art and Speculation in Contemporary Asia* at the Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas.

Walker Art Center *Minneapolis, Minnesota, exchange with Taiwan* to enable Taiwan-based contemporary artist Lee Kit's participation in an exhibition program.

WCV, Inc. *Brooklyn, New York, exchange with India* to support a one-month residency by dance artist Wally Cardona (ACC 2012) to study with *Kutiyattam* performance practitioner Kapila Venu in India.

Carmen Wong *Theater artist, Washington, D.C., exchange with India* to undertake three months of research in Delhi and participate in a workshop at the Adishakti Laboratory for Theatre Art Research (ACC 2010) in Pondicherry to develop a reinterpretation of Ibsen's *A Doll's House*.



VIETNAM

Thanh Phuong Ngo *Dancer, Ho Chi Minh City, exchange with United States* to explore contemporary performing arts in New York, participate in classes and workshops, attend performances, and meet artists and choreographers around the U.S. for six months.

Quang Phan *Photographer, Ho Chi Minh City, exchange with Thailand, Philippines* to spend three weeks in Thailand and the Philippines researching and interviewing the abandoned wives of formerly-stationed Japanese soldiers who returned home.

Minh Duc Tran *Multimedia artist, Ho Chi Minh City, exchange with United States* to engage in contemporary art activities and meet other artists and arts administrators in the U.S. for six months.

Korean Arts Leader Duk-Hyung Yoo Receives John D. Rockefeller 3rd Award

Duk-Hyung Yoo is the recipient of the Asian Cultural Council's 2015 John D. Rockefeller 3rd Award. This \$50,000 award is made biannually in recognition of an individual who has made a significant contribution to the international understanding and appreciation of the arts of Asia.

As one of Korea's most important cultural leaders today, Mr. Yoo joins a distinguished roster of previous recipients of the award, which was established in 1986. Duk-Hyung Yoo is the visionary leader of the Seoul Institute of the Arts, a professional arts training academy renowned both regionally and internationally. While JDR 3rd Award winners are chosen for the major contributions they have made to the international understanding, practice, or study of the arts of Asia and do not need to have had a prior affiliation with ACC, Mr. Yoo and the Asian Cultural

Council have enjoyed a long and fruitful relationship. One of ACC's first grantees from Korea, Mr. Yoo received a series of grants from the organization in the 1960s and 1970s for such personally-transformative endeavors as study at the Dallas Theater Center, the completion of his master's degree in theater at Yale University, and the chance to observe theatrical activities throughout the U.S.

After returning to Korea permanently, Mr. Yoo took over leadership of the Korean Drama Center, founded by his father, acclaimed playwright Yoo Chi-Jin. Over the next several decades, Mr. Yoo transformed the school into the all-encompassing professional arts academy now known as the Seoul Institute of the Arts (SIA). Outside of Korea, Mr. Yoo has developed robust educational and artistic links with other arts schools in Asia, the U.S.,



*ACC founder John D. Rockefeller 3rd meeting
with Duk-Hyung Yoo in 1973 in Seoul, Korea*

and Europe. He also spearheads SIA's Culture Hub project, which "seeks both national identity and global universality to create and promote world-class culture and arts." The project is dedicated to creating strongholds through which Korean culture and arts can be exchanged around the world.

JDR 3RD AWARD RECIPIENTS

2013



AMNA KUSUMO
Director
Yayasan Kelola, Jakarta

2013



PICHET KLUNCHUN
Choreographer and Dancer
Pichet Klunchun Dance Company, Bangkok

2013



CHINARY UNG
Composer
Nirmita Composers Institute in Asia; University of California, San Diego

2010



SAMINA QURAESHI
(1944–2013)
Writer, Artist, Designer
Shepard/Quraeshi Associates, Inc., Boston

2008



RATAN THIYAM
Founder and Director
Chorus Repertory Theatre, Manipur

2007



NESTOR O. JARDIN
President
Cultural Center of the Philippines, Manila

2006



LIN HWAI-MIN
Artistic Director
Cloud Gate Dance Theater, Taipei

2005



MELLA JAARSMAN AND NINDITYO ADIPURNOMO
Founders
Cemeti Art House, Yogyakarta

2003



JUDY MITOMA
Director
Center for Intercultural Performance, University of California, Los Angeles

2002



YANG MEIQI
Founder
Guangdong Modern Dance Company, Guangzhou

2000



ELLEN STEWART
(1919–2011)
Founder and Artistic Director
La MaMa Experimental Theater Club, New York

1999



PROEUNG CHHIENG
Dean, Faculty of Choreographic Arts
Royal University of Fine Arts, Phnom Penh

1998



NGUYEN VAN HUY
Director
Vietnam Museum of Ethnology, Hanoi

1997



BEATE GORDON
(1923–2012)
Arts consultant and writer
New York

1996



MA CHENGYUAN
(1927–2004)
Director
Shanghai Museum of Art

1995



SETSU ASAKURA
(1922–2014)
Stage designer
Tokyo

1993



DONALD RICHIE
(1924–2013)
Film critic and writer
Tokyo

1992



KAPILA VATSAYAN
Director
Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi

1991



CHOU WEN-CHUNG
Director
Center for U.S.-China Arts Exchange, Columbia University, New York

1990



SHERMAN E. LEE
(1918–2008)
Former Director
The Cleveland Museum of Art

1988



JAMES R. BRANDON
(1927–2015)
Professor
Department of Drama and Theatre, University of Hawaii, Manoa

1987



JOSE MACEDA
(1917–2004)
Chairman
Department of Music Research, College of Music, University of the Philippines, Manila

1986



JOHN M. ROSENFELD
(1924–2013)
Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Professor of Fine Arts, Harvard University, Cambridge

ALUMNI NEWS



Myra Beltran (*Dance Artist & Choreographer, Philippines, 2011*)

is a groundbreaking performance curator committed to promoting and developing Philippine modern dance. Her work *Itim Asu:1719-2009* was featured at the event NEO FILIPINO 2015: Contemporary Dance Classics, held at the Cultural Center of the Philippines in Manila in 2015.



Fei Bo (*Choreographer, China, 2011*)

China-based choreographer Fei Bo is known for weaving Eastern and Western dance traditions together in dazzling stage performances. The 2015 Lincoln Center Festival in New York City presented National Ballet of China's production of the classic romance *Peony Pavilion* with Bo's choreography. *The Guardian* described the performance as "captivatingly original."

Sarah Delphine Buencamino

(*Theater Artist, Philippines, 2013*)

is a prolific actress, singer, dancer, choreographer, and teacher. In 2015, she starred—as a male character—in the critically-acclaimed steampunk musical *Mabining Mandirigma* about the intellectual heroism of Philippine Revolution icon Apolinario Mabini. The show played to a full house at the Cultural Center of the Philippines in Manila.



Cai Guo-Qiang after ignition of Seasons of Life: Fall, Yokohama Museum of Art, 2015. Gunpowder on canvas, 259x810cm; from the Collection of the artist

Cai Guo-Qiang (*Visual Artist, United States 1995, 2006*) and **Eriko Osaka** (*Art Historian, Japan, 2005*)

Cai Guo-Qiang's solo exhibition, *There and Back Again*, curated by Eriko Osaka, ran from July to October 2015 at the Yokohama Museum of Art, and represented the first large-scale solo exhibition of Cai's work to be held in Japan since 2008. As an artist who was born in China, studied in Japan, and currently lives and works in America, Cai's work displays a sophisticated and harmonious blend of Eastern and Western energies.



Anton Del Castillo (*Visual Artist, Philippines, 2006*) The 2015 exhibition *The Collective Young From South East Asia*, held at the Mizuma Gallery in Singapore, featured the work of several young artists from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Singapore who demonstrate diverse artistic goals and techniques. Mr. Del Castillo, whose work about modernism and contemporary life is known for its stunning craftsmanship and meticulous design, was selected for inclusion in the show.

Yeung-ping Chen (*Composer, Hong Kong, 2011*) Mr. Chen is a Hong Kong composer pursuing his Ph.D. in Music Composition at the University of California, San Diego with support from a 2011 ACC grant. He received the 2015 Thomas Nee Commission Award for his work *The Moon in La Jolla*, inspired by Hong Kong poet Ya Si. This orchestral piece features

telematic technology, which allows musicians to play music together from different sites via the internet.



Composer Chen Yeung-ping (front left) with the orchestra that played his new work, The Moon in La Jolla.

Ping Chiu Chan (*Theater Director, Hong Kong 2000*)

Ping Chiu Chan received the 2015 Hong Kong Drama Award for Best Director of a Comedy/Farce for his work on *Postcolonial God of Food*, which was premiered by On & On Theatre Workshop in 2014.



On & On Theatre Workshop performing Chan Ping Chiu's Postcolonial God of Food

Teresita Fernández (*Visual Artist, United States, 1997*)

The contemporary art program of New York City's Madison Square Park Conservancy, Mad. Sq. Art, presented *Fata Morgana* by American artist Teresita Fernández for over six months in 2015. The Conservancy's "largest and most ambitious outdoor sculpture to date," the work's 500 feet of golden, mirror-polished discs created broad reflective canopies over the park's pathways.



Ishu Han (*Visual Artist, Japan, 2014*)

Ishu Han uses his own body and personal geographic history to explore the concept of identity. In 2015, the artist, who was born in

China and now resides in Japan, was featured in the exhibition *In the Wake: Japanese Photographers Respond to 3/11* at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.



Wern-Ying Hwang (*Visual Artist, Taiwan, 2015*) Born in Taiwan, enthusiastic and dedicated film producer and art director Wern-Ying Hwang earned master's degrees in art and theater design in the United States. She spent 12 years working on the feature film *The Assassin*, which won her the award for Best Makeup & Costume Design at the 52nd Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival in 2015.



Nestor Jardin (*Arts Manager & Educator, Philippines, 1983, 2008*) A distinguished arts advocate and educator, Mr. Jardin won the Asian Cultural Council's John D. Rockefeller 3rd Award in 2007. He also served as president of the Cultural Center of the Philippines—the country's premiere arts and culture institution. He has long been instrumental in leading significant cultural events and projects nationwide, including the series of cultural performances held during the Ministers Responsible for Trade Meeting and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit, hosted by the Philippines in 2015.



John Jesurun (*Theater Director & Playwright, United States, 1994, 2000, 2013*) and **Takeshi Kawamura** (*Theater Director & Playwright, Japan, 1995, 1997*) The friendship between John Jesurun and Takeshi Kawamura began in 1995, when Mr. Kawamura was living in New York on his first ACC fellowship. For the past three years, the two have been collaborating on a serial theater project called *Tokyo/New York Correspondence* with support from the Saison Foundation. Their first piece, "On the Street," premiered at Tokyo's Morishita Studio in February 2015; the second, "In the Forest," was performed there in July; and in December, they performed both pieces at La MaMa La Galleria in New York City.

Alan Tsz Wai Kwan (*Visual Artist, Hong Kong, 2014, 2015*) Mr. Kwan is an artist, designer, and technologist studying in the Art, Culture and Technology program at MIT with support from a 2015 ACC grant. He won first place in MIT's 2015 Harold and Arlene Schnitzer Prize for his installation work *Shadow Donation*, which transferred a shadow from the Mojave Desert to a tree in Hong Kong using media that merged two indigenous plants into one sculpture.



Alan Kwan's work *Shadow Donation*

Dinh Q. Lê: Memory for Tomorrow
July 25 (Sat) - Oct 12 (Mon), 2015 MORI ART MUSEUM



Dinh Q. Le (*Visual Artist, United States, 2004, 2010*) Vietnamese-American fine arts photographer Dinh Q. Le held a large-scale solo exhibition entitled *Memory for Tomorrow* at Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, from July to October 2015. This was the first exhibition of his work in Asia. The show then traveled to the Hiroshima Museum of Art and was on view between March and May 2016.



Tom Lee (*Theater Artist, United States, 2010*) Born in South Korea and raised in Hawaii, Tom Lee is a performer, designer, and puppet artist based in New York City. In 2015, his production *Shank's Mare* was performed at NYC's La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club. The show uses traditional *kuruma ningyo* puppetry, live feed video projection, and miniature sets to explore themes of life, death, and how traditions are passed on.

Hwai-min Lin (*Dancer and Choreographer, Taiwan, 1978, 1990, 2006, 2007*) and **Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan** (*1995, 2000, 2008*) Four-time ACC grantee Hwai-min Lin and his company, three-time grantee Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan, opened the 2015 season of Brooklyn Academy of Music's long-running biennial the Next Wave Festival with their show *Rice*. The Cloud Gate ensemble also gave master classes in conjunction with the performance.



Fumihiko Maki (*Architect, Japan, 1976*) "Fumihiko Maki, Maki and Associates' 2015: Time, Figure, Space—Toward the Construction of Place" celebrated the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Maki and Associates. The retrospective was held at the Daikanyama Hillside Terrace Complex in Tokyo in October and November 2015, and included a sampling of some of the firm's current design projects.



Fumihiko Maki (pointing) guides Wendy O'Neill and Masako Koyano (far right) around the exhibition

Jinghui Meng (*Theater Director, China, 2001*) Jinghui Meng was appointed Artistic Director of the 3rd Wuzhen Theatre Festival, which is fast becoming one of the most significant performing arts events in the region. The festival took place in Wuzhen, a water village near Hangzhou, and featured 20 theatrical performances from throughout the region and worldwide, presented in seven theatres situated around the 1,300-year-old town.



Yuko Mohri (*Visual Artist, Japan, 2014*) Yuko Mohri's installations convey intangible energies such as magnetism, gravity, light, and temperature by reconfiguring everyday items and machine parts into new assemblages. She was awarded the Grand-Prix of the Nissan Art Award in 2015. The award was established in 2013 to recognize exceptional work by Japanese artists, and comes with a cash prize and the opportunity to live and work in London for two months in association with the Camden Arts Centre.



Takashi Murakami (*Visual Artist, Japan, 1994*) Acclaimed Japanese artist Takashi Murakami's magnificent painting *The 500 Arhats*—which measures almost 330 feet wide by 10 feet high—was exhibited in an eponymous solo show at the Mori Museum, Tokyo, from October 2015 to March 2016. The featured work was created in response to the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, and was shown alongside other of the artist's recent works.



Rica Narimoto (*Composer, Japan, 2010*) Japanese composer Rica Narimoto was awarded 3rd Prize

in the Iron Composer 2015 "instant composition contest." Held in Berea, Ohio, the competition gives five composers five hours to write a piece of music; their work is then performed at a free public concert at the Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory of Music.

Denisa Reyes (*Choreographer, 1995*), **Basilio Esteban Villaruz** (*Dance Artist, Educator, & Cultural Researcher, 1974, 1991, 2000, 2002*), and **Roberto Chabet** (*Visual Artist, 1968*) The Gawad CCP Para Sa Sining is the highest distinction given by the Cultural Center of the Philippines for outstanding achievements and contributions to Philippine arts and culture. The award is given every three years to individuals or groups of artists who have consistently produced exceptional works and contributed to the development of their medium, or to arts professionals whose work in research, curation, or administration have helped enhance and enrich Philippine art. Three of the 13 CCP awardees in 2015 were ACC grantees.



Pinaree Sanpitak (*Visual Artist, Thailand, 2000*) The prolific work of Thai artist Pinaree Sanpitak has been described in major international art shows and biennials as innovative, spiritual, and compelling in its focused abstraction. In 2015, she presented her third solo exhibition, *Ma-lai*, at Tyler Rollins Fine Art in New York City.

Koki Tanaka (*Visual Artist, Japan, 2003, 2004*) "Koki Tanaka's work represents an inventive approach toward exploring the question of

community making—a truly important issue in today’s aesthetic and political experiments across the world,” proclaimed the jury of the Deutsche Bank Artist of the Year Award about its 2015 recipient. Mr. Tanaka, whom the jury also called “one of the most original artists of his generation,” held a solo exhibition at Deutsche Bank KunstHalle in Berlin, Germany from March through May 2015.



Xiaoyu Weng (*Curator, China, 2007, 2008*) Xiaoyu Weng was selected as The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Associate Curator of Chinese Art at The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum. She will curate two exhibitions of commissioned works to advance The Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation’s longstanding commitment to the study and support of contemporary Chinese art.



Te-Yu Wang (*Visual Artist, Taiwan, 2000*) Taiwanese contemporary artist Te-Yu Wang held her first solo exhibition, *Believe In What You Feel*, at the Hin Bus Depot art center in Penang, Malaysia in September 2015. For the exhibition, the artist created inflatable, balloon-like installations that enter the viewer’s space and invite physical participation. Ms. Wang said of the show, “Don’t look, don’t think, just walk through and enjoy it.”



Dar-Kuen Wu (*Visual Artist, Taiwan, 2004, 2014*) Dar-Kuen Wu, a Taiwan-based contemporary artist, specializes in video installation and

media art. He was appointed Director of Taipei Artist Village (TAV) and Treasure Hill Artist Village in 2015. TAV is one of Taiwan’s most prominent art spaces, and provides valuable opportunities for creative innovation and cultural exchange between Taiwan and the world.

Wenguang Wu (*Filmmaker, 1996, 2000, 2009*), **Hui Wen** (*Choreographer, 1996, 1998*), and **Yang Lu** (*Visual Artist, 2013*), *China* participated in the 56th International Venice Biennale in 2015. The event’s Chinese Pavilion included Wenguang Wu’s documentary project *The Ciaochangdi Workstation*, as well as 3-D video animation that featured the work of Yang Lu and Hui Wen. Together, these artists illustrated how Chinese society has been shaped in recent history.



The Chinese Pavilion at the 56th International Venice Biennale



Te-Yu Wang’s Believe in What You Feel



Asian Cultural Council events gather together our network of alumni, Trustees, and friends to celebrate and experience the vast range of work created by our grantees all over the world. Our mission to advance international dialogue, understanding, and respect through cultural exchanges that nurture the talents of individual artists and scholars comes alive through their creative pursuits.

ACC TAIPEI 20TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

ACC celebrated the ACC Taiwan Foundation's 20th anniversary on November 17 with a gala in Taipei. The event showcased installation art by ACC grantees, a performance by renowned Beijing Opera master and grantee Wu Hsing Kuo (ACC 2005, 2006), and an engaging onstage interview with ACC Taiwan Foundation Chairman Douglas Hsu. Approximately 200 guests attended, including ACC Chairman Wendy O'Neill, ACC Executive Director Miho Walsh, and Trustees and

staff from ACC's regional offices. Members of each patron group from Taiwan—Group 33 North, South, and Taichung—attended the gala and gave dance and musical performances throughout the program, bringing to life the feeling of an ever-expanding ACC family.

ACC Trustees and staff enjoyed a week of festivities surrounding the ACC Taiwan Gala, including a trip to the National Palace Museum; lunch with ACC alumnus Liu Kuo-Sung (ACC 1966); and a guided tour of

Cloud Gate Dance Theatre's new venue by its founder Lin Hwai-Min (ACC 2008), who gave an inspiring talk that was followed by a Cloud Gate Dance Company performance.

(l-r above) ACCTF Chairman and ACC Trustee Douglas Hsu, ACCTF board members Hsiu-Cheng Shen Tsai, Chen-Mei Lin, ACC Chairman Wendy O'Neill, ACC Executive Director Miho Walsh, ACCTF board member Pao-Lin Hsu, ACC Trustee Yuji Tsutsumi, and ACC Taipei Director Rita Chang celebrating at the ACC Taiwan Foundation 20th Anniversary Gala



(l-r) Sotheby's Japan Deputy Managing Director Mr. Ryoichi Hirano, ACC Tokyo Director Ritsu Yoshino, ACC Chairman Wendy O'Neill, Ms. Kazuko Aso, Ms. Lena Baum, and ACC Executive Director Miho Walsh at the ACC Taiwan Foundation 20th Anniversary Gala



ACC Trustees, patrons, staff, and friends on their trip to Cloud Gate Dance Theatre



On April 8, ACCTF hosted a **private tour of grantee Yu Wen-Fu's (ACC 2002) solo exhibition Feather Dream & Bamboo Quest** for Group 33 North members at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei. Mr. Yu explained the concepts and hidden meaning behind his works, which embody experiences and thoughts from various stages of his life.



On June 29, ACCTF hosted a **welcome gathering** for 2015 grantees. Alumni were also invited, and shared reflections on their own grant experiences. It was a prime opportunity for grantees past and present to exchange ideas and advice, and to welcome new fellows into ACCTF's growing community.

ACC NEW YORK EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

2015 was the inaugural year for **Cultural Conversations**, a series of talks and performances that bring the ACC community together to meet our grantees and alumni and learn about their work and current projects.



Douglas Brooks (ACC 2008, 2014, 2015), a Vermont-based builder of wooden boats, spoke about his apprenticeships to several of Japan's most respected traditional boatbuilders. In 2014, Mr. Brooks received an ACC grant to work with the last remaining master boatbuilder of the *isobune* fishing boat, a craft unique to the tsunami-ravaged Tohoku region of Japan. In the spring of 2016, Mr. Brooks traveled to Taiwan to study the boatbuilding traditions of the Tao, an indigenous Taiwanese group on Orchid Island.



Eiko Otake (ACC 2003), a New York-based and Japanese-born dancer and choreographer, discussed her recent solo project, *A Body in Places*. The project aims to explore the relationship between a fragile human body and the myriad intrinsic traits that are contained by a specific place. It has taken Otake all over the world, including Fukushima, Japan; 30th Street Station in Philadelphia; and downtown New York City's Fulton Center. (*Ms. Otake is pictured above, kneeling in the first row, far right.*)



Florina H. Capistrano-Baker (ACC 1983, 2005) gave a tour of and talk about the Asia Society exhibition *Philippine Gold: Treasures of Forgotten Kingdoms*. Dr. Baker was the consulting curator for the exhibition and shared her expertise about its spectacular gold artifacts, most of which were discovered over the past 40 years on the Philippine islands of Luzon, the Visayas, and Mindanao. (*Ms. Capistrano-Baker is pictured above, standing at center.*)

On November 30, ACC New York held its first **Benefit Cocktail Party & Art Auction** at the Prince George Ballroom. The event was led by co-hosts Curt Greer and Pam Kohlberg, Wendy O'Neill and David Rayner, and Bill and Maria Spears, with Mikimoto America as the lead corporate sponsor. This festive event featured an auction of alumni artwork and cultural experiences to benefit ACC's cultural exchange fellowship program. The evening also celebrated ACC's robust network of creative alumni, who serve as cultural ambassadors and share their talents globally.

ACC's Benefit Cocktail Party and Art Auction was attended by 250 people including our notable Trustees, philanthropic patrons, and corporate leaders, in addition to many talented alumni, current grantees,



Benefit co-hosts (l-r) David Rayner, Wendy O'Neill, Curt Greer, Pam Kohlberg, Maria Spears, and Bill Spears (with ACC Executive Director Miho Walsh, second from right)

renowned scholars, and leading arts specialists from throughout the United States and Asia. The evening featured many presentations and performances, including a video installation by Seoungho Cho (ACC 2012), a film screening by

John Pirozzi (ACC 2009), a *komungo* performance by Jin-Hi Kim (ACC 1992), a tea sampling booth from Drunken Meadow, and a pearl-stringing demonstration by Mikimoto America.



ACC Trustees (l-r) Wendy O'Neill, Josie Natori, Hope Aldrich



(l-r) Jeremy Viray of the Mandarin Oriental, Dominique Godefroy, Danielle DeVoe of the Mandarin Oriental, ACC Executive Director Miho Walsh, ACC Trustee Missie Rennie

ACC HONG KONG EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

ACC Hong Kong moved to a new home and is now a part of the Sheung Wan community, which is a vibrant district full of art, culture, and heritage. This move was made possible by the generosity of Hong Kong's Friends Committee members, and by ACC Trustee and ACCHK

Chairman Hans Michael Jebsen, who graciously offered to underwrite the renovation costs for the new office, as well as by Life Trustee Kenneth H.C. Fung, Trustee Marissa Fung Shaw, and Ms. Mabel Lui, who contributed valuable assistance throughout the relocation process.

ACC Hong Kong's three gifted Hsin Chong-K.N. Godfrey Yeh Education Fund Young Architects' Award grantees—Benjamin Tsang (ACC 2011), Billy Tam (ACC 2005), and Yip Chun Hang (ACC 2014)—were instrumental in the design and construction of the new office space.



ACC Hong Kong's new office

A briefing and sharing session about the ACC application process was held on October 5 at the ACC Hong Kong Office. Performing arts critic and 2015 HKETONY-ACC Fellowship recipient Jass Leung (ACC 2015) shared her observations and reflections on the performing arts scene in the United States and spoke about how her ACC grant had influenced her developing interest in audience building and 'city branding' in her native Hong Kong.

Josephine Wai, Director of ACC Hong Kong, provided an overview of the ACC fellowship program, covering our core values as well as key selection criteria. She highlighted the program's focus on fostering cross-cultural dialogue, providing professional guidance, and offering support services in addition to grant funds, as well as the significance of appropriate timing in the selection of its fellowship recipients.





A multidisciplinary, immersive performance, staged at the home of ACC Trustee and ACCHK Chairman Hans Michael Jebsen featured ACC fellows Kenneth Hui (*left*), ballet dancer (ACC 2011); Alex Tam, tenor (ACC 1999); Tian Mansha, Sichuan Opera (ACC 2004); and Sang Jijia, contemporary dancer (ACC 1998); as well as Heidi Lee (ACC 2012) as curating producer. To represent alumni in the visual arts, ACC fellow Lam Tung-pang (ACC 2012) shared thoughts about his experiences in the United States, which have had a profound impact on his work since his return home.

ACC MANILA EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

The ACC Philippines Foundation held its annual fundraising auction on

February 7 in partnership with the Leon Gallery. The benefit event included works by more than 130 artists, including four ACC alumni: Ambie Abañó (ACC 2011), Leeroy New (ACC 2015, 2016), Don Salubayba (ACC 2004), and Samuel Penaso (ACC 2013). ACC Manila is grateful to our dedicated friends and benefactors, most especially the ACC Philippines Foundation Trustees, for making this auction such a success.



(l-r) Director of ACC Manila Tess Rances, ACC Trustee and ACCPF Chairman Ernest de Leon Escaler, ACCPF Trustees Isabel Caro Wilson, Louie Locsin, Deanna Ongpin-Recto, Malu Gamboa, and Leon Gallery Director Jaime Ponce de Leon at the 2015 ACC Philippines Foundation Art Auction at the Leon Gallery



ACCPF Trustees Malu Gamboa (front, center left) and Rajo Laurel (rear center, glasses) with ACC Executive Director Miho Walsh (4th from left), and ACC staff and alumni



Trustees of the ACC Philippines Foundation hosted a special dinner reception for ACC Executive Director Miho Walsh and Chairman Wendy O'Neill during their Manila visits in February and October, respectively. The get-togethers were also attended by ACC alumni and friends in the arts.



(l-r) ACC Manila Director Teresa Rances, ACCPF Trustee Rajo Laurel, ACC patron Bernadine Siy, ACC grantee Leeroy New (ACC 2015), and ACCPF Trustee Malu Gamboa

A special appreciation dinner was held to honor Bernadine Siy for her generosity to the ACC Philippines Fellowship Program.



(l-r) Valentina Riccardi of Asia-Europe Foundation (Singapore); Eliza Roberts of Asialink (Australia); Elaine Tan of ASEAN Foundation (Indonesia); ACC's Manila Director Teresa Rances at a panel discussion: Getting to Know our International Fund Partners

ACC Manila Director Teresa Rances was one of the panelists in the forum at the **Borak Arts Series 2015**, held August 29-30 in Georgetown, Penang. She discussed ACC's programs and highlighted several esteemed grantees from Malaysia and the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) region.

ACC TOKYO EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



Members of Group 33 Taichung and the ACC Japan Advisory Board gather with ACC grantees at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo

One of ACC Taipei's principal supporters, Group 33 Taichung, visited Japan and held an **ACC Taipei/Tokyo friendship gathering** at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo on April 30. With more than 30 members from Taiwan, they celebrated the long-lasting friendship of the ACC Taipei and ACC Tokyo communities. *Shakuhachi* player and composer Akikazu Nakamura (ACC 1984, 2007) performed one of his legendary pieces, "Tsuru no Sugomori," and museum curator Masaru Igarashi (ACC 1991) gave a lecture on the lives and works of the artists Suzanne Valadon and Maurice Utrillo being held by the Sompō Japan Nipponkoa Museum of Art, where Mr. Igarashi serves as a chief curator. ACC Trustee Yuji Tsutsumi and his wife Yumiko Tsutsumi, as well as ACC Japan Advisory Board members Hiroo Chikaraishi and Makoto Yasuda, also joined the celebration.



On March 10, ACC Tokyo hosted a special presentation by 2015 grantee **David Neumann** at the Saison Foundation's Morishita Studio in Tokyo. Mr. Neumann discussed his ongoing theater piece *I Understand Everything Better* along with highlights of the Noh theater research he conducted during his ACC fellowship. ACC alumni, along with other performing and visual arts luminaries, attended and exchanged ideas and information about cultural communities in Japan and the United States.

David Neumann's presentation at the Saison Foundation's Morishita Studio

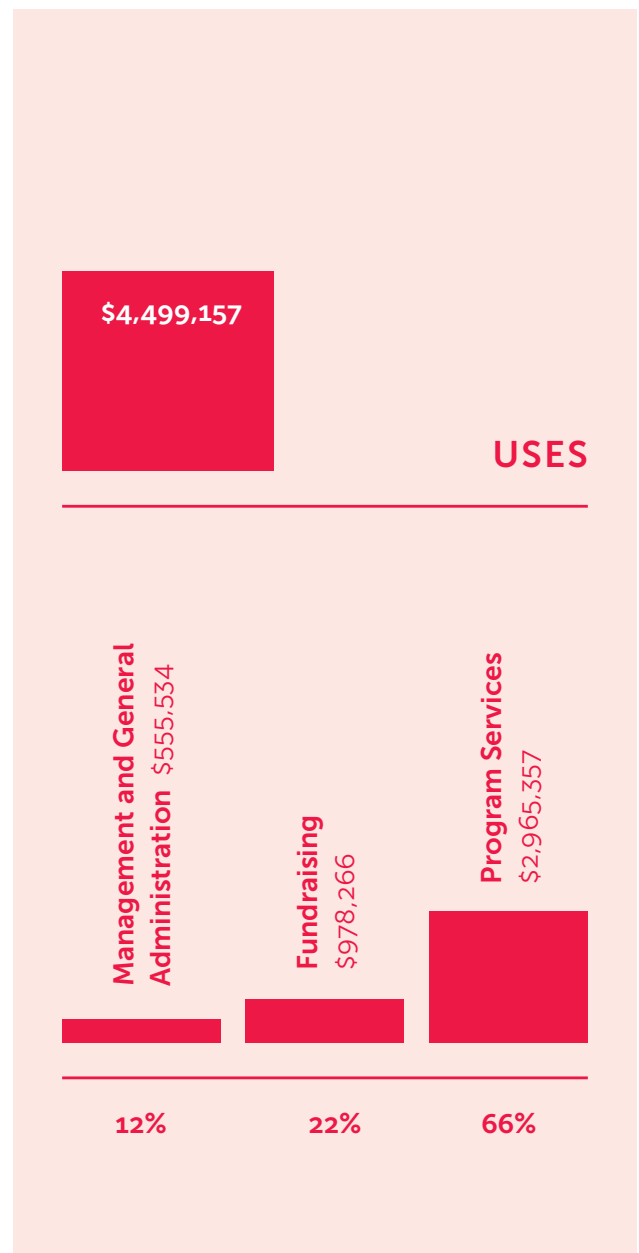


Former ACC Director and current Senior Advisor **Ralph Samuelson** (*fifth from left*) gathered with current and past grantees on October 8. The group of over 40 grantees discussed the trajectory of the arts in Japan, and fostered a sense of community centered around ACC.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2015

Management is responsible for the preparation of Asian Cultural Council's financial statement in accordance with accounting principles accepted in the United States of America, and for the financial information presented in this report. This responsibility includes maintaining the integrity and objectivity of financial records, protection of ACC's assets, and compliance with funder restrictions.

ACC's financial statements have been audited by Condon O'Meara McGinty & Donnelly LLP, independent certified public accountants. A complete audited financial statement from which this information is excerpted can be requested by writing to the Asian Cultural Council or New York State Department of Law, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.



2015 DONORS



2015 Donors

Dancers **Nget Rady** (ACC 2015), **Khon Chan Sithyka**, **Noun Sovitou** before performing *Brodal Serei (Free Boxing)*, by **Emmanuele Phuon** (ACC 2015), commissioned by Singapore's Da:ns Festival

The Asian Cultural Council is sustained and inspired by the commitment of our donors. They make the ideals of cultural exchange into reality by supporting extraordinary artists and building community. Donor support allows ACC to recruit leading artists and provide them with tailored fellowships. Our grantees and alumni remain connected to ACC for decades because of the quality of care and attention we provide to each fellowship experience. Donors provide the resources for both direct grants and the program services that are crucial to a successful ACC fellowship experience. Our donors also host, underwrite, and attend intimate talks with ACC grantees, as well as performances, panels, and other publicly available programming. Supporters of the ACC encourage wider audiences to engage with artists from Asia and the United States and affirm the importance of cultural exchange.

ACC's fundraising efforts in 2015 were led by ACC's Board of Trustees and their families, who through their generous donations, leadership, and commitment helped advance and support ACC's mission this year, and build our endowment to ensure our future.

Hope Aldrich &
Michael Jeffers
Colin G. Campbell**
Jane DeBevoise
Jonathan Fanton &
Cynthia Greenleaf Fanton
John H. & Stephanie Foster
Kenneth H.C. & Nelly Fung**
Curtis Greer &
Pamela Kohlberg
David C. Halpert &
Restu Kusumaningrum

Stephen B. Heintz
& Lise Stone**
Douglas Tong Hsu
Hans Michael
& Désirée Jebesen
J. Christopher & Elizabeth
Cohen Kojima
Richard & Mary Lanier
Erh-fei Liu & Danchi Wang
Vincent & Anne Mai
Elizabeth J. McCormack
Ken Miller & Lybess Sweezy

Josie Cruz Natori &
Kenneth Natori
Mr. & Mrs. George D.
O'Neill**
Russell A. Phillips, Jr.**
Wendy O'Neill &
David Rayner
Carol Rattray
Missie Rennie & Zach Taylor
David & Susan Rockefeller
Lynne Rutkin &
Raymond Liddell

Isaac & Jacqueline
Shapiro**
Marissa Fung Shaw
Michael I. & Patricia
Sovern**
William G. & Maria Spears
Yuji & Yumiko Tsutsumi
Valerie & Steven Wayne
Pauline R. Yu

**denotes Life Trustee

\$100,000 +

ACC Philippines Foundation
 ACC Taiwan Foundation
 Blanchette Hooker
 Rockefeller Fund
 The Henry Luce Foundation
 Karen & Kevin Kennedy

\$50,000–\$99,999

Lan Chan Tai Estate
 Karen T. Lee
 The Museum Foundation of The
 Philippines
 Jaime Ponce De Leon
 The Saison Foundation
 Bernadine Siy
 Fernando Zobel

\$25,000–\$49,000

The Incorporated Trustees of the Hsin
 Chong – K.N. Godfrey Yeh Education
 Fund
 Jackie Chan Charitable Foundation
 Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group
 Joseph Polisi

\$10,000–\$24,999

Marina Cruz
 J. David Officer & Marcia Wade
 Omomuki Foundation
 The Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation

\$5,000–\$9,000

Alisan Fine Arts
 Elmer Borlongan
 Yama Chan
 Marisa Chearavanont
 Emmanuel Garibay
 Merle Hinrich
 Jean Ho
 Geraldine Javier
 Anish and Tasha Lalvani
 Wendy Lee
 Annie Lee
 Nelson Leong
 MIKIMOTO (AMERICA) CO., LTD.
 Chantal Miller
 Janet Nathanail & William Flanz
 Newman's Own Foundation
 Steven & Barbara Rockefeller
 Linda Wang
 John & Anne Witt
 Sir Gordon & Lady Ivy Wu
 Yangtse Foundation
 Douglas Young
 Margaret Yu

\$1,000–\$4,999

Anonymous
 Jonathan Ching
 Kawayan de Guia
 Daniel Dela Cruz
 Sandra Gfeller
 Louise Grunwald
 Riel Hilario*
 Joy Mallari
 Peter McKown
 Norlito Meimban
 Ferdinand Montemayor
 Katie & Peter O'Neill
 Jim Orencio
 Anthony Palomo
 Samuel Penaso*
 Don & OJ Salubayba*
 Soler Santos
 Jorge Pinto and Christine Tsui-hua Huang
 Woodruff M. Price
 Susan Skerritt
 William Talbott Hillman Foundation
 Maria Taniguchi
 Phyllis Zaballero

\$500–\$999

Ambie Abaña*
 Leonard Aguinaldo
 Salavador Joel Alonday
 Mr. & Mrs. William McCormick Blair Jr.
 Nancy and John Clifford
 Eileen Connor
 Gerald Goldsmith
 Mary Ellen McMillan
 Virginia & Timothy Millhiser
 Leeroy New*
 Morton and Estelle Sosland
 Eng Tow*
 Alden Warner & Peter Reed
 Susan Weber

\$499 and under

Shruti Adhar
 Henri Benaim
 Julie Brenton
 Lauren Cherubini
 Psyche Chui*
 Charlie Co
 Mr. & Mrs. Donald T. Fox
 Pedro Garcia II
 Barry H. Garfinkel
 Stephen Goldstein*
 Thomas Goodale
 Louis & Phebe Goodman
 Lynn Gumpert*
 Amanullah Haiderzad*
 Sonia E. Kwiatkowski
 Kaiulani Lee*

Barbara London*
 Karen McDonald
 Sophie H. Pirie
 Vinton Rollins
 Eric Schorr*
 Ruby Shang*
 Karin Shrubsole
 Milton G. Strom
 Elise Thoron*
 Miho Walsh
 Doreen Wang
 Bora Yoon*
 Li Zou

Donations In-Kind

Kazuko Aso
 Association for Corporate Support of the
 Arts (Kigyo Mécénat Kyogikai)
 Lena Bäume
 Douglas Brooks*
 Cai Guo-Qiang &
 Hong Hong Wu*
 Florina Capistrano-Baker*
 Seoungcho Cho
 Kenneth H.C. and Nelly Fung
 Shalini Ganendra
 Ryoichi Hirano
 Tristan Hoare
 Masaru Igarashi*
 Jin Hi Kim*
 Masako Koyano*
 Takashi Koyano
 Jennifer Wen Ma*
 Fumihiko Maki*
 Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group
 Mark Morris Dance Group
 MIKIMOTO (AMERICA)
 CO., LTD.
 K. MIKIMOTO & Co. Ltd.
 Mionetto USA
 Mark Musters/studiomamu
 Akikazu Nakamura*
 Kimpei Nakamura*
 Yoko Nakamura
 Janet Nathanail
 New Museum
 Eiko Otake*
 Enrico Isamu Ōyama*
 John Pirozzi*
 Eigyoku Tokuhara
 Takao Tsutsumi
 Tyler Rollins Fine Art
 Sezon Museum of Modern Art
 Spiral/Wacoal Art Center
 Anne Witt
 Yohohama Grand InterContinental
 Hotel Co.

*denotes ACC alumni

ACC PARTNERS

The Asian Cultural Council gratefully acknowledges the contributions made by its supporting partners in Asia, whose commitment and generous assistance are crucial to the success of ACC initiatives.

ACC JAPAN ADVISORY BOARD

Kazuko Aso
Hiroo Chikaraishi
Yoshitaka Hayashi
Ernest M. Higa
Masato Kunii
Fumio Nagase
Yuji Tsutsumi
Takashi Uyeno
Makoto Yasuda

HONG KONG FRIENDS' COMMITTEE

Hans Michael Jebesen,
Chairman
Lady Ivy Wu,
Co-Vice Chairman
Marissa Fung Shaw,
Co-Vice Chairman
Kenneth H.C. Fung,
Honorary Chairman
Anson Chan
William W. Flanz and Janet
Nathanail
Carl Fung and Yvette Yeh Fung
Nelly and Kenneth
H.C. Fung
Jean Ho
Désirée and Hans Michael
Jebesen
Joyce and
Bradley F. Kerr
Alice King
Tasha and Anish Lalvani
Mabel M. Lui
Joan Leung
Michael G. Palin
David Pong Chun-Yee
Marissa Fung Shaw
Robert Shum
Michelle Vosper
Cissy and Shin Watari
Anne and John R. Witt
Sir Gordon and
Lady Ivy Wu
James Yang and
Ada K.H. Tse
Lisa and John J. Ying
Winston & Strawn, *Honorary
Legal Advisers*

ASIAN CULTURAL COUNCIL TAIWAN FOUNDATION

Douglas Tong Hsu,
Chairman
Suzie Ho
Pao-Lin Hsu
Chen-Mei Lin
Shirley S.P. Peng
Hsiu-Cheng Shen Tsai
Su-Hwa Chou Yang

GROUP 33 NORTH, TAIWAN

Yvonne Yu-Yen Ho,
Chair
Rita Chang
Shirley Chang
Stephanie Chang
Amy Chao
Li-Jen Chen
Michelle Cheng
Pi-Lien Liu Chang
Ping Chu
Ching-Fen Chuang
George Ho
Ying-Chao Ho
Margaret Hsiao
Mar-Lin Hsu
Hui-Mei Huang
Shiou-Ching Huang
Sohpia Huang
Jaye Li
Mei-Lien Liu Li
Tina Ma
Jui-Yun Ou
Margaret Su
Chuan-Chuan Tai
Iris Teng
Jaclyn Tsai
Maggie Tsai
Shu-Ling Tsai
Sheree Tsao
Faye Wang
Paula Wang
Yvette Wang
Li-Wen Wei
Li-Jing Wong
Jorie Wu
Kelly Wu
Yue-Yun Wu
Alice Yang

GROUP 33 SOUTH, TAIWAN

Shu-Mei Yang,
Chair
Catherine Yen,
Art Director
Judy Chen
Kuei-Ming Lee Chen
Lily Chen
Mary Chen
Mei-Yun Chen
Carroll Chien
Yi-Fen Chow
Eileen Ho
Yun-Ya Hung
Felisa Kao
Rachel Ku
Chia-Fang Lai
Echo Lai
Mei-Chih Lai
Isabelle Lee
Chen-Mei Lin
Mei-Chen Lin
Patience Lin
Su-Mei Liu
Chung-Lin Lue
Chang-Ming Shen
Ming-Yu Chen Shen
Pi-Hui Shieh
Silvia Su
Hsiu-Cheng Shen Tsai
Hsiu-Yuen Tsai
Mei-Ying Gina Tseng
Jamie Tu
Pi-Tao Tu
Ming-Chiu Tung
Lisa Wang
Michelle Wang
Pei-Jiu Wang
Huei-Jen Wu
Shu-Chen Chiang Wu
Jing-Fen Yang

GROUP 33 TAICHUNG

Tina Chia-Chi Lin,
Chair
Maggi Chen
Mindy Chen
Shu-Hui Lin Chen
Vivian Chen
Shuo-Yi Chiang
Hsiu-Fang Chou
Chen-Hsiang Shu
Ya-Wen Hsu

Belle Hu
Chih-Chueh Huang
David Hung
Susan Hung
Man-Ping Lee
Pei-Fan Liang
Tzu-Chen Liao
Jean Lin
Mei-Ling Lo
Kuei-Lan Ma
Hsiu-O Peng
Shoe-Fun Roe
Chiao Yu Su
Chen-Chen Tang
Jean Tsai
Sally Tsai
Yi-Chen Tsai
Phyllis Wu
Yi-Hsuan Wu
Tsui-Chan Yeh
Yen-Ling Yeh

ASIAN CULTURAL COUNCIL PHILIPPINES FOUNDATION

Ernest L. Escaler,
Chairman
Ma. Isabel G. Ongpin,
President
Ma. Lourdes G. Locsin,
Treasurer
Alan Jose A. Reyes,
Corporate Secretary
Concepcion C. Cruz
Joven R. Cuanang, M.D., FPNA
Ma. Lourdes A. Gamboa
Rajo T. Laurel
Ms. Louise A. Marcos
Josie Cruz Natori
Deanna Ongpin-Recto
Miho Walsh
Isabel Caro-Wilson
Mercedes Zobel

As of June 1, 2016



Staff at their 2015 annual convening in New York

NEW YORK

Miho Walsh
Executive Director

Liz Behrend
Executive Assistant

Dawn Byrnes
*Manager of
Communications*

Lauren Cherubini
Director of Development

Eileen Connor
*Director, Finance and
Operations*

Cecily D. Cook
Director of Programs

Jillian Flexner
Development Associate

Jeremy Gleason
Program Associate

Ryan Kane
Office Manager

MaryJo Kelly
Accounting Manager

HONG KONG

Josephine Wai
Director

Kathy Ip
*Administration and
Program Assistant*

TAIPEI

Rita Chang
Director

Emily Yu
Program Associate

MANILA

Teresa Rances
Director

TOKYO

Ritsu Yoshino
Director

Kurumi Kido
Program Associate

As of June 1, 2016

Photo Credits: Inside cover: Ellen Wallop/Asia Society; page 2: Ronny Sen; page 18: Misa Jeffereis, courtesy Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; page 22: 2nd column, top photo: Kamiyama Yosuke; 3rd column, 1st photo: Sarah Chamey; 3rd photo: Yasunori Matsui/Madison Square Park Conservancy © Teresita Fernández; page 23, 2nd column, top photo: Yukiko Koshima; bottom photo: Okazumi Chika; page 25, 1st column photo: Makiko Nawa; page 28, bottom photo & page 29, two top photos: James Ware Billett; page 34: Alicia Harriet

