

#### **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

# Asia Society Hong Kong Center appointed Katherine Don as Head of Arts & Cultural Development

(Hong Kong, October 8, 2018) Asia Society Hong Kong Center (ASHK) has appointed Katherine Don as Head of Arts & Cultural Development, succeeding Dominique Chan who was Head of Gallery and Exhibition.

In his 7 year tenure at ASHK, Dominique helped in mounting over 20 exhibitions. Dominique has resigned from ASHK in September.

Ms. S. Alice Mong, Executive Director of ASHK, said, "We want to thank Dominique for his leadership while at Asia Society and wish him success at his next venture. In the meanwhile, we are very pleased to have Katherine joining ASHK and to take the lead of the gallery and exhibition team. She will focus on the development for future exhibitions and related arts & culture programs that meet the Center's educational mission priorities. She will work closely with our Development and Programs team to build upon the dynamic arts and cultural programming at Asia Society Hong Kong and cultivate relationships with patrons and friends to contribute to the dynamic arts and culture development in Hong Kong and Asia regionally."

Katherine Don said, "I am excited to be part of a dynamic team at one of Hong Kong's must-visit art venues and helping to realize the Center's mission in making art accessible to a broad audience. While I have worked in the arts and with patrons in Asia for many years, this role is an opportunity to also collaborate with galleries, museums and institutions in realizing exhibition and educational programs that recognize the convergence of artistic talent meeting here in Hong Kong. My initial focus will be to oversee the projects slated for the coming spring and to develop a meaningful program in 2020 that celebrates Asia Society's 30th anniversary in Hong Kong."

Prior to joining ASHK, Katherine Don worked as Head of Contemporary Ink Art at Sotheby's Hong Kong. She brings over 15 years' experience with contemporary art in Asia, working to promote cross-cultural exchange between artists and patrons primarily in New York, Beijing and Hong Kong. Prior to Sotheby's, Katherine was a partner of Centerpiece Advisory combining experience in art law, appraisal and valuation and art advisory services for corporate and private clients. She also founded and directed RedBox Studio Ltd, an art advisory firm in Beijing recognized for producing bilingual art publications for Chinese artists and providing bespoke consulting services for private collectors and curators seeking to engage with contemporary Asian art. Her curatorial projects in Beijing, New York, Canada, and Spain had a consistently focused on works on paper, including contemporary Chinese ink painting. Born in Hawaii, Katherine holds a dual-degree in Art History and East Asian Studies from Barnard College, Columbia University, and received an MBA from UCLA Anderson School of Management.

### **Arts & Culture at Asia Society Hong Kong Center:**

Asia Society Hong Kong Center actively provides access to art, cultural education and experiences for all audiences. Since moving into the historic former Explosives Magazine in 2012, the Center has held over 20 art exhibitions both in its world-class gallery spaces and throughout its outdoor heritage site. The Center organizes exhibitions that respond to local contexts with an international outlook and celebrate the convergence of talent in Hong Kong. A diverse arts and culture program includes artist talks, concerts, dance performances, lectures, panel discussions, and film screenings. Guided tours, workshops, and events for families, schools, companies, clubs and groups are offered regularly.

The state-of-the-art facilities in historic heritage buildings at Asia Society Hong Kong Center feature a unique location for art exhibitions that open to all. The Chantal Miller Gallery is a 4000sqft space named in 2014 in recognition of Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Miller's donation of HK\$100m to the Center to promote Hong Kong as an international platform for the arts; the transformative gift marked the single largest donation to the arts by an individual in Hong Kong at the time. The gallery has presented a range of groundbreaking events ranging from *Transforming Minds: Buddhism in Art* (2012) displaying works from the Rockefeller Collection and contemporary artists, to first solo exhibitions in Hong Kong for acclaimed artists **Xu Bing** (2014), **Yoshitomo Nara** (2015), **Shazia Sikander** (2016), and recently recognized the painting careers of pioneers **Fang Zhaoling** (2017) and **Pan Yu-lin** (2018) as part of *Asia Society Hong Kong Center's 20th Century Chinese Female Artist Series*. The Hong Kong Jockey Club Hall is a multi-purpose, spacious 3800sqft room for showcasing projects surrounded by natural light and has hosted significant exhibitions including *Shen Wei: Dance Strokes* (2016) and *Poetry and Charm: Feng Zikai Meets Takehisa Yumeji* (2018). In addition, ASHK's outdoor space is home to public sculptures that complement Hong Kong's dynamic audiences and are works generously donated or loaned by patrons.

## **About Asia Society Hong Kong Center**

Asia Society Hong Kong Center is a locally funded, independent non-government organization which was established in 1990 by a group of Hong Kong community leaders. It is affiliated with Asia Society in New York which was founded in 1956 by John D. Rockefeller III to promote mutual understanding and to strengthen partnerships between Asia and the US in a global context.

Asia Society Hong Kong Center is dedicated to providing educational platforms that present balanced perspectives and promote critical understanding of topics that are relevant to Hong Kong, Asia and the region's role in the world. Across the fields of arts and culture, education, business and policy, it seeks to provide insights, generate ideas and promote collaboration to address present challenges and create a shared future. Its home in Admiralty at the former Explosives Magazine of the old Victoria Barracks, made possible under Private Treaty Grant from the government, was the result of careful conservation, restoration and adaptive re-use which transformed the heritage site into a cultural, artistic and intellectual hub in 2012 to offer a broad variety of cultural and education programs to the community.

## **Media Enquiry**

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