

***Sights and Sounds: Global Film and Video* Exhibition Series Concludes**

Highlights from All 25 Featured Countries on View Beginning February 5

New York, NY – The Jewish Museum's exhibition series *Sights and Sounds: Global Film and Video* concludes with a five-month presentation of highlighted works, featuring one film from each of the 25 participating countries—on view from February 5 to June 30, 2016. As an overview of the series, this presentation will provide a global perspective on the current state of contemporary video art and draw connections between works from opposite ends of the world.

A number of works address the constant tension in today's world between the traditional and the new, as in Studio Revolt + Khmer Arts' *Neang Neak (Serpent Goddess)*, which juxtaposes contemporary and ancient storytelling techniques. Many works investigate community, as in Regina Parra's *7,536 Steps (For a Geography of Proximity)*, which explores the immigrant communities on the outskirts of São Paulo in Brazil; Salomé Lamas' *A Comunidade (The Community)*, which tells the insular history of the oldest trailer park in Portugal; and Nevin Aladağ's *Hochparterre (Mezzanine)*, an audio portrait of residents in the diverse Kreuzberg neighborhood of Berlin. Environmental concerns are also addressed in several works, including Ranbir Kaleka's *Forest*, which uses the forest as a metaphor for self-knowledge, and Ishu Han's *Return*, a reaction to the devastating 2011 tsunami in eastern Japan that explores humanity's relationship to the sea.

Politics and history are additional themes that appear throughout. Anca Benera and Arnold Estefan's *Pacta Sunt Servanda (Agreements Must Be Kept)* explores Transylvania's history as a subject of dispute between its resident Romanians and ethnic Hungarians. Eliana Otta's *Refundación (Refounding)* imagines the destruction of Peru's colonial past and its tumultuous political history. Chen Shaoxiong's *Ink Media* is a selective documentary based on photographs of recent protests staged around the world. *Exterminio (Annihilation)* by Edgardo Aragón is a poetic recreation of 1970s military "death flights," in which traditional drinking gourds are used as stand-ins for murdered rebels and political opponents.

Since November 2013, the Jewish Museum's *Sights and Sounds* has presented 100 new works selected by twenty-five curators from around the world, introducing New York audiences to the latest developments in filmmaking within the art context worldwide. Each curator selected new film and video works from their respective regions – including Argentina, Vietnam, Angola, Israel, China, and others. Their selections are screened for one month each in the Museum's newly refurbished media center, which has been

transformed into a miniature cinema. The works in *Sights and Sounds* touch on themes significant to both Jewish culture and universal human experience, including spirituality, exile, language, conflict, family, humor, and history. A full list of participating curators follows below.

Sights and Sounds curators and highlighted works (in alphabetical order by country):

Angola (Jun 2014), curated by Suzana Sousa
Highlight: Iris Buchholz Chocolate, *Os sonhos do embondeiro* (*Baobab's Dreams*), 2012

Argentina (Oct 2015), curated by Inés Katzenstein
Highlight: Leticia Obeid, *Dobles (Doubles)*, 2013

Australia (Dec 2014), curated by Wayne Tunnicliffe
Highlight: Angelica Mesiti, *Some Dance to Remember, Some Dance to Forget*, 2012

Brazil (Feb 2014), curated by Luiza Proença
Highlight: Regina Parra, *7,536 Steps (For a Geography of Proximity)*, 2012

Cambodia (Nov 2013 – Jan 2014), curated by Erin Gleeson
Highlight: Studio Revolt + Khmer Arts, *Neang Neak (Serpent Goddess)*, 2012

Canada (May 2014), curated by Melanie O'Brian
Highlight: Robert Arndt, *A Line Meant in Passing*, 2010

China (Jul 2014), curated by Carol Yinghua Lu
Highlight: Chen Shaoxiong, *Ink Media*, 2011–13

Colombia (Dec 2015), curated by Juan A. Gaitán
Highlight: Oscar Muñoz, *Distopía (Dystopia)*, 2014

Cuba (Jul 2015), curated by Mailyn Machado
Highlight: Vanessa Portieles and Yanelvis González, *Afuera (The Other Side)*, 2012

Hungary (Apr 2015), curated by Tijana Stepanović
Highlight: Katarina Šević and Tehnica Schweiz, *Gasium et Circenses* (*Gas and Circuses*), 2013

India (Jun. 2015), curated by Nancy Adajania
Highlight: Ranbir Kaleka, *Forest*, 2012

Israel (Aug 2014), curated by Chen Tamir
Highlight: Mika Rottenberg, *Sneeze*, 2012



Japan (Jan 2016), curated by Yukie Kamiya
Highlight: Ishu Han, *Return*, 2011

Mexico (Mar 2015), curated by María Inés Rodríguez
Highlight: Edgardo Aragón, *Exterminio (Annihilation)*, 2014

New Zealand (Aug. 2015), curated by Natasha Conland
Highlight: Shannon Te Ao, *Two Shoots That Stretch Far Out*, 2013–14

Nigeria (May 2015), curated by Jude Anogwih
Highlight: Uche Okpa-Iroha, *The Plantation Boy*, 2012

Peru (Apr 2014), curated by Miguel A. López
Highlight: Eliana Otta, *Refundación (Refounding)*, 2011

Philippines (Sept 2015), curated by Joselina Cruz
Highlight: Martha Atienza, *Anito*, 2012

Poland (Nov 2014), curated by Joanna Warsza
Highlight: Karolina Breguła, *Offence*, 2013

Portugal (Sept. 2014), curated by Miguel Amado
Highlight: Salomé Lamas, *A Comunidade (The Community)*, 2012

Romania (Mar 2014), curated by Daria Ghiu
Highlight: Anca Benera and Arnold Estefan, *Pacta Sunt Servanda (Agreements Must Be Kept)*, 2012

Singapore (Oct. 2014), curated by Patrick D. Flores
Highlight: Ho Tzu Nyen, *Newton*, 2009

South Africa (Nov 2015), curated by Josh Ginsburg
Highlight: Dineo Seshee Bopape, *is i am sky*, 2013

Turkey (Jan. 2015), curated by Emre Baykal
Highlight: Nevin Aladağ, *Hochparterre (Mezzanine)*, 2009

Vietnam (Feb. 2015), curated by Zoe Butt
Highlight: UuDam Tran Nguyen, *Waltz of the Machine Equestrians—The Machine Equestrians*, 2012

Sights and Sounds: Global Film and Video is organized by Jens Hoffmann, Deputy Director, Exhibitions and Public Programs, and Rebecca Shaykin, Leon Levy Assistant Curator.

About the Jewish Museum

Located on Museum Mile at Fifth Avenue and 92nd Street, the Jewish Museum is one of the world's preeminent institutions devoted to exploring art and Jewish culture from ancient to contemporary, offering intellectually engaging, educational, and provocative exhibitions and programs for people of all ages and backgrounds. The



Museum was established in 1904, when Judge Mayer Sulzberger donated 26 ceremonial objects to The Jewish Theological Seminary as the core of a museum collection. Today, the Museum maintains a collection of over 30,000 works of art, artifacts, and broadcast media reflecting global Jewish identity, and presents a diverse schedule of internationally acclaimed temporary exhibitions.

The Jewish Museum is located at 1109 Fifth Avenue at 92nd Street, New York City. Museum hours are Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, 11am to 5:45pm; Thursday, 11am to 8pm; and Friday, 11am to 4pm. Museum admission is \$15.00 for adults, \$12.00 for senior citizens, \$7.50 for students, free for visitors 18 and under and Jewish Museum members. Admission is Pay What You Wish on Thursdays from 5pm to 8pm and free on Saturdays. For information on The Jewish Museum, the public may call 212.423.3200 or visit the website at TheJewishMuseum.org

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