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ASEF and ACM hosts conversation on the role of museums today

Culture is one of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)'s focus areas and *ASEF Unplugged* – an event-series on conversations on arts, culture and heritage – is one of its flagship projects. For its 13th edition, 3 museum directors from Asia and Europe will explore the role of museums in the 21st century.

Press Release

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More Information

<http://asef.live/unpluggedACM>

What is a museum and what function does it serve in today's society? ASEF and the Asian Civilisations Museum (ACM) bring together 3 museum directors from Asia and Europe to tackle this question at *ASEF Unplugged – Singapore*.

The speakers include: Ms Ann Follin, Director General, Swedish National Museums of World Cultures; Mr Manuel Rabaté, Director, Louvre Abu Dhabi; and, Mr Kennie Ting, Director, Asian Civilisations Museum. The conversation will be moderated by Ms Anupama Sekhar, Director (Culture), Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF).

As repositories of collections and works, and as centres of learning and knowledge open to the public, the role of museums changes as societies evolve. The 3 speakers will elaborate on how their museums respond to the our present society's expectations and realities, particularly on: 1) the role of museums vs the increasing availability of information and knowledge; 2) collaboration and partnerships for social and educational development; and, 3) integrating and facing technology.

Some of the museums involved in *ASEF Unplugged – Singapore* are members of the [Asia-Europe Museum Network \(ASEMUS\)](#), a network currently chaired by the ACM and which ASEF has supported since its inception in 2000.

ASEF Unplugged – Singapore will take place on 26 March 2019 at ACM. There will be a welcome reception from 18:30-19:00 followed by the conversation from 19:00-20:30.

ASEF Unplugged – Singapore is open to the public but registration is a must. More details here: www.asef.live/unpluggedACM

About the organisers



The **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** promotes understanding, strengthens relationships and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions and organisations of Asia and Europe. ASEF enhances dialogue, enables exchanges and encourages collaboration across the thematic areas of culture, education, governance, sustainable development, economy and public health.

ASEF is an intergovernmental not-for-profit organisation located in Singapore. Founded in 1997, it is the only institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM).

ASEF runs more than 25 projects a year, consisting of around 100 activities, mainly conferences, seminars, workshops, lectures, publications, and online platforms, together with about 125 partner organisations. Each year over 3,000 Asians and Europeans participate in ASEF's activities, and much wider audiences are reached through its various events, networks, and web-portals.

For more information, please visit www.ASEF.org



The **Asian Civilisations Museum** is devoted to exploring the rich artistic heritage of Asia, especially the ancestral cultures of Singaporeans. Opened in 1997 and in its present building by the Singapore River since 2003, the museum traces its roots to the Raffles Museum, founded in the middle of the 19th century. ACM focuses on the many historical connections between the cultures of Asia, and between Asia and the world. Singapore's history as a port city that brought people together from all over the world is used as a means of examining the history of Asia. Special exhibitions bring magnificent objects from around the world to our Singapore audience. Signature programmes like the annual ACM After Dark, Saturdays@ACM, and Lunchtime Concerts encourage visitors to connect more closely with culture and the arts.

For more information, please visit: www.acm.org.sg



The **Asia-Europe Museum Network (ASEMUS)** is a cross-cultural network of museums with Asian Collections which promotes mutual understanding through collaborative activities and works towards facilitating the sharing and use of museum collections. Currently, it has more than 180 member museums from 40 countries.

For more information, please visit: www.asemus.museum

About ASEM



The **Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)** is an intergovernmental process established in 1996 to foster dialogue and cooperation between Asia and Europe. Presently it comprises 53 partners: 30 European and 21 Asian countries, the European Union and the ASEAN Secretariat. ASEM addresses political, economic, social, cultural, and educational issues of common interest, in a spirit of mutual respect and equal partnership.

For more information, please visit www.ASEMinfboard.org
