

The Concept

Artists across Asia, confronted with emerging realities, are increasingly adjusting their personal strategies to the global preference for new media while working within traditions where artistic expressions are seen to reflect the interconnectedness of art, society and environment. They are looking to create works that are not only socially engaged but are also embedded in the diction of the current digital age. Bangladesh has always encouraged artists to explore their contemporary society, its cultural and aesthetic values, its history, economy and everyday life, yet range across cultures beyond their borders and, at the same time, be conversant with their artistic traditions, their styles of expression, radical innovations and the diversity of their aesthetic formulations. Today the country is a hub of young talents who are constantly making efforts to expand their artistic horizon by employing new styles and techniques to shape contemporary aesthetic aspiration.

The 18th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh 2018 expects to encapsulate such path-breaking creative trends that have energized the entire region. The focus of this edition reflects our awareness of the material changes – particularly the fast-track developments in communication technology, the expansion of the visual media and urbanization – that are eliminating geographical barriers but also, ironically, enforcing formidable political and ideological ones that separate nations from each other. Art, in this ambiguously positioned world, can provide a common ground of interaction.

Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh, since its beginning in 1981, has attempted to display the various artistic endeavors of our time in which continuity and change come together. The geographical parameter is important only in a generic sense and also for identification of sponsorship in this pioneering venture. It was inevitable that with time, other regions that share, more or less, the same artistic impulses and face the same challenges of identity would be included in the exhibition as has happened in recent years.

Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh is proud to showcase the artistic heritage and contemporary aesthetic trends in Asia. It is the Organizers' firm belief that with each Biennale, a new milestone will have been crossed showing progress achieved by established and young artists in dealing with both continuity and change in their work.

Exhibition Information

The 18th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh 2018 will be inaugurated on 1 September 2018 and continue till 30 September 2018 at the National Art Gallery of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. The month-long exhibition will display two and three dimensional artworks like painting, prints, photography, sculpture, installation, new media art etc.

A two day seminar will be held on 2 and 3 September 2018 at the auditorium of the National Art Gallery.

The topics of discussion on day 1 and 2 are as follows:

1: Art and Contemporary Narratives; 2: Art Pedagogy and Promotion.

Directions/Procedures for Participation in the 18th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh 2018:

I. Qualifications to Participate in the Exhibition:

1: Participating artists must be aged above 22 years and should have participated in at least two international level exhibitions.

2: Artwork to be displayed in the exhibition must have been created after 1 January, 2016.

II: Application Process for Participation:

1: Participating artists are requested to apply online for registration. Online registration form (Downloadable PDF Format) is available at www.asianartbiennale.org.bd. After completion of online registration, participants will get more information through an email for further processing. After final selection by the selection committee the participants will receive a confirmatory mail for final procedure. The selection result will also be posted on the website.

2: Participating artists can also apply through email. For email submission they must attach all relevant documents required by the Organizers.

3: Participating artists can apply directly with hard copies of relevant documents through courier or in person to the Organizers' office.

III: Required Participation Documents:

1: Participating artists must submit the details of their artworks (list of artworks including information on title, medium/technique, size, year, signature) of each artwork to be displayed in the exhibition along with concept note. Images of the artworks in TIFF or JPEG format with a minimum 200 DPI resolution and CMYK color mode must also be submitted. All the images should be properly color corrected, cropped or retouched by the participants. Email files should be prepared in JPEG/TIFF/PNG format with a minimum of 72 DPI resolutions. Each file size should be within 1MB.

Participating artists should also mention the value (in USD) of each of their artworks along with information on insurance.

2: Participating artists must submit their personal details and a photograph in CV format including highlighting their name, date of birth, scanned copy of the relevant pages of passport (for foreigners), education, profession, experience, art related achievements etc.

3: Foreign participating artists are required to submit an authorization letter from relevant national authority (Ministry of Culture/National Art Museum/Council or Gallery) to represent their country.

4: Each participating country must submit an introductory write-up on the country's contemporary art practices within 300 words for the exhibition catalogue.

5: Participating artists are welcome to attend the seminar sessions, but they are requested to register for the seminar. Seminar discussants will get 10 minutes each for discussion. The Organizers encourage multimedia presentation. For multimedia presentation participants must provide the presentation file in advance to the Organizers for preparation.

IV: Display of Artworks:

1: Each participating country will be allotted 16 meters wall space and 30 meters (square) floor area. Because of space restriction participating countries are requested to limit each of their sculptures to 120 cm in height, 90cm in length and breadth and 60kg in weight.

2: Participating artists are requested to send their framed original artwork (painting, prints or photography) to be displayed in the 18th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh 2018. In cases this cannot be done, the Organizers will help in framing the artworks in Dhaka upon cost provided by the artists.

3: The Display Committee reserves the right to select the place of display of artworks. Participating artists may assist in guiding how they want to display their artworks.

4: For any installation artwork, participating artists will have to work at the venue with relevant personnel for proper display.

5: For any video art installation participating artists must bring their own laptops and projector. The Organizers may assist in arranging projector and laptop if needed but the cost of rent of installation materials must be provided by the participants.

V: Participation Deadline:

1: Registration and Submission of participation documents: 31 May 2018

3: Sending artworks: 30 June 2018

4: VISA request for travelling (for on arrival VISA): 31 July 2018

5: Arrival: 31 August 2018

VI: Dispatch & Return of Exhibits:

1: Exhibits selected by the selection committee and listed in the entry form and checklist must reach Dhaka not later than 31 July 2018 for the completion all formalities of customs etc. well in advance. Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy will bear all transportation, unpacking and re-packing expenses within the country. The freight charges to and from the port of entry in Bangladesh shall be borne by the participating country or artist. Participating country or artist must send invoice, packing list, airway bill, shipment and insurance information of artworks through email to the Organizers before shipment.

2: Participating artists must confirm all the information on their artwork to the Organizers. The Organizers will not be responsible for any damage to artwork during transit to and from Bangladesh.

3: Participating country or artist is responsible for insurance of their artworks.

4: Participating artists will organize the return shipment of their artworks on their own after the completion of the exhibition.

5: Participating artists are advised to keep in touch with the Organizers during the shipment period of their artwork until their final return.

6: Participating countries or artists will be responsible for their artworks from the point of dispatch until they arrive at the port of entry in Bangladesh and during their transit back to the point of origin. Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy will be responsible for the artworks from the time they are received at the port of entry in Bangladesh till they are dispatched.

7: All dispatches should be addressed to the Director, Department of Fine Arts, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (National Academy of Fine and Performing Arts of Bangladesh), Segunbagicha, Ramna, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.

VII: Judgment:

A jury panel comprising five members with two from Bangladesh and three from other countries will be responsible for judgment of displayed artworks in the 18th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh 2018 and will select best artworks for three grand prizes and six honorable mention prizes.

VIII: Awards in the 18th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh 2018:

Recipients of grand prizes and honorable mention prizes will be awarded in the inauguration ceremony of the 18th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh 2018 to be held on 01 September 2018. Each of these awards will be accompanied by a medal and cash prize of Bangladeshi Taka 500,000 (five hundred thousand) for each grand prize and Taka 300,000 (three hundred thousand) for each honorable mention prize.

IX: Hospitality:

1: As the host, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy will provide local hospitality for up to 7 days to four persons max. from each country. Any additional delegate will have to bear their own expenses, however the Organizers can assist in arranging accommodation, food, local transport etc.

2: Local hospitality includes accommodation, food, local transport, airport pickup & drop etc.

3: Participating countries/ artist will bear international travelling cost.

4: Physically challenged participants are requested to inform the Organizers before travelling to Bangladesh so that necessary assistance can be provided.

5: Participating artists are required to confirm their participation to the Organizers in advance. They must collect VISA from Bangladesh Mission showing the invitation letter provided by the Organizers. If there is no Bangladeshi mission in a particular country, participating artists of that country should inform the Organizers so that Visa on arrival can be arranged for them.

X: All communication must be directed to;

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Creative Bangladesh



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BANGLADESH SHILPAKALA ACADEMY
National Academy of Fine and Performing Arts

