Auckland Triennial curator asks ‘If you were to live here...’

Visiting Auckland this week is Hou Hanru, one of the most influential curators in the world today and curator of the 5th Auckland Triennial opening 10 May 2013.

The largest Auckland Triennial to date, the three-month festival of contemporary art will be presented at eight venues citywide. For the first time, entry to all venues will be free.

Titled *If you were to live here* … the 5th Auckland Triennial offers a way artists and creative participants can inhabit and transform social spaces by producing innovative ideas, projects and works. The Triennial will provide opportunities to connect with different communities, as well as collaborations among various partners in and out of the city. It will invite discussion, confrontation and the exchange of ideas.

‘A triennial,’ says Hou ‘is a space for producing new aesthetic forms and social spaces. As a living process, it is not only an occasion to see art, but an interaction between artists, people and the city to envisage possible futures.’

Hou has curated numerous triennials, biennials and exhibitions internationally, from exhibitions in San Francisco and Shanghai to the top biennales of Istanbul, Venice and Lyon. He has invited 35 New Zealand and international artists, collectives and architects to respond to the diverse cultural, social, architectural and urban characteristics of Auckland.

‘Hou’s considerable reputation has been instrumental in attracting a strong group of artists from 15 countries to the 5th Triennial’, says spokesperson, Auckland Art Gallery director Chris Saines. ‘Since its inception in 2000, the Auckland Triennial has worked with partners across the city to jointly develop and present a lively and publicly engaging contribution to the conversation about art and its relationship to the wider world. Under Hou’s guidance, the Triennial is shaping up to expand that conversation in some exciting new ways.’

**International participants include:**

- Multi-disciplinary artist Singaporean Ho Tzu Nyen whose exhibitions include his solo work *The Cloud of Unknowing* at the 54th Venice Biennale 2011 and Mori Art Museum, Japan, in 2012; and screening at Cannes International Film Festival, 2009.

- Albanian artist Anri Sala whose works, primarily in film and video, bring together documentary, history, language and cultural memory. This year, he had a solo exhibition at Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, and was shown recently at Serpentine Gallery, London and the 9th Gwangju Biennale, China.

- Film, photography and video artist American Amie Siegel whose stylistic use of film genres has seen her work shown at the Kunstmuseum Stuttgart, Germany, the National Gallery of Art, Washington DC and numerous film festivals including Cannes.

- Multi-disciplinary artist Shahzia Sikander from Pakistan whose work explores the hybridity of her experiences and the integration of Hindu and Muslim culture. She
has had solo exhibitions at Walter and McBean Galleries SFAI 2011, MCA Tokyo, 2010 and MCA Sydney 2007.

- Korean artist Do-Ho Suh whose sculptures and installations – exhibited at the Hiroshima MOCA, 2012, Tate Modern in 2010 and at the 2010 Venice Architecture Biennale - explore spatial dynamics and cultural difference in unanticipated form.

The 5th Auckland Triennial is presented by Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki with Triennial Partner AUT University and exhibition partners Artspace, Auckland Museum, Fresh Gallery Otara, George Fraser Gallery, Gus Fisher Gallery, ST PAUL St Gallery and Waterfront Auckland’s Wynyard Quarter.

The 5th Auckland Triennial will run from 10 May until 11 August 2013. Artspace ends its Triennial presentation 12 July 2013.

5th Auckland Triennial Exhibition Partners

Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki
Cnr Kitchener and Wellesley Streets, Auckland Central
10am – 5pm daily
www.aucklandartgallery.com

Artspace
Level 1, 300 Karangahape Road, Newtown
Tuesday - Friday 10am - 6pm
Saturday 10am - 4pm
www.artspace.org.nz

Auckland Museum
Auckland Domain
10am - 5pm daily
www.aucklandmuseum.com

Fresh Gallery Otara
Shop 5, 46 Fairmall, Otara Town Centre
Tuesday – Friday 10am – 5pm
Saturday 8am – 2pm
www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

George Fraser Gallery
25a Princes St, Auckland Central
Tuesday – Saturday 11am – 4pm
www.georgefraser.auckland.ac.nz

Gus Fisher Gallery
The Kenneth Myers Centre
74 Shortland St, Auckland Central
Tuesday - Friday 10am - 5pm
Saturday 12pm - 4pm
www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

ST PAUL St Gallery
Gallery One and Two
Level 1, 40 St Paul Street, School of Art and Design, AUT University
Tuesday - Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday 12pm - 4pm
www.stpaulist.aut.ac.nz
Waterfront Auckland
Wynyard Quarter
www.wynyard-quarter.co.nz

Founding Partner
Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki

Auckland Triennial Partner
AUT University

Major Supporters
Sue Fisher Art Trust
Chartwell Trust
Creative New Zealand
Australian Government/Australian Council for the Arts
Patrons of the Triennial
Auckland Council

Please use copyright credits if publishing the accompanying images

[File name: Suh_A Perfect Home_CMYK.jpg]
Do-Ho Suh
A Perfect Home: The Bridge Project 2010 (still)
synchronised four monitor animated digital slide presentation
Courtesy of Do-Ho Suh

[File name: ©Sylvain_Deleu_09_11_ 29. jpg]
Anri Sala
3-2-1 2011
Live performance featuring saxophone player responding to the film Long Sorrow (still)
Photo by Sylvain Deleu

For media information, please contact:

Tae Allison
Communications Coordinator
Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki
P +64 9 307 7706
M +64 27 291 9953
E tae.allison@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz
The 5th Auckland Triennial could not have been realised without the assistance and cooperation of:

**Patrons of the Triennial:** The Prospect Art Collection, Rose Dunn, Stephen and Virginia Fisher, John and Jo Gow, Chris and Dayle Mace, Andrew and Jenny Smith, Lady Philippa Tait.

**Friends of the Triennial:** architectus, Kriselle Baker and Richard Douglas, Clinic 42, Paul Savory and Laura Young, Jenny Todd, Walker and Hall.

**Cultural Agencies**

**Founding Partner**

**Auckland Triennial Partner**

**Exhibition Partners**

**Major Supporters**

**Support Sponsors**

**Core Funder**