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**Volunteers**

To enable the Centre to conduct programmes in Sydney and Perth the Centre has relied heavily on a core of enthusiastic volunteers. In Sydney, the Centre wishes to acknowledge Suanne Colley, Director, Intersection Services Marketing; and Paul de Carvalho, Co-Director, Sydney Asia Pacific Film Festival in assisting with our Sydney programmes. In Perth, the Centre wishes to acknowledge Professor Kenneth Morgan, Murdoch School of Commerce, Murdoch University; Jo-Anne Morgan, Manager, PricewaterhouseCoopers; and Victor Peterson, Assistant Marketing Manager, BHP Iron Ore in assisting with our Perth Programmes.

The Centre is also grateful for the assistance provided by the International Media Centre DFAT Sydney, and The Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade in Victoria and Perth.

## An Evening with Vikram Seth

**T**O LAUNCH the paperback edition of his novel, *An Equal Music*, Indian-born author, Vikram Seth, toured Australia recently. The Asia Society AustralAsia centre presented an “Evening with Vikram Seth”, which was not only a sell out event but became the talk of the town.

Sponsored by ANZ, the event took place in the stunning Melbourne Room at the very top of the ANZ building in Queen Street, Melbourne. The venue was splendid, with its sweeping views of the bay, and even Melbourne's unpredictable weather was perfect. As the sun set over the city and Port Phillip Bay, Vikram read passages from his novel interspersed with music performed by the Beldere String Quartet.

*An Equal Music* is a story of lost and found love set in the internal relationships of a string quartet. The story traverses London, Vienna and Venice.

The music for the evening's reading was carefully chosen by Vikram to match episodes from his novel and the pleasing synergy between Vikram's eloquent readings and the playing of music made for an enriching evening which all present will long remember.



Vikram Seth reading from *An Equal Music*

Best known for his extraordinary novel, *A Suitable Boy*, Vikram Seth delighted his audience with his reading as well as his candid answers to questions asked by members of the audience. He patiently signed several copies of his book, giving everyone his full attention and showing a genuine interest in his audience's conversation. It was a great pleasure to find a famous author with such charm, informality, and a sense of humour.

*An Equal Music* is published by Allen and Unwin. A Double CD of music featured in the novel is also available.

MORE PHOTOS PAGE 5

Vikram Seth enjoying the company of the Beldere String Quartet



## Founding Director's Message



THE PERIOD since our Summer Newsletter has again been busy and useful in raising the Centre's profile in Australia and overseas and in working for a wider understanding of Asian countries and cultures.

I visited Indonesia briefly in January and February and again for a third and longer visit from 15 - 30 March. I also visited Thailand from 15 - 18 February to attend the Foundation for Human Resource Development and Singapore from 3 - 6 March to

attend the Williamsburg Conference (reported separately). In Thailand I met with Foreign Minister Surin Pitsuwan. In Singapore I had private meetings with the Acting Prime Minister Lee Hsein Loong (better known as B G Lee) and President Nathan on 3 March. These visits were productive in stressing Australia's continuing wish to strengthen its engagement with South East Asian countries, despite a perception that the Government might be stepping back from this previously stated priority for the region and in briefing senior contacts on the role and activities of the AustralAsia Centre.

I also met with Secretary General of the United States, Kofi Annan, during his visit in February and attended the Prime Minister's lunch for him at Parliament House (I had already briefed him on the work of the Centre at a meeting in New York last October).

I addressed an Asian Diaspora Conference in Canberra last December, which was focused on South West Asia. I argued that despite rhetoric about Australia being a "two Ocean Continent", this rhetoric was often not backed up by sustained action. Because of an understandable priority accorded to East Asia there was, however, a tendency to devote insufficient policy interest to India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. India in particular is a major power asserting a growing strategic and economic importance in global and regional affairs.

On 14 February I addressed, as Founding Director, the major 2000 Australian Pensions and Investment Conference in Sydney, organised by one of our Corporate Members, Bell Securities. I outlined the main political and economic trends in East Asia which would be likely to influence decisions on investment in the region. These included the continuing dominance of the United States economy as well as its paramount political influence; the end of the East Asian economic crisis earlier than had been foreseen; the importance of emerging markets, the ascendancy of globalisation and the phenomenal growth of the internet and e-commerce.

I also noted that with Presidential elections in Taiwan on 18 March and in the United States in November, the sensitive handling of the China/Taiwan issue within the "One China" policy would be necessary in Washington and on both sides of the Taiwan Straits if increased tensions were to be avoided.

I concluded by arguing, despite the political and social transitions underway in countries like China and Indonesia and the pain some economies had endured, growth had resumed and was likely to accelerate in the future.

In my address to the Foundation for Human Resource Development in Bangkok my main theme was the lessons, in terms of the impact on the poorer sections of society, of the recent economic crisis and the need for "development with a more human face" in third world aid programs.

I also contributed during this period articles to *The Australian*, *The Australian Financial Review* and *The Jakarta Post*, on the need to avoid "Asia fatigue" because of recent disappointment about some developments in Asia, the urgent need for the Australian Government to reassert the priority it attached to East Asia and to act to turn around the perceptions – evident in parts of the region – that the Government was somehow stepping back from decades of bipartisan support for a cooperative and growing engagement with Asia.

## Williamsburg XXVIII Singapore

Richard Woolcott

OUR CHAIRMAN, Hugh Morgan, and I attended the Williamsburg Conference in Singapore from 3 - 6 March. It was a lively, informative and well-attended meeting with four Ministers from Singapore, Indonesia and Thailand present.

The acting Prime Minister, Lee Hsien Loong addressed the opening dinner on the role of the United States in Asia in the 21st Century. B G Lee said that Asia had "emerged from the shadow of the economic crisis". Now East Asia was no longer preoccupied with crisis management it was important that the United States played an understanding and consistent role rather than deal with Asia "as a bundle of disparate issues without a coherent policy framework".

On the economic front, the failure of the Seattle WTO meeting had been a major setback. Globalisation must be led by the US. It should be a priority for the new administration next year to get trade talks moving again. Concluding, B G Lee argued the US remained a key player in the region and it would benefit greatly from a stable, growing Asia.

The main issues addressed by the Conference were: Asia's economic recovery and reform, the likely impact on American policies of the Presidential campaign and of a new administration next year, security, sovereignty and intervention together with political and social change in Asia.

Different views were expressed but there was a consensus that economic recovery and reforms would continue. However, the gap between those able to embrace the new economy and those less able to do so would grow. The main threats to a sustained recovery would be a slowdown in the US economy and a faltering Japanese recovery.

The new American President in 2001 would face a divided, post-cold war Congress, less interested in the world outside of the United States. Unilateralism would be prominent. Leadership, if it came, would have to come from the President.

There was a widely expressed view that, while the economic situation had never been more globalised and interdependent, the political situation would continue to be focused on divisive issues like China/Taiwan, India/Pakistan over Kashmir, North and South Korea and secessionist threats to sovereign states.

On social issues, there was a frank focus on corruption and the link between corruption and the misuse of power. Democracy would not necessarily blunt corruption. Relatively new democracies could be as corrupt as authoritarian regimes. Movements towards democracy, while widely welcomed in Western countries, often created new instabilities in developing countries.

Some uncertainties about China's future policy and America's capacity to handle the China/Taiwan question subtly were evident amongst participants. It was also agreed that, if China's entry into WTO were not agreed to promptly, world trade flows would be reduced.

There was a general feeling that the enlarged ASEAN had been weakened by the economic crisis and by instability in Indonesia. ASEAN was "treading water" while it awaited Indonesia's return to stability. One of ASEAN's problems in 2000 and beyond would be how to cushion member countries from the social problems which were likely to arise if there was another economic downturn and from ongoing globalisation.

There was very limited discussion of Australia's and New Zealand's role in East Asia. One was left with a feeling of declining relevance – politically, if not economically – which needs to be addressed. East Timor was generally seen as an Australian preoccupation and as a secondary issue, compared with the importance to the region of the successful transition to a more stable Indonesia, sustaining its modest economic recovery.

The Asia Society will issue a full report on Williamsburg XVIII shortly.

## Indonesia Update

**T**HE Founding Director recently spent two weeks in Indonesia. This enabled him, in addition to attending a Lippobank Board of Commissioners meeting, to call on a large number of prominent Indonesians including Defence Minister Sudarsono, Foreign Minister Alwi Shihab, the President Director of the main newspaper, Kompas, Jacob Oetama, the Chairman of the National Business Development Council, Sofjan Wanandi (whom the Centre had hosted in Melbourne in 1998) and the former Foreign Minister, Ali Alatas. He will be reporting separately on his impressions to our corporate members.

Australian Ambassador to Indonesia, HE John McCarthy AO, addressed a well attended CEO Asia Update luncheon in Sydney on 7 March reporting on recent developments in Indonesia.

Speaking about the nature of the Wahid Government, Ambassador McCarthy said President Wahid (known as Gus Dur) was an unusual President with a quixotic style. He enjoyed being unpredictable. However, his approach to government was enlightened and inclusive. He was committed to a democratic system in Indonesia and to religious and ethnic tolerance. He was also totally committed to the unity of Indonesia.

The military would play a less important role in the central government – and quite quickly. However, it would continue to control its businesses and to exert authority in the provinces for some time to come.

At present there was no real opposition in Indonesia. The main parties were represented in the Cabinet. However, there were now more centres of power in Indonesia than, say, two years ago, for example Parliament, the press, and civil society.

On the role of Islam in politics, those who favoured a greater role for political Islam had increased their power since Soeharto. It was they who had decided in favour of Gus Dur (although a cleric, Gus Dur does not espouse a political



H.E. John McCarthy,  
Ambassador to Indonesia

role for Islam) against Megawati. The Islamists would strongly oppose Megawati ever becoming President. A measure of tension between those who favoured a greater political role for Islam and those who favoured a secular approach continued to be a factor in Indonesian politics. At the same time, the Islamists should not be seen in the same light as fundamentalists in the Middle East or Central Asia.

The economy was picking up and the reports by the IMF and the World Bank, while qualified, were positive. However, much still needed to be done to complete the restructuring of the banking system, to deal with the corporate debt problem and to put in place an effective system of economic governance. The reform of the legal system was of paramount importance. Progress needed to be achieved in these areas for foreign investors to regain confidence.

Perhaps the most important single group of issues facing the government was how to handle the centrifugal forces which beset the Republic. Because of ethnic and religious differences, as well as a sense that they had not gained a fair share of the economic pie, many of the regions of Indonesia were pushing for either independence or much greater autonomy, for example, Aceh, Irian Jaya and East Kalimantan.

Moreover, the centre was not always bringing effective law and order to bear – the most obvious example being Maluku.

The government was seeking to deal with these pressures through legislating a system of decentralisation, with significant powers being devolved to relatively small administrative areas (over 300 in all). The process was complex and in some cases obscure. It would take Indonesia a long time to work through its decentralisation program. However, an effective program was crucial to maintaining the integrity of the country.

The Ambassador also referred to the bilateral relationship suggesting that the most serious difficulties may now be behind us.

## From the Executive Director



**A** highlight of the Asia Society's 2000 calendar in the first half of this year, will be the "Rebuilding Bridges to Indonesia" luncheon programme to be held in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth.

As a result of the recent deterioration in Australia's relationship with Indonesia, the Asia Society AustralAsia Centre has invited three prominent Indonesians to visit Australia early in May, in an effort to initiate the process of rebuilding bridges to Indonesia.

Mr. Jusuf Wanandi, Member of the Board of Directors, Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Dr. Sri Mulyani Indrawati, head of National Economic Council and Mr. Fikri Jufri, Publisher, Tempo Magazine will be addressing senior members of the Australian business and academic communities. Discussion will be moderated by Mr. Greg Sheridan, Foreign Editor of the Australian. The Founding Director, Richard Woolcott, who has recently spent two weeks in Indonesia will also participate.

On the cultural side of the Centre's activities, "Audience Building" has become the catch phrase of the Asia Society AustralAsia Centre for the year 2000!

I am delighted to inform you that Jacky Healy, former Director of the Museums & Art Galleries of the Northern Territory, has been consulting with the Centre on the development of its Arts/Cultural Policy. A number of you will already have been approached for your views on the role of the Centre in the area of raising the profile and awareness of the general public to the importance of Asian culture and to the contribution of Asian and Asian Australian artists, performers and writers. The policy is expected to provide the Centre with a framework for forming strategic partnerships and for identifying where the Centre can make a significant and original contribution.

In fact, the Centre has already been developing strategic partnerships to reach a wider Australian public.

In February, the Centre worked with the Perth International Arts Festival to present a symposium on the controversial "Peony Pavilion" (see article next page). In March, it worked with the ANZ in presenting an Evening with Vikram Seth, the renowned Indian author. In April, the centre will be working with Reader's Feast Bookstore in presenting a performance demonstration of Noh Theatre and in May, an Evening with Masahiko Shimada – a well known Japanese author.

The Centre is particularly pleased to announce that in August, it will be working with the Melbourne Writers' Festival to present a panel discussion of Asian Australian writers entitled – "Brightly a Southern Moon: Asian Lives, Australian Context." Please refer to the forward calendar for details.

Funding continues to be a major challenge for the Asia Society AustralAsia Centre. As the three year founding commitment will be expiring end of this financial year, and as part of its commitment to reducing the Founding Member contribution after three years, a new three tiered membership structure has been introduced. Membership is now due for many of our corporate members, and your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Increasingly, the Centre's role in building and rebuilding bridges with countries of Asia is becoming an important one. Furthermore, the importance of fostering understanding of Asian countries and cultures amongst the Australian public and strengthening relationships has also grown. Your support of this process as well as the role you play in this process is therefore of vital and continuing importance.

*Rene Holstein*

## Interpreting the Dream – The Story behind *The Peony Pavilion*

Asia Society Symposium in Perth

### An Evening with Vikram Seth

Charles Goode,  
Chairman, ANZ  
and Cornelia  
Goode  
with Richard  
Woolcott AC



John Ashby, AT Kearney,  
Lois Ashby and  
Charles Goode, ANZ

Navneet Singh, ANZ  
and Jaimal Singh  
with Dinesh Anand, ANZ  
and Bela Anand



Haema Sivanesan,  
Art Gallery of New South Wales,  
Jo Rechner, Federation Square  
and Elizabeth Langley,  
National Gallery of Victoria



The talk of this year's Perth International Arts Festival:  
*The Peony Pavilion*. Photograph: Stephanie Berger

AT the beginning of February, the Asia Society AustralAsia Centre held a half day symposium in Perth to complement *The Peony Pavilion* which was staged at the Perth International Arts Festival.

One hundred and twenty Perth Festival goers attended the symposium, which was held at the Perth Concert Hall. Many of the attendees had sat through the full 18 hour production and in one person's words, "could not get enough of it".

Given the controversy surrounding the production and staging overseas of *The Peony Pavilion*, the Asia Society AustralAsia Centre was keen to offer a symposium that offered the public insights into the creation of and the controversy around this epic production, and how traditional Chinese theatre is being re-imagined for the 21st century.

The Symposium featured prominent Sinologist, Geremie Barme who placed *The Peony Pavilion* into the context of Chinese culture in the Ming Dynasty as well as today, and Sally Sussman, Performing Arts Manager of the Perth International Arts Festival who has also been trained in the techniques of Kunju Opera.

The audience were particularly delighted with the musical and performance demonstrations by members of the cast, and explained by the Director, Chen Shi Zheng.

## Inside Out: New Chinese Art

**C**O-CURATED by the Asia Society in New York and the San Francisco Museum of Contemporary Art, *Inside Out: New Chinese Art* is coming the Australian National Gallery of Australia.

Touted as “the most comprehensive exhibition of contemporary Chinese art ever to have been mounted”, *Inside Out* consists of nearly 90 works created during the period 1985-1998. Drawing work from the ‘four’ Chinas — Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the Diaspora — the exhibition explores themes such as contemporary Chinese tradition, tradition and modernisation, and the impact global commercialisation.

The exhibition features Xu Bing’s huge *Book from the Sky*, Wenda Gu’s ethereal enclosure *Temple of Heaven (China Monument)*, and Zhang Huan’s witty



**Zhang Huan**

*To Raise the Water Level in a Fish Pond*

2 colour photographs of performance at Nanmofang fishpond  
Beijing, August 15, 1997

**Performers: Zhang Huan and 40 workers and fisherman**

Photograph by Robyn Bech

Courtesy of Max Protech Gallery New York

*To Raise the Water Level in a Fish Pond*. Other works in the exhibition enrol ancient Chinese tradition of ink painting to ponder the experiences of modern life, while other works draw upon the more recent Western traditions of Pop art and Surrealism to explore the marketing of Chairman Mao and Coca-Cola.

*Inside Out: New Chinese Art* is essential viewing for anyone with an interest in the recent changes within Chinese cultures inside and out.

*Inside Out: New Chinese Art*  
National Gallery of Australia,  
June 3 – 13 August, 2000.  
Telephone 02 6240 6411  
for further information.

## Earth, Spirit, Fire: Korean masterpieces of the Chosôn dynasty



**Shin Han-pyong**

*Portrait of Yi Kwang-sa, 1774*

Hangings scroll: ink and colour on silk 67x 53.5cm

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF KOREA

*Earth, Spirit, Fire: Korean Masterpieces of the Chosôn Dynasty* is a major exhibition of nearly eighty treasures drawn from the collections of the National Museum of Korea, the Ho-Am Art Museum and a number of other institutional and private lenders in Korea.

The Chosôn dynasty (1392-1910) was a period of great cultural activity during which time a unique Korean aesthetic developed. It was during the Chosôn dynasty that the Korean alphabet was developed and during which artists began painting genre scenes and true-view landscapes.

Many works of art of this period reflect the ideal of a tempered, spiritual inner beauty with the ceramics best revealing the quintessential qualities of the Chosôn style. Among the exhibits on display are white

porcelains which evoke a simplicity and restrained beauty, and *punch'ong* stonewares with their spontaneity and connections to the forms of nature.

For modern audiences the exhibition presents not only an insight into the culture of Korea's past, but also offers examples of finely conceived minimal aesthetic that resonates with the aesthetic of our own time.

*Earth, Spirit, Fire: Korean masterpieces of the Chosôn dynasty* is on view at the Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, 16 June – 20 August, 2000. After Queensland, the exhibition moves to The Powerhouse Museum, Sydney. Telephone (07) 3840 7303, for further information

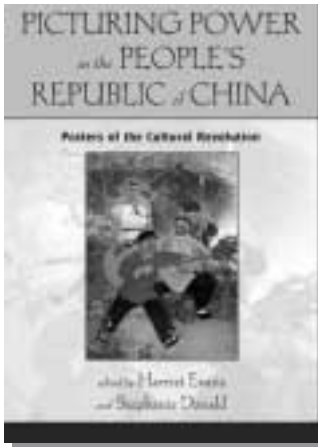
## New Publications

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### Picturing Power in the People's Republic of China: Posters of the Cultural Revolution

Edited by Harriet Evans and Stephanie Donald

Boulder: Rowman & Littlefield, 1999



**P**OSTERS of China's Cultural Revolution era, 1966-76, have evolved from being Maoist propaganda to becoming radical chic and now to the status of providing a perfect compliment to the interior designers' creations of modern *Chinoiserie*. Originally images of power and rebellion, the posters were the ephemera of a political maelstrom that turned life in China on its head.

The garish colours and heroic poses of the posters, all that revolutionary red and joyous celebration, represented an idealized view of the new order and its protocols. But the posters—and there is a huge range of images and styles represented in this book—tell many, often contradictory, stories. They are not only about political fiat or Maoist manipulation, but also about individuals

and invention, the visual palette that many people used to create images of themselves and represent alternative realities to others.

This book is an important contribution to the study of the images and the various contexts that gave birth to them. Scholars reminisce and theorize, some write with lucid insight, others get caught up in their own ruminations, but all of them offer insights into the wallpaper of revolutionary change in China and its abiding significance. This is a fascinating and important contribution to our understanding of a period that made possible the economic reforms of the past two decades.

Review by Geremie R. Barmé  
Senior Fellow, Division of Pacific and Asian History  
RSPAS, The Australian National University

### The New Cambridge History of India Volume 1:7 Architecture and Art of the Deccan Sultanates

By George Michell & Mark Zebrowski

Cambridge University Press, 1999  
\$155.00

**P**ACKED with 183 black and white illustrations and 16 colour plates, this volume of the "New Cambridge History of India" by George Michell and the late Mark Zebrowski is a true visual feast. The Deccan plateau of India was home to several Muslim dynasties which flourished between the fourteenth and eighteenth centuries, the most notable being those of Bijapur and Golconda. Less well known than their powerful neighbours the Mughals, who frequently threatened and ultimately conquered them, the Sultanates of the Deccan have in the past been overlooked except by a handful of scholars.

Rare, poetic, dreamlike, fantastic, opulent, exuberant - these are all adjectives which can be applied to Deccani artistic production. A synthesis of Middle Eastern - particularly Ottoman and Iranian - as well as, later, Mughal and Western styles, Deccani architecture and art nevertheless always retained their own spirit and

characteristics, usually identifiable along dynastic lines.

Chapters in this comprehensive survey cover Forts and Palaces, Mosques and Tombs, Architectural Decoration, Miniature Painting, Textiles, metalwork and stone objects, and Temples (under the Marathas). An occasionally dry text is particularly enlivened by the two chapters on miniature painting. The breadth and depth of both authors' knowledge are clear and there is little to criticise. An obvious omission is the lack of a glossary, which would have made the book more accessible for non-specialists, and one or two errors in the chapter on historical framework suggest it might be wise not to treat that section as definitive.

Apart from the price, highly recommended.

Review by Dr Kate Brittlebank  
School of Historical Studies  
Monash University



## New Appointment



John Cross

**T**HE ASIA Society AustralAsia Centre's cultural programming will be greatly enhanced with the appointment of John Cross as Programme Officer in charge of cultural programming.

John has worked in a variety of cultural institutions including a position as Programme Co-ordinator at the National Gallery of Victoria, and positions at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art and the National Museum of Australia (Canberra). He has also worked in a voluntary capacity with the Museum of Chinese Australian History and the Museum of Modern Art at Heide.

John has a M.Litt in Art History from the Australian National University and has a keen interest in Asian culture from studying the history and the arts of the region, as well as from travelling.

Asia Society and Dow Jones & Company present The 11th Annual Corporate Conference in Asia

## China and Asia at the Turn of the Century



### Opportunities for World Business

Shanghai, People's Republic of China, May 10-12, 2000

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*For information on sponsorship opportunities and other details please contact:*

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Asia Society is a non-profit, non-governmental organization dedicated to fostering understanding about the countries and cultures of the Asia-Pacific region.



## Asia Society AustralAsia Centre Programme Calendar

### MELBOURNE

#### Asia Society Cultural Event

**Mrs Masumi Hiraga Jackson**

An Introduction to Noh Theatre  
*Thursday 27 April, 6.00pm-7.00pm*  
**Reader's Feast Bookshop,**  
**Midtown Plaza, Cnr Bourke and**  
**Swanston Streets, Melbourne**  
For more information  
(03) 9650 0998

### SYDNEY

#### Asia Society

##### Rebuilding Bridges to Indonesia

Luncheon panel discussion with prominent Indonesians – Jusuf Wanandi, Board of Directors of the Centre for Strategic & International Studies; Dr Sri Mulyani Indrawati, Head of National Economic Council and Fikri Jufri, Publisher of Tempo Magazine. The discussion will be moderated by Greg Sheridan, Foreign Editor of *The Australian*.  
*Monday 1 May*  
*12.15pm for 12.30pm*  
**Sheraton on The Park, Sydney**  
For more information  
(03) 9650 0998

### MELBOURNE

#### Asia Society

##### Rebuilding Bridges to Indonesia

Luncheon panel discussion with prominent Indonesians – Jusuf Wanandi, Board of Directors of the Centre for Strategic & International Studies; Dr Sri Mulyani Indrawati, Head of National Economic Council and Fikri Jufri, Publisher of Tempo Magazine. The discussion will be moderated by Greg Sheridan, Foreign Editor of *The Australian*.  
*Tuesday 2 May*  
*12.15pm for 12.30pm*  
**The Grand Hyatt, Melbourne**  
For more information  
(03) 9650 0998

### PERTH

#### Asia Society

##### Rebuilding Bridges to Indonesia

Luncheon panel discussion with prominent Indonesians – Jusuf Wanandi, Board of Directors of the Centre for Strategic & International Studies; Dr Sri Mulyani Indrawati, Head of National Economic Council and Fikri Jufri, Publisher of Tempo Magazine. The discussion will be moderated by Greg Sheridan, Foreign Editor of *The Australian*.  
*Wednesday 3 May*  
*12.15pm for 12.30pm*  
**Parmelia Hilton, Perth**  
For more information  
(03) 9650 0998

### MELBOURNE

#### Asia Society Cultural Event

**Mr Masahiko Shinado**

Author  
*Thursday 18 May, 6.00pm-7.00pm*  
**Reader's Feast Bookshop,**  
**Midtown Plaza, Cnr Bourke and**  
**Swanston Streets, Melbourne**  
For more information  
(03) 9650 0998

### SYDNEY

#### Asia Foreign Policy Update

**Admiral Dennis C. Blair**  
**Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific**  
**Command, U.S. Navy**  
*Mid-May, date to be advised,*  
*12.15pm for 12.30pm*  
**Venue to be advised**  
For more information  
(03) 9650 0998

### SYDNEY

#### CEO Asia Update Luncheon

**Mr Steve Harker**

**Morgan Stanley**  
The outlook for Asia and what it means for Australia.  
*Thursday 25 May,*  
*12.15pm for 12.30pm*  
**Sheraton on The Park, Sydney**  
For more information  
(03) 9650 0998

### SYDNEY

#### Asia Society Cultural Event

**Mrs Masumi Hiraga Jackson**

An Introduction to Noh Theatre  
*Thursday 25 May, 6.00pm-7.00pm*  
**The Japan Cultural Centre, Level**  
**13, 201 Miller Street, North Sydney**  
For more information  
(03) 9650 0998

### MELBOURNE

#### CEO Asia Update Luncheon

**Mr Rod Eddington,**  
**Executive Chairman, Ansett**  
**Australia**

*Thursday 8 June,*  
*12.15pm for 12.30pm*  
**Grand Hyatt, Melbourne**  
For more information  
(03) 9650 0998

### MELBOURNE

#### Asia Society Cultural Event

**Professor William Coaldrake**  
**Foundation Professor of Japanese,**  
**The University of Melbourne**

Architectural Conservation and International Diplomacy: Saving the Lost Japanese Model (Taitokuin Mausoleum) in the British Royal Collection  
*Thursday 1 June,*  
*5.45pm for 6.00pm – 7.00pm*  
**Venue to be confirmed**  
For more information  
(03) 9650 0998

### PERTH

#### CEO Asia Update Luncheon

**Mr Harold Clough AO OBE FTS**  
**Chairman, Clough Engineering**  
**Group**

*Date to be confirmed,*  
*12.15pm for 12.30pm*  
**Parmelia Hilton, Perth**  
For more information  
(03) 9650 0998

### SYDNEY

#### CEO Asia Update Luncheon

**Mr Maurice Newman AM**  
**Chairman, Deutsche Bank Asia**  
**Pacific Advisory Board & Chairman,**  
**Australian Stock Exchange**  
*Wednesday 26 July,*  
*12.15pm for 12.30pm*  
**The Regent, Sydney**  
For more information  
(03) 9650 0998

### MELBOURNE

#### Asia Society Cultural Event

**Dr Mae Anna Pang**

**Senior Curator, Asian Art, National**  
**Gallery of Victoria**

The Enigma of Bada Shanren 1626 – 1705: The 'Mad' Monk Painter of 17th Century China  
*Early August, date to be confirmed,*  
*5.45 for 6.00pm – 7.00pm*  
**Venue to be confirmed**  
For more information  
(03) 9650 0998

### MELBOURNE

#### Asia Society Cultural Event

**Brightly A Southern Moon:**  
**Asian Lives, Australian Context**

A panel discussion featuring Asian-Australian writers of fiction speaking about their work and their experiences of cross-cultural identity.  
*Saturday 26 August, 2.00pm*  
**The C.U.B. Malthouse, 113 Sturt**  
**Street, South Melbourne**  
For more information  
(03) 9650 0998

### Other Asia Society Centres

### SHANGHAI

#### Annual Corporate Conference

**China and Asia at the Turn of**  
**the Century: Opportunities for**  
**World Business**

Asia Society's 11th Annual Corporate Conference in Asia will look at factors determining business competitiveness in the 21st century and what this signifies for the future of China, Asia, and the world's economy, while also examining the central role of China in the region. Through roundtables and breakout sessions, the conference provides an ideal forum for the exchange of information and ideas between key government and business leaders and the conference sponsors and delegates.

*10-12 May, 2000*  
For information on sponsorship opportunities and other details please contact:

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