



AUSTRALASIA

ASIA SOCIETY



A newsletter and calendar published as a service to members of the Asia Society AustralAsia Centre

VOLUME 3 DECEMBER 1997

AustralAsia Centre ASIA SOCIETY

PLEASE NOTE:

The AustralAsia Centre has now been allocated a new postal and email address

PO Box 18133
Collins Street East
Melbourne VIC 8003
asiasoc@asiasoc.org.au

Asia Society

is pleased to announce the official launch of its NEW WEBSITE at

www.asiasoc.org

For the latest on all Asia Society activities around the world, check out the Society's new web page. Special features include a mail order service and a complete catalogue of the Asia Society's Bookstore, a multi-media page, and links to AskAsia, the Asia Society's educational web-site which won a silver medal at the 1997 Invision Awards.

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Rethinking Asia

Engines of Growth: Asia and the Future of World Business

MAY 6 – 8 1998, HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE, HONG KONG

ASIA SOCIETY'S 9TH ANNUAL CORPORATE CONFERENCE IN ASIA

Asia Society's 9th Annual Corporate Conference will examine the future of the regional economy and assess Asia's ability to project its remarkable growth record into the next century.

Conference sessions examine the measures underway to address the recent turmoil in Asian currency and equity markets.

It is clear that the engines driving the region's economy must be redesigned to meet the challenges facing world business – to embrace policies that encourage financial regulation, economic management, and ultimately, balanced, healthy long-term growth. Sessions will focus on the new policies and frameworks which support the liberalisation and productivity-enhancing measures essential to sustaining growth in our rapidly changing and competitive global environment.

The Corporate Conference, occurring nearly one year after the resumption of Chinese sovereignty, will give special attention to Hong Kong – evaluating the progress of implementing the unprecedented "one country, two systems" policy and examining the prospects for its continued impact on China, the region and the world.

Invited keynote speakers will include government leaders from the United States, China, Hong Kong, and other parts of Asia. Executive Roundtables will feature business and policy leaders from around the world.

Contemporary Art in Asia: Traditions/Tensions

ART GALLERY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA 5 FEBRUARY – 29 MARCH 1998

ORGANISED BY THE ASIA SOCIETY, NEW YORK, IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE ASIA SOCIETY AUSTRALASIA CENTRE AND PRESENTED BY THE ART GALLERY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Reflecting the dynamic cultural complexities in urban Asia today, *Contemporary Art in Asia: Traditions/Tensions* includes thirty seven works by artists from India, Thailand, the Philippines, South Korea and Indonesia. The exhibition explores dynamic patterns of interaction between local sensibilities and an increasingly global culture. See installations, paintings, sculpture and feel the new Asia.

**explores dynamic
patterns of interaction**

Contemporary Art in Asia: Traditions/Tensions is supported by funders including AT&T, Lippobank of Indonesia, The National Endowment for the Arts, The Rockefeller and The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, with the financial assistance of the Festival of Perth and the Gordon Darling Foundation.



HEAD IV, 1995 –
GILDED AND PAINTED
POLYESTER-RESIN FIBREGLASS BY
RAVINDER G REDDY – INDIA

ART GALLERY OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
GENERAL ENQUIRIES
PHONE 08 9482 6600



The AustralAsia Centre has been active since the publication of our last newsletter. On the administration front, the partitioning of our Collins Street offices is nearing completion, while computers and communications equipment have already been installed.

At the same time, I have been undertaking a number of Asia-related activities including a visit to New Zealand to deliver the Asia Lecture at Massey University and to participate in a seminar on APEC.

I also visited Jakarta on telecommunications business for one of our major sponsor members, Spectrum Network Systems Ltd, and Manila to participate in the first Philippines-Australia Dialogue, sponsored by Griffith University and the University of Asia Pacific in Manila.

The theme of the Dialogue in Manila was that the relationship between the two countries has been neglected by both but that there are real opportunities to make the relationship more substantial in the future.

Towards the end of October, I visited Washington and New York to meet with senior staff of the Asia Society including Nick Platt

and Marshall Bouton. I also attended the Board of Trustees meeting.

These meetings were useful in updating our American colleagues on the establishment, objectives and needs of the AustralAsia Centre and in gaining a better insight into the organisation, operational arrangements, programs and plans of the Asia Society.

Finally, on this visit, I addressed a meeting of the President's Circle and International Councillors on the outlook for Indonesia. I suggested that Indonesia does not feature prominently enough in American policy towards Asia. In particular, Indonesia's strategic position and regional significance was worthy of a more serious, balanced and consistent U.S. policy approach.

Our mandate

In New York, I emphasised the point that while linked with The Asia Society, the

AustralAsia Centre was rooted in Australia and New Zealand, financed by the private sector in Australia and hopefully in New Zealand and established under Australian law. Funds raised in Australia stay in Australia and assist in Australian/Asian programs. Our mandate was to educate the wider Australian and New Zealand communities about Asian countries and cultures. We could also assist Americans to understand our different perspectives on engagement with Asia.

Any interested members can obtain copies of these speeches from the AustralAsia Centre.

Importantly, I am also working on a draft strategy for the AustralAsia Centre for the next ten years, which I shall submit to the interim Executive Committee and to members of the Advisory Council for comment before it is finalised.



MR RICHARD WOOLCOTT,
DIRECTOR AUSTRALASIA CENTRE

As this will be our third and last newsletter for 1997, may I wish all those associated with the Centre a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year.

Please note that the AustralAsia Centre has decided to donate to the Australian Red Cross rather than send Christmas cards.

 **Brief**

Foreign Minister Alexander Downer reaffirms Asian Commitment

In an address in Hong Kong on 15 October, organised by the Asia Society and the Australian Chamber of Commerce, Foreign Minister, Alexander Downer, said he "wholeheartedly welcomed" the establishment of the AustralAsia Centre in Melbourne and that he had the "highest regard" for the Asia Society." In his speech Mr Downer reiterated that globalisation and the rise of East Asia would continue to be the two most profound influences on Australian foreign and trade policy.

Mr Downer also maintained that, despite the recent currency problems and market volatility, the long term prospects for South East Asian economics and resumed high growth rates remain good. Mr Downer ended with a reaffirmation of "Australia's positive assessment of our region's economy and stability."

The White Paper on Foreign and Trade Policy

The Government's first White Paper on foreign and trade policy "In the National Interest" was tabled in Parliament at the end of August. I was a member of the White Paper Advisory Panel. From the standpoint of the AustralAsia Centre it rightly asserted that, while Australia has global interests, its highest foreign and trade policy priorities are in the Asia Pacific region, especially East Asia.

The paper identified Australia's relationships with Japan, China, Indonesia and the United States as our four key relationships. It noted that significant Australian interests were also engaged with New Zealand, Korea, the other states in the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Papua New Guinea. This order of priority has a complete synergy with the focus of the AustralAsia Centre.

Importantly, the White

Paper states clearly that an unqualified commitment to racial equality and the elimination of racial discrimination is a non-negotiable tenet of Australia's national cohesion and a guiding principle of Australia's international behaviour. Hopefully, these policies will be widely disseminated and welcomed in the Asian region.

The White Paper also emphasises that Australia's core policies towards China and Indonesia will continue to

be the one-China policy and the promotion of a stable, prosperous and united Indonesia. These attitudes are also entirely consistent with the approach of the AustralAsia Centre.

In brief, the White Paper usefully underlines the great importance of our interests and links with Asian countries into the 21st century, a policy thrust which the AustralAsia Centre fully endorses.

MR RICHARD WOOLCOTT
DIRECTOR



Executive Vice President visits Australia

Dr Marshall Bouton, Executive Vice President of the Asia Society recently visited Australia and New Zealand. Highly experienced in organising major corporate and contemporary affairs in the Asia Pacific region, Dr Bouton, oversees Asia Society operations and coordinates all program and administrative staff.

Members of the AustralAsia Centre's Advisory Council currently shaping the Centre's future program were able to draw on Dr Bouton's experience through a series of meetings in Sydney and Melbourne.

While in Australia Dr Bouton also met with the executive directors of The Asia-Australia Institute and Asialink to discuss

ways in which their efforts would be complemented. Similar discussions are planned for the major regional studies centres in our universities.

In New Zealand, Dr Bouton met with Asia 2000, who are coordinating both the AustralAsia Centre's program in New Zealand and the Asia Society's 1998 Williamsburg Conference in Queenstown.



DR MARSHALL BOUTON
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF
THE ASIA SOCIETY

New Members' functions in Sydney...



Visiting China expert Dr Michael Pillsbury meets with AustralAsia Centre members

Dr Michael Pillsbury is an American who has extensive academic and political expertise in China, particularly in the areas of defence and Sino-American relations. Dr Pillsbury currently serves as an Associate Fellow at the U.S. National Defence University and at the Atlantic Council of the United States in Washington, D.C. A graduate of Stanford and Columbia Universities, he is the author of the recently published book "Chinese Views of Future Warfare". He was in Australia recently to address the seminar "Will China Divide Australia and the US?" in Canberra.

Following the seminar, members of the AustralAsia Centre met with him in Melbourne to discuss global defence and environmental issues and their implications for Australasia and the region



RICHARD WOOLCOTT, DIRECTOR WITH DR MARSHALL BOUTON, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF ASIA SOCIETY NEW YORK, JANE CLARKE AND ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER, DAVID CLARKE



INDIVIDUAL MEMBER, PROFESSOR YASMINE GOONERATNE WITH CONSUL OF INDIA (INVESTMENTS), PRADEEP SINGH



BRONWYN AND DAVID BERRY WITH JOHN CUNNINGTON AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBER, LYNETTE CUNNINGTON

New members and friends of the AustralAsia Centre gathered at cocktail parties held over two consecutive nights in November; one in Sydney, the other in Melbourne.

They coincided with the visit to Australia by Executive Vice President of the Asia Society, Dr Marshall Bouton. In Sydney, cocktails were

served at the Museum of Sydney in Philip St and were attended by around 70 guests. A balmy evening in Melbourne made it possible to stage the Melbourne function in the garden of the Melbourne Club where approximately 60 guests were entertained by Adrian Sherif and Chi Ly, and Vivace Strings.

In each city, the cocktail party was followed by a dinner with members of the Advisory Council. In Sydney, dinner was held at the Sydney Opera House and was kindly sponsored by Arthur Andersen. In Melbourne, the Advisory Council dinner at the Melbourne Club was kindly sponsored by WMC Limited.

and Melbourne...



LEI CUN XIN WITH HUGH MORGAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE AUSTRALASIA CENTRE AND MAJOR SPONSOR MEMBER, CHARLES GOODE OF ANZ BANKING GROUP LIMITED



MUSICIANS ADRIAN SHERIF AND CHI LY



CHLOE FITZWILLIAMS HYDE WITH INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS ANTHONY FITZWILLIAMS HYDE AND TERRY CHUAH, AND SHIRLEY CHUAH



Chinese Ceramics: The New Standard Guide

by He Li
(Thames & Hudson) \$150

AVAILABLE FROM ORIENTAL BOOKS
AT SOO TZE ORIENTIQUE
46 COMMERCIAL ROAD, PRAHRAN 3181
TEL: (03) 9521 2892

Here is the definitive volume on the wonderful heritage of Chinese ceramics that is guaranteed not to collect dust on your coffee table. This is a comprehensive and stimulating survey of the products of Chinese potters from the Neolithic Period right through to the early twentieth century.

Based on the world-renowned collection of the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, Chinese Ceramics provides authoritative information needed by serious collectors and those of us who simply appreciate the enduring splendour of ceramics.

A scholarly but accessible work, it not only covers the accepted areas of knowledge but also draws on the latest scientific and archeological knowledge. It is also a first English language study of Chinese ceramic history incorporating recent information published in China regarding the country's ancient kiln sites.

The guide contains over 700 colour photographs representing imperial and regional, decorative and practical, export and domestic, ceremonial and funerary wares from the four main periods of Chinese art.



MEIPING VASE WITH PEONY SCROLLS.
BUFF STONWARE WITH SGRAFFITO
DECORATION AND TRANSPARENT GLAZE
EXCEPT ON THE FOOTRING.
NORTHERN SONG (960 – 1127)
HEBEI-HENAN (CIZHOU)

Each period is carefully surveyed and annotated; there is an additional reference section incorporating a glossary of technical terms, a full bibliography and lists of major public collections.

Author of Chinese Ceramics, He Li, expresses the view that culture should serve to promote the exchange of ideas and communication between all peoples. This beautifully presented and articulate guide will, no doubt, help to build a stronger bridge between East and West in the quest for cultural understanding.

The Asian Renaissance

by Anwar Ibrahim
(Times Books International)
\$35.95



Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister, Anwar Ibrahim, delivers a powerful message in this collection of nine essays – a message which is based on his clearly-expressed interest in the effect of the economic revolution of East Asia on the Asian psyche and cultural development.

"The economic rise of Asia, though critical and fundamental," he says, "is only a dimension of a much deeper, more profound and far-reaching reawakening of the continent which may be called the Asian Renaissance."

Ibrahim argues that the Asian Renaissance, though indebted to, is different from, its earlier European counterpart in that it retains its "central religious character." "The renaissance of Asia... entails the growth, development and flowering of Asian societies based on a certain vision of perfection; societies imbued with truth and love of learning, justice and com-

passion, mutual respect and forbearance, and freedom with responsibility."

His message is simple: "It is religion rather than any other social force which makes Asia a continent of infinite diversity." And it is this view which leads Ibrahim to claim that if the nations of Asia want to claim a unique Asian way they must balance the quest for growth with a "profound concern for social justice and equity."

As the Deputy Prime Minister develops his thesis through these personal and provocative essays, he makes some pertinent observations about democracy and human rights, the need for a more meaningful engagement between Asia and the West, the role of the press in setting

the agenda for progress, justice and the rule of law and the importance of moral values to growth and development.

Ibrahim's last essay in *The Asian Renaissance* looks at the Asia of the Future. The writer believes that any new world order cannot be based on the rule of one civilisation or culture. Indeed, the notion of a clash of civilisations is the "latest manifestation that the West has limited ability to deal with a pluralistic and multicultural world."

There can be only one conclusion: "As Asia's reawakening proceeds apace, both East and West should forge a symbiosis of cultures and realise the universal community of the human race."

AVAILABLE AT ALL GOOD BOOK STORES



NEW YORK 24 Sep – 4 Jan 1998

Mandala: The Architecture of Enlightenment

Co-organised by the Asia Society New York and Tibet House, this exhibition, which features more than 50 mandalas highlights the stunning artistry and diversity of this art form and explores the artistic genesis and religious role of the mandala in Buddhism.

The Asia Society Galleries

Contact:
The Asia Society New York
Tel (1-212) 288 6400
Web site: www.asiasociety.org

WEB EVENT 1-16 January 1998

AskAsia@: The Vietnam Challenge

Visit the Asia Society's K-12 educational website, AskAsia (www.askasia.org), and follow the daily progress of the Vietnam Challenge, a 1,200-mile cycling event in Vietnam. The Challenge includes disabled and able-bodied veterans from both sides of the Vietnam war, as well as world-class athletes, in a remarkable journey of reconciliation. AskAsia takes young visitors along with updates from the Challenge team and opportunities for e-mail exchange.

HOUSTON 31 January 1998

The Asia Society's Annual Gala Dinner

"Fiesta Filipina" celebrating The Philippines with special guests and official Asian representatives

Organised by the Asia Society Houston.

The Four Seasons Hotel.

Contact:
Tel (1-713) 439 0051

PERTH 5 Feb – 29 March 1998

Contemporary Art in Asia: Traditions/Tensions Perth Festival

The exhibition explores dynamic patterns of interaction between local sensibilities and an increasingly global culture. See installations, paintings, sculpture and feel the new Asia.

Organised by:
Asia Society New York in association with the Asia Society AustralAsia Centre and The Art Gallery of Western Australia

The Art Gallery of Western Australia

Contact:
Tel (61-8) 9492 6600

NEW YORK 11 Feb – 3 May 1998

Great Cities, Small Treasures: The Ancient World of the Indus Valley

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of Pakistan, this exhibition features more than 100 objects from the Indus Valley civilization that flourished between 2600 and 1750 BCE in the area that is now Pakistan. Sculpture, ceramics, metalwork, seals and other artifacts, reveal the urban sophistication of this civilization.

The Asia Society Galleries

Contact:
The Asia Society New York
Tel (1-212) 288 6400

QUEENSTOWN 20-22 March 1998

Williamsburg Conference

Organised by the Asia 2000 Foundation of New Zealand and the Asia Society New York

Contact: Phillip Turner
Tel: +64 4 471 2320
(By invitation only)

HOUSTON 1 May 1998

1st Annual Asia Energy Conference: Meeting Asia's Energy Challenges in the 21st Century: Business, Political and Strategic Implications for the United States and Asia

The conference will discuss broad trends of energy development in Asia and explore potential for US-Asia collaboration in addressing issues raised by the US and Asia by increasing energy needs.

Contact:
Jill Bloomberg, The Asia Society
Texas Tel: (1-713) 439 1107
e-mail jillb@asiasoc.org

HONG KONG 6-8 May 1998

9th Annual Asia Society Corporate Conference in Asia

Engines of Growth: Asia and the Future Of World Business

Business and policy leaders from the U.S. and Asia examine the future of the regional economy and assess Asia's ability to project its growth record

Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

Contact:
Asia Society AustralAsia Centre
Tel: (03) 9650 0998 or
Asia Society New York
Tel (1-212) 288 6400 ext. 304
e-mail: hk98conf@asiasoc.org

SEATTLE 15-16 June 1998

Hong Kong One Year After Transition: Business Opportunities and Policy Challenges

What is the prognosis for Hong Kong to maintain its position as one of Asia's most important financial, business and banking centres, trans-shipment points, and transportation hubs? Asia Society's 3rd annual Business and Policy Conference, taking place one year after Hong Kong's historic return to Chinese sovereignty, will be the key international forum to evaluate its economic and business prospects for the future.

Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Seattle, Washington

The Asia Society Galleries

Contact:
The Asia Society New York
Tel (1-212) 288 6400 ext 301
email: davidy@asiasoc.org

SINGAPORE October

(date to be confirmed)

Securing Asia's Future: The Evolution of Retirement Finance in Southeast Asia

An in-depth look at the policy and implementation issues facing retirement finance and pension management in the region, including the implications for capital markets and long term investment.

Contact:
Tel: (1-212) 288-6400 ext 344,
e-mail: pensions98@asiasoc.org



PLEASE NOTE:

The exhibition of MOBO MOGA/ Modern Boy, Modern Girl: Japanese Modern Art 1910-1935

will be at The Art Gallery of New South Wales from 18 July 1998 until 30 August 1998 (not this year as previously listed).

WE APOLOGISE FOR THIS INCORRECT LISTING.

SYDNEY 25 June 1997- May 1998

Exhibition: Evolution and Revolution: Chinese Dress 1700s to Now

Venue:
The Asian Gallery of the Powerhouse Museum

Contact:
Claire Roberts - (02) 9217-0186
Mandy Crook - (02) 9217-0591

BRISBANE 24 Dec 1997 – 1 Feb 1998

Special Collection Display:

Cai Guo Qiang

Organised by:
Queensland Art Gallery
Venue: Queensland Art Gallery
Contact: Tel (07) 3840 7333

SYDNEY 8 January 1998

Lecture: "Australia and the United Nations"

Featuring:
Ms Penny Wensley –
Ambassador to the United Nations.

Organised by:
The Australian Institute of International Affairs / United Nations Association of Australia

Venue:
The Glover Cottages - Sydney
Contact: (02) 9247 2709

SYDNEY 29 January 1998

Lecture: "Australia's Place in International Banking"

Featuring:
Mr Robert Joss

Organised by:
The Australian Institute of International Affairs
Venue:
The Glover Cottages - Sydney
Contact: (02) 9247 2709

MELBOURNE 3 February 1998

Networking Session: Bi-Monthly Networking Session

Organised by:
Australia-Indonesia Business Council Ltd

Venue:
Consulate General of Republic of Indonesia
72 Queens Road Melbourne

Time: 6.00-8.00 p.m.
Contact:
Tel: (03) 9821 4886
Fax: (03) 9867 2988

PERTH 7 - 8 February 1998

Symposium: Urban Dynamism in Asian Art (Held in conjunction with Contemporary Art in Asia: Traditions/Tensions)

Organised by:
The Art Gallery of Western Australia

Contact: (08) 9492 6644

SYDNEY 16-20 February 1998

Seminar: Delegation to Hong Kong

Organised by:
Australia-Asia Young Leaders Program (AAYLP)
Contact: (02) 9210 6972

WELLINGTON 18-22 Feb 1998

Festival: World Dragon Boat Festival

Featuring:
Miao performing troupe and craftspeople from China

Organised by:
Asia 2000 Foundation of NZ
Venue:
Wellington
Contact: +64 4 471 2320

SYDNEY 19 February 1998

Industry Seminar: India: Health Business

Organised by:
Research Institute for Asia and the Pacific
Contact: (02) 9290 3233

SYDNEY 25 February 1998

Asia Business Series: The Philippines – Doing Business

Organised by:
Research Institute for Asia and the Pacific
Contact: (02) 9290 3233

SYDNEY 26 February 1998

Industry Seminar: China: Health Business

Organised by:
Research Institute for Asia and the Pacific
Contact: (02) 9290 3233

PERTH 26 Feb – 10 May 1998

Exhibition: Divide and Multiply: Tang Da Wu and Lucas Jodogne

Organised by:
The Art Gallery of Western Australia
Contact: (08) 9492 6644

SYDNEY March 1998

Seminar: Delegation to India

Organised by:
Australia-Asia Young Leaders Program (AAYLP)
Contact: (02) 9210 6972

MELBOURNE 1 March 1998

Seminar: Introduction to Indian & Himalayan Art

Organised by:
TAASA
Venue:
Conference Centre - South Melbourne

Contact: (03) 9617 8664 or
(03) 9859 6277

DUNEDIN 1 March – 2 June 1998

Exhibition: "China Splendour: 5000 Years of Chinese Art from the Shanghai Museum"

Organised by:
Asia 2000 Foundation of New Zealand

Venue:
Dunedin Public Art Gallery
Contact: +64 4 471 2320

SYDNEY 4 March 1998

Asia Business Series: The Philippines – Legal, Finance and Tax Issues

Organised by:
Research Institute for Asia and the Pacific
Contact: (02) 9290 3233

MELBOURNE 31 March 1998

Breakfast and Seminar: Breakfast Seminar

Organised by:
Australia-Indonesia Business Council Ltd.
Contact: (03) 9821 4886



Membership as at 1 December 1997

Members of the Advisory Council

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(1-713) 439 1107 fax

Asia Society WASHINGTON CENTER

1800 K Street, NW
Suite 1102
Washington DC 20006

(1-202) 833 2742

(1-202) 833 0189 fax

PILLOW IN THE FORM OF
A BABY BOY AND LOTUS LEAF.
PORCELAIN WITH SCULPTED,
INCISED AND MOLDED
DECORATION AND WHITE GLAZE.
LATE NORTHERN SONG (LATE 11TH –
EARLY 12TH CENTURY) HEBEI (DING)
SEE BOOK REVIEW OF
"CHINESE CERAMICS" PAGE FOUR



THE ASIA SOCIETY AUSTRALASIA CENTRE IS A NON-PROFIT,
PRIVATELY-FUNDED ORGANISATION DEDICATED TO FURTHERING
UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE COUNTRIES AND CULTURES OF ASIA.

FROM FRONT ONE

Engines of Growth: Asia and the Future of World Business

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- Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce

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(list in progress)

The Asia Society annual corporate conference in Asia has become a prominent and prestigious forum in the region. Previous conferences were held in: New Delhi (1997); Seoul (1996); Beijing (1995); Singapore (1994); Tokyo (1993); Taipei (1992); Bali (1991); and Hong Kong (1989).

For information on sponsorship opportunities and other details please contact the Asia Society AustralAsia Centre.