The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) advances mutual understanding and collaboration between the people of Asia and Europe through intellectual, cultural, and people-to-people exchanges. These exchanges include conferences, lecture tours, workshops, seminars and the use of web-based platforms. The major achievement of ASEF is the establishment of permanent bi-regional networks focused on areas and issues that help to strengthen Asia-Europe relations.

Established in February 1997 by the partners of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), ASEF reports to a board of governors representing the ASEM partners. ASEF is the only permanent physical institution of the ASEM process. Since 1997, the Foundation has initiated projects engaging 14,000 individuals from Asia and Europe. ASEF works in partnership with other public institutions and civil society actors to ensure its work is broad-based and balanced among the partner countries. http://www.asef.org

The Asia-Europe Foundation in partnership with the Ministry of Information, Communication and Culture, the National Art Gallery Malaysia, Goethe Institute Kuala Lumpur and Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur with the support of Nikon Malaysia, the Annexe Gallery, Epson Malaysia, Japan Advertising Photographers’ Association, the Malaysian-German Chamber of Commerce and the German Trade and Invest in Malaysia presents the “Creative Economies” Forum which will bring together 23 emerging photographers and 8 facilitators cum resource persons from Asia and Europe.

The Format of the Forum will consist of two phases. The first phase will begin with the blog interaction and exchanges between the participants and the facilitators. This phase will be followed by an intensive week of lectures and workshops during 11-18 May 2009 in Kuala Lumpur, where photography collaborations will be complemented with dialogues focused on the exploration and experimentation of artistic photography in the context and manifestation of the creative economies with Peter Bialobrzeski (Germany), Photographer and Professor for Photography, University of the Arts, Bremen (Germany), Shahidul Alam (Bangladesh), Director of “Chobi Mela” – International Festival of Photography, Alex Moh (Malaysia) initiator of the Kuala Lumpur International Photography Biennale, Yee I-Lann (Malaysia) multimedia artist, Hiromi Nakamura (Japan), curator of the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, Nathalie Belayche (France), independent curator, Masaaki Nishimiya (Japan) Dean of the Photography Department of Nagoya University of Arts and sciences and Martin Fuchs (Austria), Magnum Photo Editor.

The theme of the Asia-Europe Emerging Photographers’ Forum 2009 is centered on the topic of “Creative Economies”. 23 emerging photographers will portray indirect and alternative economic outlooks ranging from the topic of gift economies, social cooperation, sustainable economies in Asia and Europe. Through these narratives, the photographers will open different spaces of imagination, metaphors, fictions, reality and advantages within the context of the current economic crisis.

How can creative photography impact the perception of shifting economies in the globalised world and in which ways can social cooperation and creativity meet in the space of indeterminate economic capacity? The emerging photographers will exchange their photographic narratives from Asia and Europe conceptualizing documentary and digital photographic formats. To promote future visions and to overcome global financial instability at the local level this process will show the diverse range of possibilities of the medium of photography. The participants will also have the chance to exhibit their work on the theme of Creative Economies during a public exhibition to be inaugurated on Saturday May 17th, 2009 at the Annexe Gallery Central Market, Kuala Lumpur.

The “Creative Economies” Forum will be publicly launched with the exhibition from the work called “Secured Area” at the National Art Gallery, Malaysia on Tuesday May 12th, 2009. This exhibition is as a result of the collaborative process with the participants of the Future Image: Asia-Europe Forum for Young Photographers, held in Ireland in 2007.
May 10th (Sunday)

Arrival of facilitators and participants

May 11th (Monday)

DAY 1 - National Art Gallery Malaysia

09.30 am - 10.00 am
Welcome address by Dr Mohamed Najib Ahmad Dawas, Director General National Art Gallery Malaysia

09.30 am - 11.00 am
Program launch/briefing into organizers/facilitators

11.30 am - 01.00 pm
Participants’ presentation and discussion of their works about “Creative Economies.”

02.00 pm - 03.30 pm
“Exposing Yourself And Putting Your Work Out: Self Promotion In The Digital World”
- Ms. Nathalie Belayche (France)

03.30 pm - 04.30 pm
“Creative Economies” And Photography - Guest Speakers:
- Mr. Thomas Hundt, Director of Germany Trade and Invest GmbH
- Mr. Alexander Stedtfeld, Director of Malaysian-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Mr. Stephen Ng, General Manager of Nikon Malaysia
- Mr. Mudi Latt, Board Member of Creative Commons Malaysia

04.00 pm - 05.00 pm
Open discussions on the theme “Creative Economies” For Work in Progress.

‘Creative Economies’ Asia-Europe Emerging Photographers’ Forum 2009
Kuala Lumpur & Emerging Economies”

5.30 pm onwards
Opening of Asia-Europe Emerging Photographers’ Forum 2009, Kuala Lumpur & Exhibition “Secured Area” by Datuk Seri Utama Katakana Genngo: Best Imaging Language Is

May 12th (Tuesday)

DAY 2 - National Art Gallery Malaysia

09.30 am - 11.00 am
The World According to Peter Bialobrzeski
- Mr. Peter Bialobrzeski (Germany)

11.30 am - 01.00 pm
Sweet & Bitter: The Intimate Mirror of Contemporary Japanese “Girl” Photography
- Ms. Hironi Nakamura (Japan)

02.00 pm - 03.00 pm
Public Panel: “Creative Economies” And Photography - Guest Speakers:
- Mr. Thomas Hundt, Director of Germany Trade and Invest GmbH
- Mr. Alexander Stedtfeld, Director of Malaysian-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Mr. Stephen Ng, General Manager of Nikon Malaysia
- Mr. Mudi Latt, Board Member of Creative Commons Malaysia

03.30 pm onwards
Opening of Asia-Europe Emerging Photographers’ Forum 2009, Kuala Lumpur & Exhibition “Secured Area” by Datuk Seri Utama Katakana Genngo: Best Imaging Language Is

May 13th (Wednesday)

DAY 3 - Anexus Gallery, Central Market

10.00 am - 10.30 am
A brief introduction of the Anexus Gallery, Central Market

10.30 am - 12.00 pm
Suturing Ideas And Storytelling Through Digitally Constructed Photography In The Work of Artist Yee I-Lann
- Ms. Yee I-Lann (Malaysia)

12.00 pm - 01.00 pm
Lunch Break

01.00 pm - 02.30 pm
Portfolio Reviews #1

02.30 pm - 04.30 pm
Portfolio Reviews #2

05.30 pm - 07.00 pm
An ASEF Private Event

07.45 pm - 09.15 pm
The Future of Photography
- Mr. Peter Bialobrzeski (Germany)

May 14th (Thursday)

DAY 4 - National Art Gallery Malaysia

09.30 am - 11.00 am
Tools For Photographers/ Magnum Photo Blog Presentation
- Mr. Martin Fuchs (Austria)

11.30 am - 01.00 pm
In And Out of Tokyo: Tokyo Sain By Magnum Photographers From 1950’s To The Present
- Mrs. Hiromi Nakamura (Japan)

02.00 pm - 03.30 pm
Chobi Mela, The International Festival of Photography Asia
- Dr. Shahidul Alam (Bangladesh)

09.00 am - 09.15 am
A brief introduction of the Anexus Gallery, Central Market

09.15 am - 10.30 am
Presentation

05.30 pm onwards
Preparation for exhibition presentation “Creative Economies”
Invited participants only

May 15th (Friday)

DAY 5 - National Art Gallery Malaysia

09.30 am - 11.00 am
Katakana Genngo: Best Imaging Language Is
Photography
- Mr. Masaki Nohmiya (Japan)

11.30 am - 01.00 pm
Visit to the Galleri Patronas, Suria KLCC
Patronas Twin Towers

01.00 pm - 02.30 pm
Lunch Break

03.00 pm - 05.00 pm
Preparation for exhibition “Creative Economies”
Invited participants only

05.30 pm onwards
Preparation for exhibition “Creative Economies”
- Anexus Gallery, Central Market
Invited participants only

May 16th (Saturday)

DAY 6 - Anexus Gallery, Central Market

10.00 am - 02.00 am
Walk about the City with Nikon
A walk about photography session with local photographers in the city
Invited participants only

03.30 pm - 04.30 pm
The Use Of The Digital Medium In Journalism And Documentary Photography Today
- Dr. Shahidul Alam (Bangladesh)

05.30 pm onwards
Dorsett Regency Hotel
Invited participants only

May 17th (Sunday)

DAY 7

09.00 am - 02.00 am
Cultural Visit - Trip to Batu Caves, Kuala Lumpur
Invited participants only

03.30 pm - 05.40 pm
Forum De Briefing
- Anexus Gallery, Central Market
Invited participants only

05.30 pm onwards
Dorsett Regency Hotel
Invited participants only

May 18th (Monday)

Departure of participants and facilitators

...programmes