Sharjah Biennial 2023 to Feature Lubaina Himid, Heri Dono, and Cao Fei

By Sam Gaskin Sharjah | 21 April 2022

More than 150 artists will present work when the Emirati exhibition takes place for the 15th time.

The Sharjah Art Foundation has revealed the lengthy list of artists participating in Sharjah Biennial 15 from 7 February to 11 June 2023.
Leading practitioners from more than 70 countries will take part, including Lubina Himid (U.K.), Heri Dono (Indonesia), Cao Fei, Wang Jianwei (China), and Hank Willis Thomas (U.S.A.).

For its 30th anniversary, the biennial has also invited 30 artists to complete commissions that 'explore histories that continue to shape our present'. These include John Akomfrah (Ghana), Mona Hatoum (Palestine), Kader Attia (France), Isaac Julien, Yinka Shonibare, Steve McQueen (U.K.), Kerry James Marshall, and Carrie Mae Weems (U.S.A.).

The exhibition, entitled Thinking Historically in the Present, was conceived by Nigerian curator Okwui Enwezor, who died in 2019. It will be realised by the Sharjah Art Foundation's director, Hoor Al Qasimi, in conjunction with Tarek Abou El Fetouh, Octavio Zaya, Ute Meta Bauer, and Salah M Hassan.

'Okwui saw Sharjah Biennial's 30-year anniversary as an opportunity to reflect on the role that biennials serve in the ecosystem of contemporary art, particularly the Sharjah Biennial itself and the broader Foundation that grew from it,' said Al Qasimi.
'With gratitude to Okwui and the ambitious intellectual project he conceived, we are organising a Biennial that builds on and honours his vision to probe the past, present and future role that biennials and institutions, including the Sharjah Biennial and the Foundation, can serve,' she said.

Artworks will be exhibited at over a dozen venues including a vegetable market, a power station, and a former kindergarten.

The full list of participants follows below. —[O]

**Sharjah 15 Biennial Participating Artists**