

Guggenheim Museum NY Celebrates 80th Anniversary

The Solomon R Guggenheim Foundation is celebrating its 80th anniversary with *Visionaries: Creating a Modern Guggenheim*, which opened in February. An exploration of the world of collecting in the early 20th century with more than 170 modern objects from the permanent collections of the Solomon R Guggenheim Museum and the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice. Assembling many of the foundation's most iconic works along with treasures by artists less familiar, this celebratory exhibition explores avant-garde innovations of the late 19th through mid-20th centuries, as well as the ground-breaking activities of six pioneering arts patrons who brought to light some of the most significant artists of their day and established the Guggenheim Foundation's identity as a forward-looking institution. This passion for collecting and discovering modern art eventually paved the way for collectors later in the century to discover modern art from other continents,

see new horizons and create a platform to support a much wider international art world that exists today with artists from Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and South America taking their rightful place in the spotlight.

To emphasise this link between the early collections and the world today, *Tales of Our Time*, which runs until 10 March, is an exhibition that features nine newly commissioned works by artists born in mainland China, Hong Kong, or Taiwan. Working in drawing, animation, video, photography, sculpture, installation, and participatory intervention, the artists in the exhibition address the concept of geography and territory in ways as specific as where they are based or as big as China itself, which they see as a concept constantly being questioned and reinvented.

Also to open this Spring is the *Hugo Boss Prize 2016* exhibition – the winner is Anicka Yi (b 1971, Seoul). Yi is the 11th artist to receive the biennial prize, which was established



Installation view of *Tales of Our Time. Unwritten Rules Cannot Be Broken (2016)* by Yangjiang Group (est 2002, Guangdong Province), plants, pond, wooden bridge, wooden tables and stools, teaware and accessories, and tea gathering performance; blood pressure monitor and record chart; acrylic latex paint; and acrylic on foam. Solomon R Guggenheim Museum, New York. *The Robert HN Ho Family Foundation*. Collection © Yangjiang Group. Photo: David Heald

in 1996 to recognise significant achievement in contemporary art, and marks its 20th anniversary this year. The prize carries an award of

US\$100,000 and is administered by the Solomon R Guggenheim Foundation. The jury statement for Yi's award stated that they 'carefully

considered the spirit of the project over the past two decades and the innovative achievements represented by the list of past recipients. In selecting Anicka Yi as the winner from an exceptionally strong group of nominated artists, we wish to highlight the singularity of her vision and the generative new possibilities for artistic production offered by her practice'. The committee were particularly impressed by the way Yi's sculptures and installations address deeply subjective corporeal realities by the unique embrace of discomfort in her experiments with technology, science, and the plant and animal worlds, all of which push at the limits of perceptual experience in the 'visual' arts.

In the exhibition, the artist will give material and olfactory form to complex networks of ideas, imbuing her unusual materials with both political and psychological urgency. It seems an exhibition that the visitor will experience to the full.