

ASIA NOW                      PARIS  
LA MONNAIE DE PARIS

20-24 OCTOBER 2026

VIP PREVIEW

19 OCTOBER 2026

Paris Asian Art Fair

**20-24 Oct.**

VIP preview  
Monday, October 19  
[vip@asianowparis.com](mailto:vip@asianowparis.com)

**La Monnaie  
de Paris**  
11 Quai de Conti

**Asia  
NOW**

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MONNAIE DE PARIS

PIAGET

KALHATH FOUNDATION

فيلا الحجر  
VILLA HEGRA

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# MORE THAN A GEOGRAPHY,



# A MOVEMENT

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For more than a decade, Asia NOW has worked to transcend the boundaries that have long defined East and West. Rooted in the decentering vision of My East is Your West, the fair continues to challenge the conventions of traditional art fairs, moving beyond their function as mere marketplaces or incubators. Instead, it creates space for new perspectives, amplifies emerging voices, and reinforces Asia not simply as a geography, but as a methodology — a movement.

Asia NOW has championed contemporary art from Asia, bringing together leading galleries, artists, and curators from across the region. The fair has created a vital platform connecting Asian creative voices with the international art community in Paris and the world. Through its programme, Asia NOW highlights the region's distinct perspectives while fostering meaningful dialogue and exchange across cultures.

## Villa Hegra Commission: Tables Around

Among the key highlights of Asia NOW Paris 2026 is the Villa Hegra presents Tables Around: Perspectives on the Saudi Scene, curated by Paris-based independent curator and art director Gaël Charbau and multidisciplinary artist Basmah Felemban.

Bringing together five female artists, the exhibition begins with something familiar: the table. Here, the table becomes more than an object. It becomes a place to gather, remember, imagine and exchange. Each artist transforms the table into a living environment, creating sculptural landscapes, imagined territories and intimate encounters. Together, the works offer fragments of lived experience — sometimes direct, sometimes enigmatic — inviting us to look closer at the stories, memories and perspectives held within them.

# 10 YEARS OF KALHATH INSTITUTE

LIVING TRADITIONS

Asia NOW also celebrates ten years of the Kalhath Institute, founded in Lucknow in 2016 under the Kalhath Foundation by Maximiliano Modesti and Mohammed Amine Dadda.

For a decade, the Institute has worked at the intersection of preservation and contemporary practice, recognising, supporting and promoting the extraordinary knowledge embedded in Indian embroidery and textile traditions. Through sustained fieldwork and close relationships with artisans, Kalhath has built an ecosystem around technical excellence, education and the transmission of knowledge.

Its work spans training, workshops, exhibitions and collaborations, while opening new possibilities for traditional techniques and vernacular designs in contemporary life. At its heart is a simple but important idea: craft is not only about technique. It is about people, memory, knowledge and the living traditions that carry them forward.

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*Love Life III (2018) by T. Venkanna*

*Gallery MASKARA*

# NOWNESS CINEMA PROGRAMME

NOWNESS will present a special film programme at Asia NOW, bringing together a selection of moving-image works that reflect the platform's distinctive approach to contemporary art, culture and storytelling. The programme will be opened by a series of live performances, including Berlin-based performance and drag artist Alvin Collantes, alongside a Southeast Asian travelling troupe Wayang Women presenting the traditional shadow-puppetry art of Wayang Kulit. Together, the programme brings film, performance and living cultural traditions into dialogue, setting the tone for an immersive celebration of contemporary Asian culture.



**61ST VENICE BIENNALE**  
**From Venice to Paris: Artists of the**  
**61st Venice Biennale at ASIA NOW**



*Sea of Love 2026 / Jon Cuyson*

This year, ASIA NOW brings together artists representing national pavilions at the 61st Venice Biennale, extending the dialogue between Venice and Paris through new presentations and encounters.

Representing the Philippines at the 61st Venice Biennale in 2026 with *Sea of Love / Dagat ng Pag-ibig*, Filipino artist Jon Cuyson will unveil a new body of work exclusively at the 12th edition of Asia NOW in Paris, presented by Chicago-based Tala Gallery. Seen for the first time at Asia NOW, the new works continue Cuyson's exploration of memory, identity, migration and the layered histories connecting the Philippines to the wider world.

## MATERIAL DIALOGUES

### Pleats

Pleats brings together Taiwanese artist and designer Pao Hui Kao, based in Eindhoven, and Hong Kong-born designer Didi Ng Wing Yin, based in Helsinki.

At the centre of the duo exhibition is the gesture of folding — at once poetic, practical and structural. Paper meets wood; technique meets intuition. Through their respective practices, Kao and Ng reveal how a simple physical gesture can carry complex cultural and material meanings.

### Louis Le Kim presented by Artuner



*Louis Le Kim*

*Artuner*

Artuner presents Louis Le Kim, nominated for Reiffers Art Prize 2026 Group show at Reiffers Art Center. He will present a site-specific project developed in dialogue with the architecture of the Monnaie de Paris.

Le Kim's practice moves between space, memory and architecture, drawing on hidden urban environments and remote historical sites to construct landscapes that sit somewhere between reality, dream and speculation.

For Asia NOW, the presentation includes a new series of paintings created specifically for the exhibition, extending his ongoing exploration of place, memory and imagination.

### Lux Feminae

New York-based gallery Lux Feminae presents a selection of contemporary practices centred on new artistic voices and perspectives, occupying two distinctive spaces within the Monnaie de Paris. The project continues Asia NOW's commitment to creating space for emerging practices and new forms of artistic expression, connecting artists with an international audience in the heart of Paris.

## MOVING IMAGE Cinema Now

Moving image takes an increasingly important place within this year's programme through Cinema NOW, curated by Stefano Rabolli Pansera, Director of Bangkok Kunsthalle, Khao Yai Art Forest, and founder and director of St. Moritz Art Film Festival.

Expanding Asia NOW's engagement with film and visual storytelling, the programme brings moving-image works and cinematic encounters into conversation with the wider artistic programme of the fair. Across several days, cinema becomes another way of moving through Asia NOW — connecting images, ideas and perspectives beyond the gallery space.

The detailed programme will be announced shortly.



*From last year's Cinema NOW Programme: Lost Shadows (2021) by Gidree Bawlee / Salma Jamal Moushum / Kamruzzaman Shadhin,*

## Punk Orientalism Studio

Award-winning contemporary art curator and writer Dr Sara Raza returns to Asia NOW with Punk Orientalism Studio, the global curatorial platform she founded in New York around contemporary art, publishing, research and cultural exchange across Asia, Central Asia, the Caucasus, the Middle East and their diasporas.

For Paris 2026, Punk Orientalism Studio presents an immersive interdisciplinary salon centred on Paris-based artist Babi Badalov. Bringing together visual art, fashion, design, publishing and performance, the project transforms the traditional booth into a living space for exchange.

Language, identity, displacement and cultural memory become materials in their own right. Contributions by Babi Badalov, Paria Farzaneh, James Clar, Attia Shiraz and Sami El-Enany bring together drawings, books, objects, wearable works, sound and live interventions, reflecting on how contemporary culture is shaped by movement, translation and the ongoing negotiation of belonging.

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# MORE THAN A GEOGRAPHY, A MOVEMENT

## Conversations & Encounters

The public programme will also include a series of conversations and encounters developed with journalist Vivienne Chow, bringing together artists, curators, writers and cultural practitioners around some of the questions emerging from this year's programme.

Further collaborations are being developed with the Korean Cultural Centre in Paris, through Valentina Buzzi and Youmine, with a dedicated space and programme to be announced shortly. Additional projects and encounters include Reena Khalat and continuing collaborations such as NOWNESS.

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## The Gallery Programme

The gallery programme continues to expand Asia NOW's international network, bringing together established participants, returning galleries and new voices.

Among the anticipated presentations is Chow and Lin, presented by Whitestone Gallery. Returning participants including Esther Schipper, Sabrina Amrani, Kaikai Kiki Gallery, Hatch and Drawing Room from Manila reinforce the depth and continuity of the fair's international network.

This year also welcomes a number of galleries participating at Asia NOW for the first time, including Lux Feminae, ISA Art Taiwan, Art Agenda, Backroom KL, and Tala Gallery from Chicago, bringing new perspectives and expanding the fair's international constellation.



*The Poverty Line (Singapore), Chow and Lin*

*courtesy of Whitestone Gallery*

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## Asia NOW Paris 2026

Together, these exhibitions, commissions, performances, conversations and gallery presentations form the landscape of Asia NOW Paris 2026.

From Saudi Arabia and Mongolia to India, Indonesia, Korea and Southeast Asia, this year's programme brings together different generations, geographies and disciplines, contemporary art alongside craft, cinema, performance, design and cultural research.

Asia NOW is a place to encounter what is happening across Asia today, but also to look at how those ideas travel, transform and connect. In Paris, the programme becomes a meeting point: between artists and audiences, traditions and new forms, local stories and global conversations.

This is Asia NOW Paris 2026: not one Asia, but many. Not a single narrative, but a constellation of voices, practices and perspectives in movement.

## Prix Matsutani

The Prix Matsutani presents a dedicated exhibition celebrating the legacy of Japanese-French artist Takesada Matsutani while supporting a new generation of artists. Bringing together practices grounded in experimentation and materiality, the project reflects on the ways artists continue to push the boundaries of contemporary art while building on the legacies that came before them

### A poetic welcome by Ishita Chakraborty



*Ishita Chakraborty, Amol K patil*

Ishita Chakraborty presents a site-specific installation conceived in response to the architecture and context of the grand staircase at the Monnaie de Paris, with the support of Galerie Peter Kilchmann.

Working across painting, drawing, installation, poetry, sound and performance, Chakraborty brings together voices, materials and memories to explore displacement, colonial histories, identity and language.

Her recent practice also turns towards ecological and existential questions, from climate migration and ecofeminism to shifting relationships between the Global South and North in post-migrant societies. Through imagery, archival material, textiles and sound, she creates living archives where histories of land, migration and displacement become intertwined.

## VER Gallery — Rirkrit Tiravanija

VER Gallery presents a special project bringing together artists featured in the Venice Biennale, extending the dialogue between the international contemporary art scene and Mongolia's rich and evolving artistic landscape. The presentation brings together distinct practices that engage with questions of place, cultural heritage, spirituality and contemporary life, offering an opportunity to encounter Mongolian perspectives within the broader context of Asia NOW.

The project will be accompanied by a conversation between Rirkrit Tiravanija and Mongolian artist Tuguldur Yondonjamts, exploring ideas of community, cultural exchange and artistic practice across different geographies. Their dialogue will further consider how artists build connections between local histories and global contemporary art, and how encounters across cultures can generate new forms of collaboration, understanding and exchange.

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*Nomin Bold, \* 1982*

### Curatorial project by Alia Swastika

Indonesian curator and Director of the Biennale Jogja Foundation Alia Swastika returns to Asia NOW for the third time with a new project continuing her exploration of contemporary practices from Indonesia and beyond.

A leading figure within the region's art ecosystem, Swastika's curatorial work engages with identity, ecology and decolonial perspectives. Her return reinforces Asia NOW's long-standing relationship with the Indonesian contemporary art scene and the wider Biennale Jogja network.

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PRACTICAL INFO  
October 19  
Press & VIP Preview  
October 20-24  
Open to Public

La Monnaie de Paris  
11, Quai de Conti | 75006 Paris  
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VILLA HEGRA

