



la Biennale di Venezia

56. Esposizione  
Internazionale  
d'Arte  
Eventi Collaterali

con il patrocinio di



Ministero  
dei beni e delle  
attività culturali  
e del turismo



DIREZIONE GENERALE MUSEI  
POLO MUSEALE DEL VENETO

Ministero  
dei beni e delle  
attività culturali  
e del turismo

Tagore Foundation International and Polo Museale de Veneto Present

### ***Frontiers Reimagined***

Public Dates: 9 May – 22 November, 2015

Press Preview: 6 May, 2 – 4:30 pm (Remarks at 3 pm)

Official Collateral Event as part of the 56<sup>th</sup> International Art Exhibition of la Biennale di Venezia



**New York, Venice, 6 May, 2015** – Tagore Foundation International and the Polo museale del Veneto are pleased to announce their presentation of ***Frontiers Reimagined***, a major exhibition that will open to the public at the **Museo di Palazzo Grimani** on 9 May, 2015 in tandem with the inauguration of the 56<sup>th</sup> International Art Exhibition of la Biennale di Venezia. Curated by **Sundaram Tagore**, with co-curator **Marius Kwint**, the exhibition will explore the theme of cultural boundaries through new and recent works, many of which were created specifically for the presentation, by established and emerging artists from around the world. The site-specific installation is juxtaposed by the architecture and collection of the Museo di Palazzo Grimani, a 16<sup>th</sup> century palace turned state museum, which holds a unique place in Venetian history and architecture. The recently restored palazzo houses a historic collection of artwork by Hieronymus Bosch, Giorgione, Vasari, as well some of the most important frescoes in the city, by Italian Mannerist painters Francesco Salviati, Federico Zuccari and Camillo Mantovano.

Comprised of more than 65 works by 44 artists from more than 25 countries in a variety of media, ***Frontiers Reimagined*** will demonstrate the intellectual and aesthetic richness that can emerge in today's globalized art world when artists engage in intercultural dialogue. Sundaram Tagore and Marius Kwint have selected the artists in the

exhibition for their shared global perspective, as seen in both their artistic explorations and their practice of living and working across physical borders, stretching from the West to Asia to Africa.

Artists presented in the exhibition include:

|                            |                       |                     |                     |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Miya Ando                  | Denise Green          | Vittorio Matino     | Nino Sarabutra      |
| Alfredo & Isabel Aquilizan | Sasha Huber           | Ricardo Mazal       | Hiroshi Senju       |
| Osi Audu                   | Georges Fikry Ibrahim | Vik Muniz           | Donald Sultan       |
| Frances Barth              | Fré Ilgen             | Judith Murray       | Rabindranath Tagore |
| Edward Burzynsky           | Kenro Izu             | Michael Petry       | Jack Tworkov        |
| Kamolpan Chotvichai        | Kim Joon              | Robert Polidori     | Lee Waisler         |
| Christo                    | Nathan Slate Joseph   | Eddi Prabandono     | Susan Weil          |
| Tom Doyle                  | Aaron Taylor Kuffner  | Chatchai Puipia     | Morgan Wong         |
| Golnaz Fathi               | Jane Lee              | Sohan Qadri         | Robert Yasuda       |
| Olivia Fraser              | Tayeba Begum Lipi     | Robert Rauschenberg | Chun Kwang Young    |
| April Gornik               | Hassan Massoudy       | Sebastião Salgado   |                     |

*“Frontiers Reimagined* was conceived to educate and enlighten viewers about the conceptual and formal issues that emerge from intercultural exchange in the artistic sphere,” stated Sundaram Tagore. “It is our hope that viewers will recognize that this exchange is not only a present-day manifestation but very much the reality of the future.”

The exhibition highlights the positive outcomes which globalization has had on artistic production, as selective cultural and artistic appropriation has become increasingly prevalent and as local artistic production has continued to gain exposure and acceptance on international platforms.

*“Frontiers Reimagined* aims to dissolve barriers of dominant nationalism, ethnocentrism and identity politics,” stated Marius Kwint. “At this moment in history, with people around the world locked in increasingly intransigent ideologies, the mingling of ideas across borders has never been more vital.”

**Sundaram Tagore** is the Director of Sundaram Tagore Gallery, with spaces in New York, Hong Kong and Singapore, as well as the Director of the Tagore Foundation International. His work with the Gallery and the Foundation aims to provide a platform for substantive dialogue about arts and culture around the world. **Marius Kwint** is an American-born art historian, who teaches Visual Culture at the University of Portsmouth in the United Kingdom.

“We are pleased to be partnering with Tagore Foundation International to realize *Frontiers Reimagined* and to be able to share these important international works with local and international audiences,” stated **Giovanna Damiani**, former Superintendent, Soprintendenza speciale per il patrimonio storico, artistico ed etnoantropologico e per il polo museale della città di Venezia e dei comuni della Gronda lagunare.

According to Giulio Manieri Elia, Director of Palazzo Grimani Museum, “The museum is a perfect setting for exhibiting works of contemporary art. In fact, this is the second year the museum has hosted events of the Biennale. In the age of the Renaissance, moreover, the Grimani family were refined collectors of antiquities, as well as patrons and collectors of contemporary art.”

*Frontiers Reimagined* has been granted the patronage of the Ministero dei beni e delle attività culturali e del turismo, the Italian Ministry of Culture. A 112-page, full-color hardcover catalogue to be published by Marsilio Editori will accompany the exhibition and will be available for sale at the museum.

### **Tagore Foundation International**

Established by Sundaram Tagore in 2006, Tagore Foundation International is a New York City-based 501(c)(3) organization that is devoted to intercultural dialogue and encourages social, spiritual and aesthetic dialogues

between Asia and other areas of the world. The Foundation promotes the preservation and conservation of indigenous artworks and architecture; draws attention to artistic expressions that are either ignored or under-represented in the larger cultural context; helps to develop intellectually rigorous international exhibitions by Asian and African artists; and provides a platform for dialogue about arts and culture around the world.

The Foundation's mission is inspired by and deeply enmeshed with the ideals of Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941), Sundaram Tagore's great-granduncle, whose poetry, fiction, music and art have touched people all over the world. Rabindranath Tagore worked tirelessly throughout his life encouraging people to break free from "narrow domestic walls" through social justice and a universalism that merged the best ideals of East and West. In 1913, he was first non-European to be awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature.

#### **EXHIBITION DETAILS**

Title: *Frontiers Reimagined*

Press Conference: Wednesday, May 6 from 2-4:30 pm, with presentations at 3 pm

Preview Days: May 6 – 8, 2015 from 9 am-7 pm

Direttore del Polo museale del Veneto: Daniele Ferrara

Commissioner and Curator: Sundaram Tagore

Co-curator: Marius Kwint

Coordinating Director: Nathalie Vernizzi

Venue: Museo di Palazzo Grimani

Address: Ramo Grimani, Castello 4858

Public Dates: May 9 - November 22, 2015

Hours: 10 am -6 pm Tuesdays-Sundays/ Closed Mondays

Tickets: Complimentary Admission for *Frontiers Reimagined*

Venue Tel: +39 - 041 241 1507

Website: [frontiersreimagined.org](http://frontiersreimagined.org)

#### **PHOTO CAPTION DETAILS:**

**Left:** Alfredo and Isabel Aquilizan, *Wings III*, 2009, used slippers and metal stand, 8.9 x 6.4 feet/2.7 x 2 meters, © 2015 Tagore Foundation International, image courtesy of Cesar Villalon, The Drawing Room, and the artists

**Right:** Hiroshi Senju, *Ryujin II* (installation, left) and *Ryujin I* (installation, right) 2014, acrylic and fluorescent pigments on Japanese mulberry paper, each measuring 7.9 x 37.4 feet/2.4 x 11 meters; © 2015 Nacasa and Partners Inc.; image courtesy of the artist

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For more information, follow Sundaram Tagore Galleries on Twitter: @SundaramTagore, Facebook: Sundaram Tagore Gallery, Instagram: [sundaramtagore](https://www.instagram.com/sundaramtagore) and YouTube: Sundaram Tagore.