

For immediate release

BAGRI FOUNDATION PRESENTS A SERIES OF THREE TALKS TO RE-ENVISION THE ARTS

Navigating Change:
Pivoting and Re-envisioning the Arts
Tuesday 11, 18, 25 May 2021
12pm-1pm BST, YouTube

**Where have we found positive and meaningful change in our life and practice in the past year?
How are we embracing chance and risk going forward?
What new ways of working have we learned and how can this change the way the arts sector works?**

For its new online series of panel discussions titled **Navigating Change**, the Bagri Foundation invites international speakers from across arts disciplines to discuss their practice in the face of change and chance, and to explore how they address risk and scenarios out of their control.

As part of the Bagri Foundation season of Chang/ce, the Navigating Change series presents three panels released throughout May 2021 on our [YouTube channel](#). They are:

11 May, 12-1PM BST - Navigating a changing creative sector with artist **Yarli Allison**; dancer and choreographer **Aakash Odedra**, and curator **Dr Imma Ramos** (British Museum).

18 May, 12-1PM BST - Navigating a changing world with curator **Diana Campbell-Betancourt** (Samdani Art Foundation and Dhaka Art Summit), creative climate change communicator **Angela Chan**, and choreographer **Sivan Rubinstein**.

25 May, 12-1PM BST Navigating Risk and Reward with community organiser, artist, and curator **Adriel Luis** (The Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center), philanthropist **John Studzinski** (Genesis Foundation), and collector and gallerist **Amrita Jhaveri** (Jhaveri Contemporary).

In response to specific prompts and followed by a communal conversation, the speakers bring multidisciplinary perspectives from contemporary art, dance, music, traditional arts and philanthropy to answer how they have embraced positive and meaningful change into their life and practice in 2021 and beyond. They present new ways of working they have developed since 2020, discuss how they approach chance and risk going forward, and share their learning in the hope to inspire others.

“In the past year we have been constantly responding, adapting, and rebalancing. What has kept us motivated are the amazing creations and reflections of so many in the art world that have been striving for change as well as collaboratively exploring practices and ideas that we hope can pave the way for a more caring, resilient and sustainable art sector.” Alessandra Cianetti, Project Manager, Bagri Foundation

Send your questions to the panellists by 25 April 11:59 BST via the Eventbrite links found on each of the event pages. You can also find the Bagri Foundation Eventbrite profile [here](#).

[Sign up to our newsletter](#) to be kept up to date on the releases and get exclusive access to the panels before they are made public.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Yarli Allison is a Hong Kong-Canadian born, UK/Paris-based artist with a multidisciplinary approach that traverses sculpture, performance, digital, film, drawing, and installation. Yarli graduated in 2017 with an MFA in Sculpture from Slade School of Fine Art, University College London, UK. Her works have exhibited and screened internationally including State Hermitage Museum's Young Artists Program, St. Petersburg (2014), Gardiner Museum, Toronto (2014), TAF_The Art Foundation, Athens (2018), Videotage Gallery, Hong Kong (2020), Queer and porn-film festivals of Berlin, London, Vienna, Hong Kong (2018-2020).

Diana Campbell Betancourt is a Princeton educated American curator who has been working in South and Southeast Asia since 2010, primarily in India, Bangladesh, and the Philippines. She is committed to fostering a transnational art world, and her plural and long-range vision addresses the concerns of underrepresented regions and artists alongside the more established in manifold forums. Since 2013, she has served as the Founding Artistic Director of Dhaka-based Samdani Art Foundation, Bangladesh and Chief Curator of the Dhaka Art Summit, leading the critically acclaimed 2014, 2016, 2018, and 2020 editions.

Angela Chan is a 'creative climate change communicator', working as an independent curator, researcher and artist. Her practice explores anti-colonial climate justice, geography and speculative fiction, to reconfigure power, climate knowledges and minoritised experiences. Her research-based art includes video, participatory conversations and storytelling, and she collaborates widely with artists, activists, authors and youth groups. Angela's current commissions with FACT/Jerwood Arts, Estuary 2021 and Sonic Acts span climate framings, water scarcity and conflict. Angela produces exhibitions and workshops with her long-term curatorial project Worm: art + ecology. She co-founded the London Chinese Science Fiction Group and co-directs the London Science Fiction Research Community. Angela holds a joint honours undergraduate in History of Art and Scandinavian Studies with Norwegian (UCL) and an MA in Climate Change: History, Culture, Society (KCL).

Amrita Jhaveri has been involved with the commercial art world in India since the early 1990s. She established Christie's office in India and initiated auctions of modern and contemporary Indian art. In 2000 Jhaveri moved to London and began working with private collectors and museum curators on aspects of Modern and Contemporary South Asian Art. As an independent advisor, Amrita has created and managed private and corporate art collections; ambitious artist projects and large-scale commissions. In 2010 she founded Jhaveri Contemporary in Mumbai. The gallery represents artists, across generations and nationalities, whose work is informed by South Asian connections and traditions. An exhibition maker at heart, Amrita co-curated 'Thinking Tantra' at Drawing Room, London (2016 -17) and South Asian Modernists 1953-63 at the Whitworth, Manchester (2017-18). Jhaveri sits on the Advisory boards of Khoj (New Delhi), Museum of Art and Photography (Bangalore) and Drawing Room (London).

Adriel Luis is a community organizer, artist, and curator who believes in collective imagination as a pathway toward liberation. His life's work is focused on bridging artistic integrity and social vigilance. He is a part of the iLL-Literacy arts collective, which creates music and media to strengthen Black and Asian American coalitions; is creative director of Bombshelltoe, which works with artists to highlight marginalized communities affected by nuclear issues; and collaborates with dozens of artists and organizations through his curate and design engine, Phenomenoun. Adriel is the Curator of Digital and Emerging Practice at the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center, where he advocates for equitable practices in museums and institutions. He and his team curate Culture Labs – an alternative to museum exhibitions, built on community-centered beliefs. Adriel's ancestry is from Toisan, China, and his family's migration traces Hong Kong, Mexico, and the United States. He currently lives on Tongva-Chumash-Kizh-Gabrielino land (Los Angeles).

Aakash Odedra is a dancer, choreographer and teacher. Born in Birmingham, UK and trained in the classical Indian dance styles of Kathak (Nilima Devi, Leicester and Asha Joglekar, India) and Bharatanatyam (Chitraleka Bolar, Birmingham and Chhaya Kantaveh, India). Aakash formed Aakash Odedra Company in 2011 as a vehicle for commissioning solos and to develop his own choreographic work. Most recently Aakash has embarked upon a four month residency at New York University Abu Dhabi; presenting workshops, online lectures and virtual performances. He's launched Across_Dance in collaboration with choreographer Aditi Mangaldas, a new series of online workshops with 100 artists taking part in the pilot across 13 countries.

Dr. Imma Ramos is the curator of the medieval to modern South Asia collections at the British Museum. She curated the recent exhibition, Tantra: Enlightenment to Revolution (24 September 2020 – 24 January 2021), and is the author of its accompanying book which presents the first historical exploration of Tantric visual culture from its origins in India to its reimagining in the West. Her research interests revolve around the relationship between religion, politics and gender in South Asian visual culture.

Sivan Rubinstein is a London based choreographer whose art uncovers contemporary cultural issues and aims to facilitate creative public conversations. Her work is deeply rooted in collaboration with academics, artists, communities and methods of alternative learning. Her practice navigates between finding beauty in the personal, intimate experience of moving and highlighting its wider social meaning. Sivan Rubinstein is a Work Place Artist and King's College London's Artist in Residence 2019-2020. She is also the co-founder of OH Creative Space with Jessica Miller. Sivan is currently working on a new climate futures Dance No 2° series. This new series is co-produced and commissioned by The Place, supported by King's College London and PRS foundation.

John Studzinski CBE is founder and chairman of the Genesis Foundation. Since 2001, the Foundation has supported programmes that nurture the careers of outstanding young artists in the UK, enabling them to develop their professional skills and experience and gain access to mentors and valuable networks. As a hands-on philanthropist and as a thought leader, John Studzinski focuses primarily on the arts, human rights, homelessness and volunteering. He is Founding President of Arise, which was established in 2015 to support frontline work against modern slavery. This role complements his activities to promote transparency in business supply chains, which have included a period as co-chair of the Home Office's Business Against Slavery Forum.

About the Bagri Foundation

The Bagri Foundation is a UK registered charity, inspired by unique and unexpected ideas that weave the traditional and the contemporary of Asian culture. The Foundation, with its roots in education, is driven by curiosity and a desire to learn, and aims for each project to challenge, engage and inspire. Through a diverse programme of film, visual arts, music, dance, literature and talks, the Bagri Foundation gives artists and experts from across Asia and the diaspora, wider visibility on the global stage. Recent projects include **At Home in the World**, a series of digital commissions; **Tantra: enlightenment to revolution** at the British Museum; **Object, Story, Wonder: Museum Collections Revealed**; and **From Here to Eternity: Sunil Gupta, A Retrospective** at The Photographer's Gallery, London.



For press information

press@bagrifoundation.org

www.bagrifoundation.org

@BagriFoundation