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NATIONAL GALLERY SINGAPORE

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PRESS RELEASE

THE FIRST TEMPORARY EXHIBITION OF THE NEW NATIONAL GALLERY SINGAPORE, PRODUCED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CENTRE POMPIDOU

The Centre Pompidou has the pleasure of announcing the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Gallery Singapore for the production of the very first temporary exhibition to be presented in this new museum.

On Thursday 18 June at 5.30 p.m., this Memorandum will be signed at the Centre Pompidou by Chong Siak Ching, President of the National Gallery Singapore, and Serge Lasvignes, President of the Centre Pompidou, in the presence of Sam Tan, Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office and the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth of the Republic of Singapore.

In the frame of its policy of devising exhibitions to travel abroad, the Centre Pompidou is delighted with this new collaboration, which enables it to open out to ever more artistic scenes and cultural networks in Southeast Asia. In developing partnerships with new international cultural players, the Centre Pompidou wishes to reach out to new audiences by offering broad access to its rich and incomparable collection.

The aim of the exhibition, devised in full collaboration with National Gallery Singapore, is to create a dialogue between a hundred-odd works from the Centre Pompidou collection (one of the top two leading modern and contemporary art collections in the world) and a selection of about as many, gathered by the Singaporean institution around its own collection. This dialogue will be based on a comparative approach of aesthetic practices (from 1900 to the 1960s) in cultural traditions that are very different, but have all nourished the complex and multi-centric adventure of modernity.

National Gallery Singapore is due to open in late 2015 within two historical buildings of the city-state: the former City Hall and Court of Justice, now reunited and redesigned by Studio Milou, a French firm of architects, in partnership with the Singaporean group CPG Consultants. This new museum, hosting the world's largest collection of Southeast Asian art, marks Singapore's ambition to position itself in the new geography of an international, globalised art scene.

"We want to create shows that are relevant to this part of the world rather than just hosting classic traveling exhibitions. In order to achieve this, we are delighted to be collaborating with a prestigious institution like the Centre Pompidou, to build on each other's strengths and thus be able to give our visitors reasons to return to our respective museums throughout the year."

Ms Chong Siak Ching, CEO of National Gallery Singapore

"The Centre Pompidou is delighted to be signing this Memorandum with National Gallery Singapore, and I wish a very warm welcome to this new cultural player in the international art scene. National Gallery Singapore's confidence in the Centre Pompidou's experience and its recognition of the extraordinary source represented by our incomparable collection highlight the global influence of the Centre Pompidou. This encourages us to keep up our policy of cooperating with outstanding partners throughout the world, and of expanding our international networks."

Serge Lasvignes, CEO of Centre Pompidou

The Centre Pompidou had already collaborated with Singapore in 2011 on the exhibition "Video: an Art, a History. 1965 - 2010" at the Singapore Art Museum.