Arts and Culture
Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2017

Dalian, People’s Republic of China, 27-29 June
Introduction

This year at the Annual Meeting of the New Champions in Dalian, more than 20 Cultural Leaders from China, Iran, Japan, Mongolia, the United States and beyond will take part in dozens of sessions across the official programme. Among over 2,000 participants from across sectors, look out for and engage with this exceptional group of authors, architects, media artists, fine artists, filmmakers, designers, choreographers and others from the world of culture. They have come in the spirit of sharing and learning – and will lend their unique artistic and cultural sensibilities to broaden the dialogue on inclusive growth and on the moral, social and cultural implications of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Cultural Leaders will share their insight in over 30 sessions across the official programme. Please check TopLink for details.
Cultural Leaders

Nomintuya Baasankhuu, Ulaanbaatar

Nomintuya Baasankhuu is the Deputy Executive Director of the Arts Council of Mongolia, focusing on nourishing multistakeholder partnerships for sustainable development and promoting cultural diversity for positive social impact. She also leads the Ulaanbaatar International Media Arts Festival, which promotes collaboration at the intersection of arts, science and technology. She is a Global Shaper of the World Economic Forum.

Andrea Bandelli, Dublin

Andrea Bandelli is Executive Director of the Science Gallery International, where he is building a global network to ignite the creative potential of young people through STEAM. With university network members in Dublin, London, Melbourne, Bengaluru, Venice and Detroit, he is now leading the expansion into Latin America, Africa and South-East Asia. Bandelli has led several international projects on science, art, democracy and public participation.

Zack Denfeld, Dublin

Zack Denfeld is an artist, designer and educator working with natural, built and information environments. He runs two artist-led think tanks: The Center for Genomic Gastronomy and CoClimate. Denfeld helped launch the Center for Experimental Media Art at the Srishti School of Art Design & Technology (Bangalore, India) and the MFA in Collaborative Design at PNCA (Portland, Oregon, USA).

Fan Ling, Beijing

Fan Ling is the Chief Executive Officer of Tezign.com, an online platform connecting creative professionals and clients with design demand. Fan was a professor in design, human-environment interaction and urbanism at the University of California at Berkeley and China Central Academy of Fine Arts. In 2016, Fan founded the Design & Artificial Intelligence Laboratory at Tongji University and serves as its founding director. He is a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum.

Madeline Gannon, Pittsburgh

Madeline Gannon is passionate about inventing better ways to communicate with machines. In her research, she develops human-centered interfaces that transform industrial robots into sentient companions, that transform bodies into interactive canvases, and that illustrate an embodied vision for the future of digital making. Her work blends disciplinary knowledge from design, robotics and human-computer interaction to innovate at the edges of digital creativity. Gannon is a Research Fellow at the Frank-Ratchye Studio for Creative Inquiry at Carnegie Mellon University.

Mehdi Ghadyanloo, Tehran

Mehdi Ghadyanloo is an Iranian artist known for his utopian and philosophical paintings that investigate universal human precepts such as fear, hope and loss. Through his works, he subconsciously encapsulates and expresses a sense of suspension for an entire generation of people who lived through war in Iran. Ghadyanloo is also one of Iran’s foremost public artists. Between 2004 and 2011, he painted over 100 murals in Tehran.
Cultural Leaders

**Hrund Gunnsteinsdottir**, Reykjavik

Hrund Gunnsteinsdottir is a director, writer and filmmaker as well as the Chair of the Board of the Technology Development Fund in Iceland, which supports innovation in the country. She has worked for UN Women, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and public and private organizations, specifically on gender and post-conflict reconstruction. In her work, Gunnsteinsdottir brings together people, ideas and methods from different sectors and disciplines to facilitate creative, holistic and innovative outcomes. She is a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum.

**Daisy Guo**, Beijing

Daisy Guo is the co-founder of Tezign.com, an online platform connecting creative professionals and clients with design demand. Previously, she was part of the curating team for the Chinese pavilion at the 2012 Venice Biennale and has curated exhibitions around the world. She is a Global Shaper of the World Economic Forum.

**Hao Jingfang**, Beijing

Hao Jingfang is a Chinese science fiction writer. In 2016, she won the Hugo Award for Best Novelette for Folding Beijing. Hao also works as a macroeconomics researcher at the China Development Research Foundation, a quasi-non-governmental organization located in Beijing.

**Yasauki Kakehi**, Tokyo

Yasauki Kakehi is a media artist and visiting professor at the Fluid Interfaces group of MIT Media Lab, where his research crosses over the boundaries between engineering, art and design. He develops interactive media that extend the human body, tools and communication by multiplying the five senses, affecting the properties of physical materials, and incorporating digital information. He is a Young Scientist of the World Economic Forum.

**Li Yongcun (Bo Yun)**, Beijing

Bo Yun is an artist and professor at the Academy of Arts and Design at Tsinghua University in Beijing. While respecting the ancient heritage of Chinese ink painting, he has succeeded in integrating new ideas and techniques that make his work seem very contemporary. His vast repertoire of work has influenced a new generation of artists in China seeking to express themselves freely and creatively.

**John Lin**, Hong Kong

John Lin is an architect and professor at the University of Hong Kong. He is the co-founder of Rural Urban Framework (RUF), a research and design platform dedicated to developing sustainable prototypes for rapidly urbanizing areas. His approach combines research into large scale processes of urbanization and integration of local construction practices with contemporary technology in built projects.

**Mokena Makeka**, Cape Town

Mokena Makeka is an architect and founder of Mokeka Design Lab, an innovative design practice, and the House of Makeka, a brand that confronts social and environmental change in Africa. His vision is to create a global African aesthetic that brings dignity and grace to the built environment. He is a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum.
Daito Manabe, Tokyo
Daito Manabe is a media artist, DJ and producer who, in 2006, founded Rhizomatiks, a creative collective committed to effecting wide-scale social change by bridging the gulf to foster collaboration between media art, industry and business. He also carries out collaborative, state-of-the-art projects with artists in various genres, making the most use of programming, technology and interactive design.

Carlo Ratti, Cambridge
Carlo Ratti is an architect and engineer teaching at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he directs the Senseable City Laboratory, and is a founding partner of the international design and innovation office Carlo Ratti Associati. As a leading voice in the debate on new technologies’ impact on urban life, he explores how new technologies are changing the way we understand, design and ultimately live in cities.

Daan Roosegaarde, Rotterdam
Daan Roosegaarde is a creative thinker and maker of social designs that explore the relationship between people, technology and space. Inspired by nature’s gifts, he works with a team of designers and engineers in his studio towards a better future. In Dalian, Roosegaarde will explore alternative visions of a sustainable environmental future with the presentation of his Smog Free Tower outside of the conference centre. He is a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum.

Imanuel Schipper, Hamburg
Imanuel Schipper is a dramaturge, theatre and performance studies scholar and curator. He is currently researching dramaturgy at the Leuphana University in Luneburg and collaborates as a dramaturge with the internationally known theatre collective Rimini Protokoll. He teaches at the Freie Universität Berlin and the Zurich University of the Arts, among others.

Kamal Sinclair, Los Angeles
Kamal Sinclair is a producer, theatrical director, community arts leader and multidisciplinary artist. She serves as the Director of the Sundance Institute’s New Frontier Labs Program, where she develops landmark projects in the evolution of story, including experimentations with virtual reality, augmented reality, data intelligence, transmedia, haptic technology, projection mapping and smart objects as storytelling media.

Philip Tinari, Beijing
Philip Tinari is a writer, Curator and Director of the Ullens Center for Contemporary Art in Beijing. In this role, he organizes an exhibition programme devoted to established figures and rising talents, both Chinese and international. He is among the most influential of those curators, critics and art historians working to build bridges between the Chinese and international art scenes. He is a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum.

Jin Xing, Shanghai
Jin Xing is a TV talk show host and one of China’s most influential opinion-makers. She is a trained dancer, choreographer and owner of the Jin Xing Dance Theatre in Shanghai, the country’s first independent dance company. Jin was the first transgender person in China to receive the government’s approval to undergo gender reassignment.

Zhang Yuxuan, Beijing
Zhang Yuxuan has been the Head Instructor of the Beijing Milun School of Traditional Kungfu since 2004, where he teaches students from around the world. He is a master of internal martial arts and won first place demonstrating Tai Chi at the prestigious International Martial Arts Open in Beijing in 2005 and 2006.
Exhibition:
The 4IR Bio Lab

Explore and debate the impact of the Fourth Industrial Revolution on all forms of life.

The 4IR Bio Lab brings cutting-edge science and pioneering technology together with artists’ inspired conceptions of the future. From synthetic biology to human enhancement, participants will experience and discover how the biological dimensions of the Fourth Industrial Revolution could impact global systems for health and medicine, production, culture and society, sustainability, and food and consumption.

The exhibition is curated in collaboration with Science Gallery International with support from The Wellcome Trust.

PIG 05049
Where in our lives is Pig 05049?
By Christien Meindertsma

Artist Christien Meindertsma spent three years tracing all the products made from one animal, PIG 05049. After its death, it was shipped in parts throughout the world. Among some of the more unexpected results were ammunition, photo paper, heart valves, brakes and even chewing gum. Despite news of emerging advanced materials, PIG 05049 is a humbling and macabre reminder of how much today’s global production systems still rely on exploiting living creatures as a basic resource.
CIRCUMVENTIVE ORGANS
What if we invent super organs?
By Agatha Haines

With the introduction of bioprinting, the possibility of creating new organs may become a reality. Circumventive Organs is a series of hypothetical designs that imagines which parts of various animals could be used in combination with human tissue to solve common health problems. If it is possible to replicate human organs, then why not invent new ones? Is this what the future of designer biology might look like?

E.CHROMI: THE SCATALOG
What if your breakfast was a test for cancer?
By Alexandra Daisy Ginsberg, James King and the University of Cambridge iGEM 2009 team

In 2009, seven undergraduate students genetically engineered E. coli bacteria to secrete a range of coloured pigments visible to the naked eye, which they called E. chromi. E.Chromi: The Scatalog imagines using this technology for cheap, personalized disease monitoring. Engineered bacteria, ingested in yoghurt, would colonize our gut, keeping watch for the chemical markers of disease. When disease is encountered, the bacteria produce a color pigment that alerts you immediately to this diagnosis at your next bathroom break. The Scatalog suggests a very possible future in which synthetic biology can enhance our basic bodily functions to improve and possibly extend our lives.

I WANNA DELIVER A DOLPHIN…
What could genetic engineering lead to?
By Ai Hasegawa

Our understanding and ability to manipulate the genome has progressed dramatically over the last 100 years. We have entered an epoch where scenarios about the future of humanity that used to be science fiction begin to look possible. Imagine that, by the end of this century, the planet may face overcrowding, environmental crisis and the mass extinction of endangered species. What if by that time, thanks to advanced genetic-engineering, a woman could choose to give birth to a non-human species? I Wanna Deliver a Dolphin… imagines a future where synthetic biology enables a “dolphin-human placenta” so human females could help save an endangered dolphin species. There is no way to say if or when a human giving birth to a dolphin could become a reality, but the state of genetic science today suggests it might not be entirely impossible.

CHINESE MEDICINE 2.0
Can we unlock the scientific mysteries of traditional Chinese medicine?

Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) is a 5,000 year old medical theory and practice gaining attention and followers around the world. The effectiveness of traditional therapies and healing practices has long been observed but remains poorly understood by science. Could new areas of research, from the microbiome to neuroscience and the biology of “mind over body” help explain the power of TCM?

MYCOTECTURE BRICK WALL
Do you want to grow your home?
By Philip Ross

What if we could grow our homes, offices or entire cities? Mycotecture bricks are grown out of a living fungus. Fungal materials have tuneable qualities like plastics and can be machined like composites. They are incredibly strong and durable but can readily be broken down with a range of benign processes and incorporated back into the Earth, pointing toward an alternate future in which humans could live in greater harmony with the biological world.

HUAWEI AIR HOCKEY
Can human biology compete with machines?
By Huawei Technologies

It takes about 10 milliseconds for a command from your brain to travel to your arm muscles – that’s 10 times faster than the blink of an eye. Connected by a prototype 5G wireless network, this project features two robots playing air hockey while communicating with one another 10 times faster than your brain can speak to your arm. What will be the new roles for biological life forms in a world of near-instantaneous robot collaboration and learning?
Dutch artist and innovator Daan Roosegaarde and his team of experts have created the world’s largest smog vacuum cleaner. The Smog Free Tower uses patented ion technology to produce smog free air in public space, allowing people to breathe and experience clean air for free. As Roosegaarde puts it: “This project is about the dream of clean air for everyone.”

The Smog Free Project was inspired by Roosegaarde’s numerous travels to China, particularly a visit to Beijing in 2013. He could see nothing from his hotel room, and children were kept indoors due to the severe smog. He realized that more than 80% of people in urban areas are exposed to air quality levels that exceed World Health Organization limits. Roosegaarde initiated the Smog Free Project as a part of his larger oeuvre “Landscapes of the Future”, which connects people, technology and space to improve the quality of daily life in urban environments.

The Smog Free Tower, equipped with patented positive ionization technology, cleans 30,000 cubic metres of air per hour. It captures the PM2.5 and PM10 particles and runs on wind energy. The Smog Free Project is supported by the Chinese central government. Creating a tangible souvenir, Roosegaarde also designed Smog Free Rings of compressed smog particles. By sharing a Smog Free Ring, you donate 1,000 cubic metres of clean air to the city.

The Smog Free Project provides a local solution for clean air. The effect of the Smog Free Tower has been validated by results compiled by the Eindhoven University of Technology. The project is also an inspirational experience of a clean future. Along with governments, students and the clean-tech industry, people can work together to make a whole city smog free.

Dalian is the third stop for Roosegaarde’s Smog Free Project China Tour after Beijing and Tianjin. The Smog Free Tower will be located directly outside of the Dalian International Convention Center.

For more info, visit: www.studioroosegaarde.net
The Forum believes that the arts and culture are at the root of the vitality of healthy and inclusive societies.

Artists and cultural institutions collaborate with the Forum to forge new alliances across sectors, speak truth to power, and create powerful and inclusive narratives that change hearts and minds. This manifests itself in the creation and presentation of site-specific performances, immersive exhibitions and projects, and in the launch of socially-engaged initiatives.

For news, blogs, videos, and further information about the Cultural Leaders community at the World Economic Forum, visit www.wef.ch/culturalleaders
The World Economic Forum, committed to improving the state of the world, is the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation. The Forum engages the foremost political, business and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas.