

**MEDIA RELEASE**

*For immediate release*



Ms Grace Fu, Singapore's Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, and Mr Luo Shugang, Minister for Culture for the People's Republic of China, witnessing the signing of the inaugural Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the National Heritage Board (NHB), Singapore and the Palace Museum, People's Republic of China. The MOU was signed by Ms Chang Hwee Nee, Chief Executive Officer of NHB, and Dr Shan Jixiang, Director of the Palace Museum.



The National Heritage Board, Singapore and the Palace Museum, People's Republic of China, today signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Beijing to intensify cultural co-operation and exchanges between both institutions.

*Images courtesy of the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth*



## **THE NATIONAL HERITAGE BOARD, SINGAPORE, SIGNS INAUGURAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE PALACE MUSEUM, CHINA**

**16 June 2017** – The National Heritage Board (NHB), Singapore and the Palace Museum, People’s Republic of China, today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in Beijing to intensify cultural co-operation and exchanges between both institutions. This is a first for both NHB and the Palace Museum, and spans a duration of five years from 16 June 2017 to 15 June 2022.

2. The MOU was signed by Ms Chang Hwee Nee, Chief Executive Officer of NHB, and Dr Shan Jixiang, Director of the Palace Museum. Ms Grace Fu, Singapore’s Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, and Mr Luo Shugang, Minister for Culture for the People’s Republic of China, were present to witness the signing.

3. The NHB-Palace Museum MOU puts in place a long-term framework for collaboration and cooperation between NHB and the Palace Museum on a variety of projects. The five areas of collaboration identified are: exhibition and loan exchange; exchange of information relating to collections management and conservation; curatorial and conservation staff exchange; research and publication; and retail opportunities.

4. According to Minister Fu: “Singapore and China share warm cultural ties, and in 2015, we marked 25 years of diplomatic relations. There have been several important cultural collaborations, such as between National Gallery Singapore and the China Academy of Art, and NHB’s Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall and its Chinese counterparts. The signing of this MOU further cements the strong cultural relations between our two countries, and paves the way for more partnerships in the future. I look forward to the upcoming collaborations that will showcase the best of China’s and Singapore’s culture, and add vibrancy to both our heritage sectors.”

5. Under the NHB-Palace Museum MOU, NHB and the Palace Museum will partner International Council Of Museums (ICOM) Singapore and ICOM China to co-organise a workshop titled *Future of Museums: Audience Engagement for Social Inclusion and Community Building*. Held in Singapore from 14 to 19 August 2017, the workshop will see



museum educators and programmers from Singapore, China and Southeast Asia gather to learn about practical skills to build, engage and sustain new audiences in an immersive museum visit experience; share best practices in building new audiences; and create awareness in the role of museums as agents for social inclusion and community building.

6. In addition to the above workshop, there are also ongoing discussions for a proposed joint exhibition between NHB's Asian Civilisations Museum and the Palace Museum, to be held in Singapore in future. ACM had previously collaborated with the Palace Museum on a very successful exhibition, *The Kangxi Emperor: Treasures from the Forbidden City*, in 2009.

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### **About the National Heritage Board**

The National Heritage Board (NHB) was formed on 1 August 1993. As the custodian of Singapore's heritage, NHB is responsible for telling the Singapore story, sharing the Singaporean experience and imparting our Singapore spirit.

NHB's mission is to preserve and celebrate the shared heritage of our diverse communities, for the purpose of education, nation-building and cultural understanding. It manages the national museums and heritage institutions, and sets policies relating to heritage sites, monuments and the national collection. Through the national collection, NHB curates heritage programmes and presents exhibitions to connect the past, present and future generations of Singaporeans. NHB is now a statutory board under the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth. Please visit [www.nhb.gov.sg](http://www.nhb.gov.sg) for more information.

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