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Taipei Fine Arts Museum Press Release

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Taipei Biennial 2018

Post-Nature—A Museum as an Ecosystem

Dates: 2018.11.17 – 2019.03.10

Venue: Taipei Fine Arts Museum

Taipei Biennial Announces the Title and Curatorial Statement for 2018 Edition

Curated by Mali Wu and Francesco Manacorda, the Taipei Biennial 2018 officially announces its title: *Post-Nature—A Museum as an Ecosystem*. Taking this title as their starting point, the curators will approach the ever-changing nature of an ecosystem and how this is reflected in artistic and institutional practice. This exhibition will investigate how systemic theory can inform art making and allow for reflections about our environment, underlining the reciprocal dependency which every system relies upon to survive.

Post-Nature—A Museum as an Ecosystem combines the notion of ecosystemic survival and the structure of interdependency in its very form. Here, the museum and the city that surrounds it are recognised as interlocking structures. The exhibition will explore, illustrate and investigate the different modes of connectivity and reciprocal dependency that keep a system alive. In this biennial, all artistic, theoretical, social and political elements will contribute to an overarching view of how an ecosystem is generated, and how it regenerates, through collaboration among parts and adaptation to change.

—*Post-Nature—A Museum as an Ecosystem* curatorial statement

In *Post-Nature—A Museum as an Ecosystem*, the curators will use the exhibition to reconsider the museum as a model. In their most conventional forms, exhibitions grow quickly, occupy a limited time span, and have little ability to sustain their reach, while museums instead develop slowly and organically, respond carefully to their

environments and preserve their own longevity. At the same time, if too rigidly confined by an architectural and conceptual framework, a museum can become an isolated space for art contemplation, rather than remain open to constant ecosystemic transformation, osmosis and growth.

As outlined in the curatorial statement, *Post-Nature—A Museum as an Ecosystem* will engage with different ecosystemic models, focusing particularly on the significance of reciprocal dependency, and how this form of working tends toward a holistic common good. While the exhibition venue, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, will act as the central nervous system of the Taipei Biennial, the experimental methodology of this biennial will transform the museum into a platform for multi-disciplinary discussion, which intends to extend outward and reach multilateral resonance outside of the architectural limits of the exhibition.