

**COLLECTING AS PRACTICE**

*Residencies, events and new commissions  
exploring the philosophy, psychology and politics  
of collecting*

**4 April to 25 June, with ongoing research and  
production throughout 2017**

Programme highlights:

- Six collectors undertaking short residencies over the course of the year, alongside resident artists and curators
- Public programme at Delfina Foundation, Art Brussels, art-monte carlo and other venues, curated by Rose Lejeune
- Joint residency and commission with the Victoria & Albert Museum for Indian artist Avani Tanya in response to their South Asian collection
- Exhibition by Korean artist Geumhyung Jeong coinciding with Frieze Art Fair, and a new performance commission with the Korean Cultural Centre UK

Delfina Foundation announces its new thematic programme, *Collecting as Practice*. Through residencies, new commissions, and events, the programme poses urgent questions to both artists and collectors around the philosophy, psychology and politics of collecting.



Directed by **Aaron Cezar**, *Collecting as Practice* underpins a year of Delfina Foundation's programme with artists, collectors and institutions, who are conceptually and practically expanding the notion of collecting in terms of aesthetics, ethics, conservation, preservation, education and value on an international level. Delfina Foundation is the first programme to formally host artists and collectors in residence together to explore shared approaches and concerns, and the potential for such practices in the broadest sense.

*Anything, Everything. 2015-ongoing, Oriol Vilanova. Courtesy: the artist and M-Museum Leuven*

**Delfina Foundation**  
**29/31 Catherine Place**  
**Victoria, London SW1E 6DY**

**T +44 (0)20 7233 5344**  
**info@delfinafoundation.com**  
**www.delfinafoundation.com**

Registered charity no. 1118409

A public programme, curated by **Rose Lejeune**, develops the theme through a series of discussions exploring

radical modes of collecting and collections as sites with the potential for active and critical engagement in the development of cultural identity, revisionist histories and new narratives. This expanded notion considers the embedded nature of collections operating in specific social, political, economic, artistic and personal contexts, and exploring how they are developed, intervened in and activated.

As such, the public programme for *Collecting as Practice* moves beyond the examination and accumulation of individual art works to energise conversations around artistic and radical collecting methodologies in relation to intimacy and economics, communal ownership, cultural memory and education. In doing so, Delfina Foundation hopes to unpack how artists and collectors alike are redefining the critical discourses of collecting in a global context.

Resident artists and curators

**Özge Ersoy** (Turkey), **Deyson Gilbert** (Brazil), **Geumhyung Jeong** (South Korea), **Joshua Lue Chee Kong** (Trinidad and Tobago), **Avani Tanya** (India), **Oriol Vilanova** (Spain/Belgium) and **Wok the Rock** (Indonesia).

Collectors-in-residence

**Pedro Barbosa** (Brazil), **Dorith Galuz** (France), **Sean Lu** (China), **Luba Michailova** (Ukraine), and **Daisuke Miyatsu** (Japan).

More participants will be announced throughout the year.

Events at Delfina Foundation

**24 April, 19:00**

***Sharing Collections***

Exploring the relationships that are formed between collectors and artists, **Pedro Barbosa** and **Deyson Gilbert** discuss their shared interest in ephemera - posters, artists' books and vinyl albums - by conceptual artists in the 1960s and 70s that form a substantial part of the Moreas-Barbosa Collection.

Taking this collaboration as a starting point, and emphasising the potential of collecting as a site of encounter which privileges the creation of social relations between people, rather than the production and display of objects, the event will explore modes of exchange and interaction and discuss how the

**Delfina Foundation**

**29/31 Catherine Place  
Victoria, London SW1E 6DY**

**T +44 (0)20 7233 5344**

**info@delfinafoundation.com**

**www.delfinafoundation.com**

Registered charity no. 1118409

intimate relations might point to new understandings of the connection between art collection, production and distribution.

Further speakers TBC, moderated by **Rose Lejeune**

**20-21 May, times vary**

***Open House***

Curated by **Royal College of Art** MA Curating students, this weekend of events involves former resident artists of Delfina Foundation.

**5 June, 19:00**

***The social value of private initiatives and museums***

Collectors-in-residence **Sean Lu** and **Luba Michailova** are founders of Sifang Art Museum (China) and IZOLYATSIA (Ukraine) respectively, two private initiatives set within very different geo-political contexts but with overlapping aims of invigorating and supporting cultural scenes for local communities. This conversation seeks to explore the public responsibilities of private initiatives and address the ways in which local cultural histories and social needs can be acknowledged alongside national and international artistic communities. The panel will ask how artists, curators and private collectors collaborate in bringing trans-national critical thinking, pedagogy and exchange around visual art into the public domain in meaningful ways.

Further speakers TBC, moderated by **Rose Lejeune**

**20 June, 19:00**

***Who Really Owns It? Thinking through ownership of contemporary art and cultural heritage***

This discussion explores a radical notion of collecting that challenges conventional notions of individual ownership. Taking its departure point from research conducted by curator-in-residence **Özge Ersoy**, as well as recent examples of the destruction of historical artifacts, the discussion considers how social histories become embedded in the material objects of art works. With reference to key artistic, archaeological and architectural practices, the participants will interrogate how it is possible to redefine our understanding of ownership to include concepts of immaterial presence, social knowledge and the communal.

Further speakers TBC, moderated by **Rose Lejeune**

**Delfina Foundation**

**29/31 Catherine Place  
Victoria, London SW1E 6DY**

**T +44 (0)20 7233 5344  
info@delfinafoundation.com  
www.delfinafoundation.com**

Registered charity no. 1118409

**22 June, 19:00**

***Re-Collections***

This evening features current resident artists of Delfina Foundation presenting a range of critical and experimental ideas on the notions collecting. It marks the end of Delfina Foundation's spring programme of residencies.

**Art Fairs**

**Art Brussels, 22 April, 16:00**

***Collecting, Intimacy and the Domestic*** emphasises the potential of collecting as a site of intimate encounter between artists, and collectors with **Pedro Barbosa, Aaron Cezar, Alain Servais** and **Dorith Galuz**, moderated by **Rose Lejeune**.

**art-monte carlo, 29 April, 15:00**

***Private Collection / Public Audiences*** explores the ways in which private collectors, operating at many different scales, develop and support cultural and artistic communities in different contexts around the world with **Pedro Barbosa, Aaron Cezar**, and **Luba Michailova**, moderated by **Rose Lejeune**.

Additional events and outcomes from the residencies will be staged at Autograph ABP, Delfina Foundation, and the Victoria & Albert Museum, among others over the next year.

**Partners & supporters**

Autograph ABP

Brooks International Fellowship Programme with Tate

Charles Wallace India Trust

Coleção Moraes-Barbosa

Danish Arts Foundation

*Here, There & Everywhere*

IndoArtNow

Inlaks Shivdasani Foundation

Korean Cultural Centre UK

Mohamed and Mahera Abu Ghazaleh Foundation

Royal College of Art

SAHA Association

SAM Fund for Arts & Culture

SongEun Art & Cultural Foundation

Trans Atlantic Artist's Residency Exchange

Victoria & Albert Museum

9915

- and -

Delfina Foundation's family of individual supporters

**Delfina Foundation**

**29/31 Catherine Place  
Victoria, London SW1E 6DY**

**T +44 (0)20 7233 5344  
info@delfinafoundation.com  
www.delfinafoundation.com**

Registered charity no. 1118409

**Notes to editors:**

**Delfina Foundation**

Founded in 2007, Delfina Foundation (DF) is an independent, non profit foundation dedicated to facilitating artistic exchange and developing creative practice through residencies, partnerships and public programming. In January 2014, Delfina Foundation expanded into London's largest international residency programme and developed a thematic approach to its residency and public programme. Delfina Foundation has hosted over 350 artists, curators and writers in residence from 45 different countries to date, partnering with institutions such as Tate Modern, V&A Museum, Frieze Art Fair Projects, Art Dubai and Chisenhale Gallery. Founding patron, Delfina Entrecanales CBE, generously provides a rent-free space and 40% of the Foundation's annual funding which is complemented by individual supporters, foundations, public funding and partnerships.

Delfina Foundation's public programme of events and exhibitions fosters critical discourse on the contemporary arts in relation to everyday life. Through seasonal themes, DF brings together salient issues and common ideas to be explored via research residencies and related public programmes. Previous themes include *The Politics of Food*, *The Public Domain*, *Performance as Process* and now, *Collecting as Practice*

**Rose Lejeune** is Associate Curator for Delfina Foundation's *Collecting as Practice* programme. As an independent curator and researcher she is focused on the issues around developing both public and private collections with a focus on context-based, performative and ephemeral practices. Rose has worked as Curator within major UK institutions including Art on the Underground, the British Museum and the Serpentine Gallery and is a PhD candidate at Goldsmiths College.

**Collectors-in-residence**

Collectors will spend one to two weeks in residence at Delfina Foundation, living alongside artists and fully participating in the programme. **Alain Servais** was Delfina Foundation's first collector-in-residence in 2016.

**Pedro Barbosa** and his wife Patrica Moreas have acquired over 500 strongly conceptual artworks in all medias. An important section of their collection consists of ephemera - posters, artists' books and vinyl albums - from the 1960s and 70s. Among other philanthropic initiatives, the Moraes-Barbosa Collection provides residencies for artists and curators in Brazil and abroad.

**Dorith Galuz**, together with her husband Serge, is an avid supporter of young and emerging artists. Established in the 1990s, their collection has evolved to reflect their background in psychoanalysis through an interest in human encounters, communication and fiction, most recently within video and digital practice.

**Sean Lu** together with his father Lu Jun, opened the Sifang Art Museum in Nanjing, China in 2013. Designed by Steven Holl, the museum serves as the centerpiece of a collection of 24 buildings in the Laoshan National Forest Park. The project called *China International Practical Exhibition of Architecture*, or CIPEA, includes designs by David Adjaye, Ettore Sottsass, and Ai Weiwei, among others.

**Luba Michailova** is the founder of Izolyatsia, a non-profit, multidisciplinary platform for contemporary culture in Ukraine. The foundation's mission is to inspire positive change by using culture as an instrument in art, education and projects geared at activating Ukraine's creative sector. Her collection featured site-specific commissions produced through Izolyatsia as well as acquisitions. A significant part of the collection was lost during the military seizure of Izolyatsia's premises in Donetsk by the pro-Russian separatists in June 2014, which is chronicled [here](#).

**For more information and updates:**

<http://delfinafoundation.com/programmes/public-and-thematic-programmes/theme-collecting-as-practice/>

**Contact:**

Gillean Dickie  
[gillean@delfinafoundation.com](mailto:gillean@delfinafoundation.com)  
+44 207 233 5344

**Delfina Foundation**

**29/31 Catherine Place  
Victoria, London SW1E 6DY**

**T +44 (0)20 7233 5344  
info@delfinafoundation.com  
www.delfinafoundation.com**

Registered charity no. 1118409