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**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

California African American Museum  
Emma Jacobson-Sive, 323-842-2064,  
emma@ejs-media.com  
Stacey Ravel Abarbanel, 310-736-5300,  
srabarbanel@gmail.com

Chinese American Museum  
Ellen Endo (English), (213) 485-8567,  
(818) 512-8791 mobile, pr@camla.org  
Ambrose Leong (Chinese), (888) 968-8899,  
ambroseleong@yahoo.com

**DUAL MUSEUM EXHIBITION EXPLORES CHINESE CARIBBEAN ART**  
**Part of Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA**

**LOS ANGELES** – This fall, the multi-faceted history and culture of the Caribbean is the focus of the two-venue exhibition *Circles and Circuits: Chinese Caribbean Art*, presented by the **Chinese American Museum (CAM)** in partnership with the **Asian/Pacific/American Institute at New York University** and the **California African American Museum (CAAM)**.

The exhibition opens on September 15 and is presented in two parts: *Circles and Circuits I: History and Art of the Chinese Caribbean Diaspora* at the California African American Museum (CAAM) in Exposition Park and *Circles and Circuits II: Contemporary Chinese Caribbean Art* at the Chinese American Museum (CAM) in the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument.

At CAAM, *Circles and Circuits I* runs through February 25, 2018 and traces the history of Chinese Caribbean art from the 1930s through the region's independence movements. It examines the contributions of artists little known outside their own countries, including Sybil Atteck (Trinidad and Tobago) and Manuel Chong Neto (Panama), and also provides a new context for understanding the better-known work of Wifredo Lam (Cuba).

At CAM, *Circles and Circuits II* will continue until March 11, 2018 and focus on the work of contemporary artists such as Albert Chong and Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, as well as artists of the ongoing Chinese Caribbean diaspora.

The title "Circles and Circuits" evokes ideas that can be considered on multiple levels. "Circles" references the intimate relationships between the artists and those around them, including people who have influenced their work, from peers to mentors and family. "Circuits" refers to art circuits as well as the many paths, journeys and migrations, cross-connections, and flows of artists and Chinese diasporic communities, beginning from the Manila galleon trade to the present. Such circles and circuits were broad ranging, from the Asia/Pacific to the Americas, to Africa, to the United Kingdom and Europe. Similarly, the



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exhibition hones in on the everyday contexts of personal relationships and influences on the artists and their practices, while recognizing the larger context of global migrations and the historic legacies of cultural, political, and economic power surrounding the circumstances fundamental to an exploration of Chinese Caribbean art histories.

The exhibition co-curators are Alexandra Chang of the A/P/A Institute at NYU and Steven Y. Wong of CAM. Mar Hollingsworth of CAAM is the coordinating curator. An accompanying catalog, published by CAM and distributed by Duke University Press, represents the first publication devoted to Chinese Caribbean art history and visual culture.

Lead support for the exhibition and publication is provided through grants from the Getty Foundation. Major support came from Friends of the Chinese American Museum (FCAM) with additional funding from the Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Los Angeles.

#### About Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA

*Circles and Circuits: Chinese Caribbean Art* is part of Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA, a far-reaching and ambitious exploration of Latin American and Latino art in dialogue with Los Angeles taking place from September 2017 through January 2018. Led by the Getty, Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA is a collaboration of arts institutions across Southern California.

Through a series of thematically linked exhibitions and programs, Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA highlights different aspects of Latin American and Latino art from the ancient world to the present day. With topics such as luxury arts in the pre-Columbian Americas, 20th century Afro-Brazilian art, alternative spaces in Mexico City, and boundary-crossing practices of Latino artists, exhibitions range from monographic studies of individual artists to broad surveys that cut across numerous countries.

Supported by more than \$16 million in grants from the Getty Foundation, Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA involves more than 70 cultural institutions from Los Angeles to Palm Springs, and from San Diego to Santa Barbara. Pacific Standard Time is an initiative of the Getty. The presenting sponsor is Bank of America. Visit [www.pacificstandardtime.org](http://www.pacificstandardtime.org) for more information.

#### About the Chinese American Museum

CAM opened its doors in 2003 and is the first museum in Southern California dedicated to the Chinese American experience and history in this region. Jointly developed and operated by FCAM and El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument, CAM's mission is to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of America's diverse heritage by researching, preserving, and sharing the rich cultural legacy and continuing contributions of Chinese Americans. The museum, 425 North Los Angeles Street, is housed in the historic Garnier Building, oldest and last remaining structure of L.A.'s original Chinatown.



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Admission to the Chinese American Museum is free with suggested donation of \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for seniors and students, which supports the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument. Visit [www.camla.org](http://www.camla.org) for more information or call (213) 485-8567. Hours are 10 a.m.– 3 p.m., Tuesday – Sunday. Closed on Mondays and the following holidays: Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Days. CAM is located at the corner of Arcadia and Los Angeles Streets near the intersection of the 101 and 110 Freeways. From Union Station, walk to the main plaza area, south of Olvera Street, to the Museum. Parking is available for a fee in the El Pueblo Parking Lots 1 through 5. Street parking in the surrounding neighborhood is limited.

#### About the California African American Museum

CAAM explores the art, history, and culture of African Americans, with an emphasis on California and the West. Chartered by the State of California in 1977, the Museum began formal operations in 1981 and is a state-supported agency and a Smithsonian Affiliate. In addition to presenting exhibitions and public programs, CAAM houses a permanent collection of more than four thousand works of art, artifacts, and historical documents, and a publicly accessible research library containing more than twenty thousand volumes.

Admission to the California African American Museum is free. Visit [www.caamuseum.org](http://www.caamuseum.org) for current exhibition and program information or call 213-744-7432 for tours or additional assistance. Hours: Tuesday–Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Closed Mondays and national holidays. The California African American Museum is located in Exposition Park at the corner of Figueroa Street and Exposition Boulevard, west of the 110 (Harbor) Freeway. Easy parking is available for \$12 (cash only) at 39<sup>th</sup> and Figueroa Streets. The Metro Expo line stop Expo Park/USC is a five-minute walk through the Exposition Park Rose Garden to the Museum.

#### About the Asian/Pacific/American Institute at New York University

The Asian/Pacific/American Institute was established in 1996 as the Asian/Pacific/American Studies Program & Institute at NYU in response to student interest combined with the University's commitment to global excellence. The A/P/A Institute has produced programming, publications, exhibitions, new research, and a long-running artist-in-residence program, attracting leading academics and practitioners. Currently located in Greenwich Village, the A/P/A Institute continues to serve the community with public programs based off research, cultural production, and scholarship on contemporary issues facing Asian/Pacific American communities and discourse. Visit [www.apa.nyu.edu](http://www.apa.nyu.edu) for more information.

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