



UCCA Center for Contemporary Art Announces New Leadership Appointments

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UCCA Center for Contemporary Art, China's leading contemporary art institution, today announced that Philip Tinari will step down from his position as Director and Chief Executive of UCCA Center for Contemporary Art. Lingyi Kong has been appointed as the next Chief Executive Officer, with Xi Guo serving as Deputy Director, effective Chinese New Year 2026.

Serving as Director from 2011 through 2026, Tinari transformed UCCA into one of China's most influential and vibrant cultural institutions. With vision, deep local insights, and an international perspective, he made significant contributions to the development of contemporary art in China. Under his leadership, UCCA established a robust management system and a model for operating multiple institutional locations, leaving a strong foundation for future development. During this period, UCCA presented more than 150 exhibitions and a diverse, multifaceted series of public programs across four venues, bringing China into timely and meaningful dialogue with the global art world and cultivating a generation of local art professionals and audiences. The UCCA team is deeply grateful for his extraordinary contributions, enduring passion, and dedication, and wishes him the very best for the next chapter of his career.

Philip Tinari stated, "It has been the privilege of my career to lead UCCA over the past decade and a half. I am deeply grateful to everyone who has supported us throughout our journey—and especially the artists, professionals, patrons, and viewers who make up our incredible community."

Press material available at

ucca.org.cn/en/press

As part of this leadership change, UCCA's Board of Trustees has appointed Lingyi Kong as Chief Executive Officer. As CEO, she will oversee the strategic direction, operations, and long-term development of both the museum and UCCA Foundation, guiding UCCA through its next phase while further strengthening its artistic mission and societal impact. Kong joined UCCA in 2012 and previously served as Vice President of Communications, where she played a pivotal role in shaping the institution's strategic positioning, public profile, and brand development.

Additionally, the Board has appointed Xi Guo as UCCA Deputy Director. Guo will enhance UCCA's expertise in exhibitions, research, and public programs, continuing to present cutting-



edge artistic initiatives to the public. She joined UCCA in 2014 and previously served as Senior Director of Exhibitions, where she was at the forefront of UCCA's exhibition and research initiatives, leading and contributing to several widely recognized exhibitions.

Derek Sulger, on behalf of the UCCA Board of Trustees, remarked, "UCCA is committed to advancing contemporary art in China as a leading nonprofit foundation. Moving forward, we will continue to deliver outstanding exhibitions, serve our audiences, and fulfill our mission of bringing great art to more people while also increasing our philanthropic activity. Today's management appointments are an important milestone, and on behalf of our trustees, patrons, sponsors, and team, we are grateful for Lingyi, Xi, and Phil's past contributions and wish them success in their new roles."

As UCCA enters the next phase of its development, it will continue to expand its constellation of museums, philanthropic efforts, and digital presence under the leadership of its Directors, Trustees, and Patrons. UCCA remains dedicated to its core mission of bringing the best in art to a wider audience and promoting cultural exchange through diverse exhibitions, public programs, and educational initiatives, which will be a key focus for incoming senior management.

About UCCA

UCCA Center for Contemporary Art is a leading institution of contemporary art that serves as a vital bridge connecting Chinese art with the global art scene. Guided by the mission of "bringing the best in art to a wider audience," UCCA operates a constellation of three distinct museums, each with unique architectural styles and exhibition programs, offering audiences a rich array of exhibitions, public programs, and educational activities. Since its founding in Beijing in 2007, UCCA has presented over 200 exhibitions that systematically explore the key historical narratives of Chinese contemporary art in tandem with best-in-class exhibitions of leading international artists.

Currently, UCCA Beijing is presenting "Yang Fudong: Fragrant River"; UCCA Dune in Beidaihe is presenting "Kim Lim: Water Rests, Stone Speaks"; and UCCA Clay in Yixing is presenting "Improvisational Drift: New Directions in Ceramics," a group exhibition of nine emerging contemporary artists.

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