

## Press Release

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### **Taiwan's Groundbreaking New Cultural Landmark, Taichung Green Museumbrary, Designed by Pritzker-Winning Architects SANAA, Opens with Major Exhibition with over 70 Artists from 20 Nations**

- **Pritzker Prize and 2025 RIBA Royal Gold Medal-winning Japanese architects SANAA's largest cultural project to date, including 8 interconnecting volumes located in a 67-hectare green park**
- **The new Taichung Art Museum unveils public space commissions by Taiwanese artist Michael Lin and Korean artist Haegue Yang**
- **Taichung Art Museum's opening exhibition '*A Call of All Beings*' includes over 70 artists from 20 nations**

**Press kit and images available for download: <https://tinyurl.com/taichung-green-museumbrary>**

Considered Taiwan's most important cultural development of 2025, Taichung Green Museumbrary, located in Taiwan's second largest city Taichung, will officially open to the public tomorrow, **Saturday 13 December 2025**, after an opening ceremony attended by the Mayor as well as dignitaries, museum directors, curators and artists who will have travelled to the city from far and wide. The new international cultural destination is Taiwan's first venue to integrate a metropolitan art museum and the city's central library—presenting a new model for arts institutions.

Located within Taichung's 67-hectare Central Park, Taichung Green Museumbrary is home to the new **Taichung Art Museum** and the **Taichung Public Library**. The spectacular dual-venue complex was designed through an international collaboration between SANAA—the renowned Japanese architectural team led by 2010 Pritzker Prize laureates Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa—and Taiwan's Ricky Liu & Associates Architects + Planners. The building covers a total floor area of 57,996 square metres and is both SANAA's first public building in Taiwan and their largest cultural project to date. The design reflects SANAA's signature themes of transparency and fluidity, comprising eight interconnected volumes of varying sizes clad in glass and metal, which are enveloped by a pristine white expanded metal mesh curtain façade.

Taichung Art Museum (TcAM) opens with the inaugural exhibition '*A Call of All Beings: See you tomorrow, same time, same place*' (13 December 2025 - 12 April 2026), curated by an international team from Taiwan, Romania/South Korea and the United States. The exhibition brings together more than 70 artists from over 20 nations, blending local perspectives with global insights. The museum will also unveil the first TcAM Art Commissions in Public Space from Haegue Yang and Michael Lin, establishing itself as a cultural force in contemporary art with a commitment to international dialogues.

**Yi-Hsin Lai, Director of Taichung Art Museum**, said, "The integration of Taichung Art Museum with Taichung Public Library and the park has activated our thinking about the environment, culture, people and the city. With the inaugural exhibition and the special commissions, we not only combine artistic dialogues across generations and cultures, but also strive to fulfil the potential of an art museum to enter the everyday life of the city and its residents, as well as to inspire creativity and imagination. We look forward to making this a welcoming space for visitors to create unique memories and experiences of their own."

**Jia-Jun Chen, Director of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of Taichung City Government**, said, "The completion of Taichung Green Museumbrary is a milestone in the city's sustained investment in culture. It is emblematic of the city's forward-thinking cultural policy and commitment to innovation. We are grateful to SANAA for gifting this extraordinarily welcoming architectural marvel to our city for all visitors from near and afar to enjoy."

## Taichung Art Museum

Under the leadership of Director Yi-Hsin Lai, Taichung Art Museum is dedicated to supporting local artistic practices while fostering international exchange and dialogue between Taiwanese and global art communities. Its exhibition programme embraces open and cross-disciplinary perspectives, inviting the public into new experiences of exploration and sensory immersion. Central to the museum's vision are reflections on environmental concerns, cultural infrastructure, and urban development, as well as a unique partnership with the Public Library. The museum is the most important addition to Taiwan's vibrant art scene following the founding of the Taipei Biennial (1998), Taipei Art Week (2024), and New Taipei City Art Museum (2025).

## **Opening Exhibition '*A Call of All Beings: See you tomorrow, same time, same place*'**

Co-curated by Taichung Art Museum's curatorial team alongside Ling-Chih Chow (Taiwan), Alaina Claire Feldman (USA) and Anca Mihuleț-Kim (Romania/South Korea), Taichung Art Museum's opening exhibition '*A Call of All Beings: See you tomorrow, same time, same place*' draws inspiration from the natural and urban landscape surrounding the museum, interweaving architectural openness with diverse artistic perspectives across generations. Featuring works

by more than 70 artists from over 20 countries, the curatorial collaboration weaves multiple methodologies—from Daoist philosophies to indigenous cosmologies, from embodied knowledge to non-Western perspectives—creating a multivocal framework that resists singular narratives about nature, culture, and interspecies relations.

The exhibition draws from the museum's collection and new commissions to trace how human-nature relationships have been imagined and transformed. Central Taiwan masters establish historical grounding: Chen Ting-Shih's *The First Crack of Thunder* (1972) renders natural forces through cane fibre relief; Yeh Huo-Cheng captures Mount Huoyan's mineral-rich earth with impasto; Wang Ching-Shuang's lacquer work employs maki-e and mother-of-pearl inlay. Chen Hsing-Wan's *The Song of the Earth No.1* uses cowhide as ground for hardened fabric forms—the leather pulsing with vitality while textiles congeal into permanence.

Contemporary commissions extend these investigations. Chen Yin-Ju's *Evocative of Mountains and Seas* reconstructs mythical animals from the 2,000-year-old Chinese bestiary through sound, scent, and minimal text. Au Sow Yee's *The Broadcast Project II: A Many Splendored Thing of the Coconut, a Belle from Penang and the Secret Agent II* interweaves colonial histories of Malaya through fictional narratives of coconut palms and fragmented archives. Hong-Kai Wang's collaborative publication *Our Words Don't Suit Prophecies Anymore* asks how we might listen to beings without language.

International contributions complicate human-nature binaries. Joan Jonas' *By a Thread in the Wind*—bamboo paper kites suspended overhead—evokes uncanny species, requiring upward rather than forward-facing attention. Loukia Alavanou's VR installation *On the Way to Colonus* reimagines Greek tragedy within Athens' Roma settlement, transforming marginalised peripheries into sites of dignity. Karolina Breguła documents coastal communities confronting rising seas. Haitian artist Myrlande Constant's beaded Vodou flags (drapos) blend faith, history, and social reality, presenting a cosmology where deities and humans coexist.

Artists engage architectural and performative dimensions. Seung Hyun Moon's *On Thin and Transparent Things* activates galleries through bodies negotiating spatial barriers—the artist, born with cerebral palsy, interrogates relationships between consciousness and space. TAI Body Theatre's performances invoke Truku mythology where giants' bodies become island topography, transforming the museum into a "dwelling place of giants."

The exhibition incorporates pivotal historical positions: Joseph Beuys' late sculptures transform therapeutic objects into vessels for healing; Ana Mendieta's final earth-body works merge corporeal and terrestrial surfaces; Chris Marker's *Bestiaire* series explores reciprocal gazes between humans and animals; Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's *Little Prince* manuscripts provide meditations on care and imagination.

## TcAM Art Commission in Public Space: Haegue Yang and Michael Lin

Taichung Art Museum responds to the visual permeability of architectural language with art commissions in the public spaces of the building on a biennial basis. TcAM Art Commission not only resonates with the architecture, but also the museum's identity, integrating with its ecological and cultural landscape. Haegue Yang (South Korea) and Michael Lin (Taiwan) unveil their inaugural commissions within the museum.

Yang's installation, *Liquid Votive – Tree Shade Triad* (2025) in the museum's soaring 27-metre atrium encircled by a spiral ramp is her first large-scale commissioned piece in Taiwan. Inspired by the universal tradition of venerating old trees in South Korea, Taiwan, and beyond, her work pays homage to the local as well as transcultural spiritual beliefs in nature.

Based in Taipei and Brussels, Michael Lin has deep family roots in Taichung. His commissioned work, *Processed* (2025), orchestrates monumental painting installations that re-conceptualise and reconfigure public spaces using patterns and designs appropriated from traditional Taiwanese textiles.

### Architecture

Located in Taiwan's second largest city of Taichung (population 2.8 million), Taichung Green Museumbrary occupies the northern edge of the 67-hectare Central Park within the 254-hectare Shuinan Trade and Economic Park, the site of a former military airport decommissioned in 2004. SANAA's design embodies the ethos of the Taichung Green Museumbrary as 'a library in a park and an art museum in a forest', with spatial highlights including:

#### **A boundless, inclusive space**

The facility dissolves traditional boundaries between museums and libraries, creating an open, inclusive environment where exhibitions and reading converge. The Taichung Public Library houses over 1,000,000 physical books and digital resources.

#### **An outdoor rooftop garden**

The outdoor rooftop Culture Forest offers visitors an exceptional vantage point to enjoy the sweeping views of Central Park's lush greenery and the city skyline. Conceived to celebrate the site's distinctive Central Park setting, it encourages museum and library visitors to immerse themselves in this unique landscape from the rooftop garden.

## Transparency and openness

The exterior features a dual-layer façade: an inner layer of high-performance low-emissivity glass or metal cladding, and an outer layer of aluminium expanded metal mesh. This silvery-white veil gives the building a sense of lightness and transparency. The building volume has been lifted to allow the park's breeze and natural light to flow freely through, enhancing the building's connection to its surroundings. The shaded plazas at ground level enable visitors to access the building from all directions—both from the neighbourhood and from the Central Park—creating an open and inviting public space.

**Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa, Partners of SANAA**, said, “We have always hoped to create an open building that many people can easily participate in. Whether it is the museum providing visual learning through art or the library offering education through literature, combining the two to create a new multifaceted learning space is what we believe to be one of the main characteristics of this building. We have carefully considered how to gently link the two entities together to create a place that connects learning and communication for people.”

## *A Call of All Beings: See You Tomorrow, Same Time, Same Place*

Taichung Art Museum

13 December 2025 – 12 April 2026

Open Hours: Tue-Sun, 9AM–5PM., Sat, 9AM–8PM, Open on national holidays

No. 2201, Zhongke Rd., Xitun Dist., Taichung City

<https://www.tcam.museum/en>

Under the auspices of the Taichung City Government

Organised by the Cultural Affairs Bureau of Taichung City Government and Taichung Art Museum

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## Notes to Editors

### **About Taichung Green Museumbrary (TGM)**

Located on the northern edge of Central Park, the Taichung Green Museumbrary combines the Taichung Art Museum and the Taichung Public Library. This new cultural landmark was designed collaboratively by SANAA, led by Pritzker Prize laureates Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa, and Ricky Liu & Associates Architects & Partners.

The architecture is composed of eight interconnected buildings of varying heights, each with different types of open entrances that invite visitors to freely wander and explore. Its expanded metal mesh and glass curtain wall exterior create a transparent, fluid, and open space that invites in natural light and the surrounding greenery, blending the building with the urban landscape.

As an interdisciplinary space where knowledge and sensory experience meet, the Taichung Green Museumbrary actively responds to contemporary issues and the cultural pulse of Taichung. It aspires to become a vibrant platform that inspires interaction, critical thinking, and new cultural experiences. Exhibitions, books, and diverse programmes are often organised to foster dialogue as well as encourage deeper connections between the people, the city, and nature.

### **About Taichung Art Museum (TcAM)**

Located within the Taichung Green Museumbrary, the Taichung Art Museum (TcAM) is a space that transcends boundaries and sparks imagination. Since its institutional launch in March 2024, TcAM has become more than just a place for art—it is part of a new cultural hub formed in collaboration with the Taichung Public Library, together shaping the Taichung Green Museumbrary.

Designed by the renowned SANAA architectural firm, led by Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa, the museum's architectural language emphasises transparency and fluidity. The design consists of eight interwoven architectural volumes, with the museum and library occupying separate structures, connected by staggered pathways that create a dynamic spatial experience. This interwoven design invites visitors to roam and explore, offering a new way to navigate the space. The high level of spatial transparency dissolves the boundaries between culture, art, and nature, shaping an open, cross-disciplinary environment where architecture, nature, and people meet—fostering new ideas and creating a participatory cultural space.

As a public art museum, TcAM is committed to serving as a platform for cross-disciplinary artistic exchange. Its core spirit is rooted in Taichung's rich cultural heritage, drawing inspiration from the city's historical and artistic legacy. TcAM explores and highlights the unique characteristics of Taichung's art history, integrating urban life and public discourse to develop exhibitions, curatorial programmes, and multidimensional experiences that transcend time, disciplines, and geography. Meanwhile, TcAM continues to strengthen its international



connections, fostering open, diverse, and thought-provoking dialogues. Through art, the museum aims to introduce multiple perspectives, create new cultural value, and establish itself as a contemporary space for in-depth thinking and open dialogue.