

PRESS RELEASE

Half-time at EXPO-2017 in Astana

The Astana Contemporary Art Center and Creative Energy Area rank among the most popular attractions

(Astana/Munich, 8 August 2017) As per 30 July EXPO-2017 has hosted around 1.8 million visitors. The first world exhibition in Central Asia focusing on future energy will run until 10 September. The top visitor attraction is the Kazakhstan Nur-Allem “Radiant World” pavilion with a 100 metre high globe construction at the centre of the EXPO grounds. The top ten visitor magnets include the Indian and Egyptian pavilions, the Plaza of Africa, the Cirque du Soleil theme pavilion, Astana Contemporary Art Center (ACAC) and the Creative Energy Area (CEA). National company Astana EXPO-2017 commissioned the international creative agency Avantgarde with execution and overall coordination of ACAC and CEA.

Future Energy – this is also the motto of the Astana Contemporary Art Center (ACAC) and Creative Energy Area (CEA). The cultural highlights with the exhibition ARTISTS & ROBOTS and a high-calibre supporting programme are developed by the Museum Réunion des musées nationaux – Grand Palais in Paris and Garage Museum of Contemporary Art Moscow, and coordinated by the EXPO’s main contractor Avantgarde. As Marat Omarov, Director Content and Event Organisation at EXPO-2017 remarks “We are on target in terms of visitor figures at half-time. The huge interest in contemporary art and culture is an encouragement for us to continue running the Astana Contemporary Art Center (ACAC) once the EXPO is over.”

Astana Contemporary Art Center (ACAC)

On the second level visitors can view the ARTISTS & ROBOTS exhibition – the world’s first international group exhibition of Robotic Art with 17 artists from 13 countries, curated by the Paris Réunion des musées nationaux – Grand Palais (Rmn-GP). Designed as an interactive journey through dream worlds of modern art machines, the exhibition shows stimulating works by influential artists like Elias Crespin, Michael Hansmeyer, Raquel Kogan, Peter Kogler, Leonel Moura, Nervous System, Quayola and Stelarc.

The supporting programme on the ground floor of the EXPO art pavilion focuses on the realisation of contemporary art forms. The programme was developed by the Garage Museum of Contemporary Art in Moscow under the aegis of curator Anton Belov. It brings together Kazakhstan and international artists, designers, architects and art historians and includes symposia, discussions and conferences. The accessible events are planned for different target audiences and include workshops for children and an extensive inclusion programme.

Creative Energy Area (CEA)

The area is a creative space with theatre, dance, film and literary events. Symposia and workshops are also offered on various creative arts and crafts subjects. Besides the many touch points with art and events up to the end of EXPO-2017 – the Creative Energy Area (CEA) is a space in which to relax, reflect and exchange ideas with other visitors.

About Avantgarde

Avantgarde is an international creative agency, founded in Munich in 1985. According to its claim "Creating Fans" over 500 employees in ten international offices develop integrated brand experiences that create excitement and spark conversations around the world. Apart from its headquarters in Munich, the agency operates offices in Berlin, Dresden and Cologne, as well as Dubai, London, Sao Paulo, Shanghai, Vienna and Zurich

#Avantgarde / CREATING FANS

Visit www.avantgarde.de for more information.

Press contact:

Avantgarde

Ulrich Köhler

M +49 (0)174 3137809

Mail ulrich.koehler@avantgarde.de

KERN COMMUNICATIONS

Birgit Kern-Harasymiw

M +49 (0)176 242 59586

Mail kern@kern-com.com

Captions Avantgarde | Expo-2017-08-Half-time

01 Avantgarde with Peter Hansmeyer in the Astana Contemporary Art Center at EXPO-2017:

Using algorithms and calculations as the basis for architectural structures the architect-artist creates large-scale 3D works. At the ACAC he shows a group of huge columns.

02 Avantgarde with Leonel Moura in the Astana Contemporary Art Center at EXPO-2017:

The Portuguese concept artist has produced an entire zoo with robot painters. He lets seven robots paint large-format pictures covering 50 square metres at the EXPO.

03 Avantgarde with Raquel Kogan in the Astana Contemporary Art Center at EXPO-2017:

The artist-architect is represented by a huge projection "Reflexão #2", 2005. The Brazilian artist is part of the Sao Paolo art scene which is world-famous.

04 Avantgarde with Nervous System in the Astana Contemporary Art Center at EXPO-2017:

Jessica Rosenkrantz and Jess Lous-Rosenberg create inexpensive jewellery and lifestyle products using innovative production methods. They are showing their Floraform design in the ACAC.

05 Design expert in the auditorium of the Astana Contemporary Art Center at EXPO-2017:

From 25 - 27 August art historian and design expert Maria Savostyanova is holding a lecture series on international trends with insights into the Kazakhstan art scene.

06 Creative Energy Area at EXPO-2017:

A creative event space – with theatre, dance and film performances, talks on literature, symposia and workshops. The Creative Energy Area is also a place to relax and exchange ideas.