

PRESS RELEASE

EXPO-2017 – More than 200,000 visitors at the Astana Contemporary Art Center and the Creative Energy Area

The first world exhibition in Central Asia is still open until 10 September

(Astana / 6 September 2017) There are only few days left to visit the first world exhibition on Asian soil in Astana, Kazakhstan. Visitors can still enjoy discussing the exciting topics of the energy supply of the future as well as visiting pavilions with cultural programs. Among the most frequented pavilions are the Creative Energy Area and the Astana Contemporary Art Center.

An interview with Marat Omarov, Director of Content and Event Organisation of Astana EXPO-2017:

Congratulations on the overall success of the Astana EXPO-2017 and on 200,000 visitors to the Astana Contemporary Art Center (ACAC) and the Creative Energy Area (CEA) last Sunday. The world exhibition can still be visited until next Sunday. **Although there are so many exciting topics to discover on the EXPO grounds, would you have thought beforehand that a lot more than 200,000 visitors would see the cultural program and art exhibitions at the ACAC and the CEA?**

Marat Omarov: “We are very satisfied with the results achieved at ACAC & CEA. The Astana Contemporary Art Center and the Creative Energy Area represent a huge proportion to the total 3 of million visitors we have already counted at EXPO-2017. We are proud of creating a multicultural contemporary art platform that is going to stay part of the world EXPO heritage for years.”

Your intention with the concept of the ACAC and the CEA was to bring international contemporary art to Kazakhstan and stimulate the exchange with the regional art scene. **Has this aim been achieved?**

Marat Omarov: “By now, we have hosted more than 5,700 intercultural events at both of our pavilions ACAC and CEA, including more than 30 music and dance events. We presented a range of special and individual local artists with their new way of expressing art to the audience. The Astana Contemporary Art Center’s opening is a big highlight for artists and a first platform in Kazakhstan to research, present and promote contemporary culture throughout the country. So, we can confirm that we reached our main goal – to introduce contemporary culture to the wide audience at a high level along with the RMN-Grand Palais and the Garage Museum of Contemporary Art. We will definitely continue our collaboration with international cultural institutions in the future.”

It was a vision to continue the exploration of contemporary art and culture taking place at the EXPO 2017 at the Astana Contemporary Art Center ACAC after the end of the world exhibition. **At what stage are the plans for sustainable use?**

Marat Omarov: “After a small reconstruction of the second floor, the Astana Contemporary Art Center will open its doors again in January 2018 and continue being available to everyone who is interested in art. Having a broad variety of unique literature in our library and multiple high level facilities, including a 150-seat cinema hall, kids’ workshop area, auditorium and a two-floor exhibition space, we can certainly claim that our center is one of the main centers of art in Central Asia.”

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Captions Avantgarde | Expo 2017-10- ACAC & CEA: more than 200,000 visitors

01 Director of Content and Event Organisation of Astana EXPO-2017

Marat Omarov, is happy to announce that the Astana Contemporary Art Center will open its doors again in January 2018 and continue being available to everyone who is interested in art

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