

Harmony in Diversity

The 15th International Exhibition of Traditional Fine Arts

Proposal (draft)

1. Exhibition background

The protection of intangible cultural heritage serves as a vital bridge to protect cultural diversity, foster equal dialogue among civilizations, and underpin sustainable development for humanity. Its essence lies in reconnecting the past with the present: intangible cultural heritage, once seen as relics of the past, is revitalized through alignment with contemporary values, philosophies, and aesthetics, becoming integrated into modern life. This renewal ultimately realizes the ideal of “harmony in diversity, shared beauty among all cultures.”

In June 2025, the Shanghai Art Collection Museum plans to organize the 15th International Exhibition of Traditional Fine Arts and the 13th International (Shanghai) Intangible Cultural Heritage Protection Forum with the theme of “Harmony in diversity” in collaboration with relevant units, which aims to showcase the rich cultural diversity of various nations and regions while promoting the exchange of practices in protecting intangible cultural heritage globally.

The “International Exhibition of Traditional Fine Arts” has a broad social influence, attracting participation from more than 70 countries. The exhibition is included in the “Shanghai Culture” project supported by the Shanghai Municipal Government. It is a key part of the “Shanghai Traditional Crafts Revitalization Plan” and a key cultural exchange project of the Shanghai Municipal Government to promote the development of sister cities within “The Belt and Road Initiative.” The past fourteen exhibitions have received extensive support from governments, industry organizations, and artists. More than 1,800 famous calligraphers and painters, masters of arts and crafts, and others have participated.

The “13th International (Shanghai) Intangible Cultural Heritage Protection Forum” will be held concurrently with the exhibition, for which government leaders, professional

institutions, institutions of higher learning, and scholars shall be invited to discuss, promote, and protect Intangible Cultural Heritage.

The protection of intangible cultural heritage brings vitality to the traditional culture, highlights the diversity of human civilizations, and contributes to building a shared future for Mankind. Harmony in diversity, appreciating beauty in others, and achieving global unity which is our goal. In the spirit of global camaraderie, despite different regional characteristics, cultural backgrounds, artistic styles, and methodologies, as human beings, we all have the same goal to protect traditional cultures. Let us all work together towards this common objective!

2. Exhibition name

Harmony in Diversity: The 15th International Exhibition of Traditional Fine Arts

3. Exhibition content

(1) The main exhibition venue will display arts and crafts, calligraphy and painting works, photography works, and other works by famous artists and intangible cultural heritage inheritors from all over the world that reflect various countries' cultures, customs, and skills.

(2) Compile and print the "Collection of Works of the 15th International Exhibition of Traditional Fine Arts".

(3) During the exhibition, an interactive event called "Global Traditional Culture Experience Week" will be set up, inviting artists, intangible cultural heritage inheritors, and representatives of art organizations from various countries to parks, museums, and universities to make skills performances, cultural lectures, and other activities. Through these activities, citizens will not only get the chance to appreciate the exquisite artworks but also have an immersive experience of the liveness of traditional art.

4. Concurrent activities

(1) Holding the 13th International (Shanghai) Intangible Cultural Heritage Protection Forum

5. Exhibition date and location

(1) Exhibition start date:

June 5th, 2025 - July 6th, 2025

(2) Exhibition opening ceremony date:

June 5th, 2025

(3) Exhibition location:

Shanghai Art Collection Museum (No. 1731 Yan'an West Road (inside Tianshan Park), Shanghai, China)

(4) Touring Exhibition:

After the main exhibition, selected exhibits will be showcased at other art venues in Shanghai as part of a touring exhibition.

6. Guiding units:

Shanghai Municipal Administration of Culture and Tourism.

Foreign Affairs Office of Shanghai Municipal People's Government

7. Full supporting units

National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai)

8. Organizer

Shanghai Art Collection Museum.

Shanghai Intangible Cultural Heritage Protection Center.

Shanghai Art & Design Academy.

9. Supporting units

Consulate Generals of participating countries

For details, please contact:

Secretariat of the Organizing Committee of the 15th International Exhibition of Traditional Fine Arts

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