

Two New Museums for India



An architectural site in Bihar, India. Photo: Lord Cultural Resources.

As reported in *The Art Newspaper*, India's sub-standard state museum infrastructure is set to be enhanced by plans for a new museum in Bihar, East India, which is scheduled to open in 2015. This museum will focus on the evolution of history and culture in the Indian Subcontinent. The principal funder, the state of Bihar, has hired Canadian culture consultancy Lord Cultural Resources to develop the masterplan for the museum, which has an estimated budget of 80 M\$. "Great figures of ancient India—Buddha, Mahavir and Ashoka as well as scholars and poets of the court—will be featured in the museum, which will focus on the contribution of what is now Bihar to Indian and Asian civilisation," explains Barry Lord, co-president of Lord Cultural Resources. Meanwhile, an ambitious new museum of modern art in Kolkata (formerly Calcutta) is scheduled to open in 2014. The estimated 82 M\$ Kolkata Museum of Modern Art (KMoMA) will present a collection of Indian art, dating from the 18th century to the present day. "KMoMA's content will be built and programmed by joining hands with museums [from the] region, major museums across India and some of the finest museums abroad," says Rakhi Sarkar, managing trustee of KMoMA and director of the Kolkata-based commercial gallery Cima. kmomamuseum.org

Campaign Encourages People to Leave legacy

As reported in the Museums Association's newsletter, a new campaign was launched last November at Tate Britain in London that will encourage people to leave 10% of their wealth to cultural organisations and charities in their wills. Chaired by Roland Rudd, founder of communications firm Finsbury, this campaign, Legacy10, will benefit from tax changes due to come into effect next April that offer a 10% inheritance tax discount to people who leave at least 10% of their wealth to a charitable cause. While 75% of people give during their lifetime,

only 7% leave a legacy in their will — a third of the number of those giving in the US. A Legacy10-commissioned poll of 2,000 people found that over 80% were unaware of the impending changes to inheritance tax and that 70% would leave or would be considering leaving a legacy as a result of these changes. The campaign, which aims to reach that 70%, has already been supported by the likes of Virgin boss Richard Branson and banker Jacob Rothschild. The campaign is being run by a committee covering business, culture and the wider charitable sector. It intends to create "pledge ambassadors" throughout the UK to drive an increase in legacy giving. A new scheme to encourage gifts of pre-eminent objects and works of art to the nation will also be established in 2012.

Europe's First Korean War Museum



Korean Veterans Association Medal. Belonging to 19040097 Drummer F.J. Wells. 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment. Presented with his miniature medal and lapel badge in blue box. Photo : The Soldiers of Gloucestershire Museum.

The *Chosun Ilbo* reports that the plans are underway to build Europe's first museum dedicated to the Korean War. An entrepreneur along with veterans from the U.K.'s Gloucestershire Regiment, which fought in the war, have established a committee to set up the tentatively named "Great Britain's Korean War Museum". Britain sent 63,000 troops to the Korean War, second only to the United States in the Allied Forces. The Gloucestershire Regiment was one of the main forces in the British Army. The city of Gloucester is apparently interested in the project and has agreed to provide support. It is understood that the new museum would be housed in the disused building between the current Soldiers of Gloucestershire building and a yacht club. The committee plans that the museum will be completed by 2013, the 60th