



5th WORLD SUMMIT ON ARTS & CULTURE MELBOURNE 2011

3 – 6 October 2011



Katelijn Verstraete

Katelijn Verstraete is since 2007 assistant director of the Cultural Exchange Department at the Asia-Europe Foundation. She develops multilateral projects between Asia and Europe in the areas of cultural policy, artistic exchange, capacity building and information exchange and on the intersections between arts and education, sustainable development and health.

She founded and co-managed the autonomous art space BizArt in Shanghai between 1999 and 2003. She then joined IETM – the international network for contemporary performing arts- where she was responsible for communication and training. She initiated their projects in Asia by setting up the first IETM satellite meetings in Singapore (2005) and China (2006). She was project manager for www.On-the-Move.org and closely involved in EU projects on information and support to the mobility of artists.

She contributed her extensive expertise in China-Europe cultural cooperation as an advisor and co-author for the soon to be launched publication “Europe China Cultural Compass, an orientation for cultural cooperation between Europe and China” published by the EUNIC network in China.

Prior to her career in arts and culture, Katelijn worked for 7 years in the business sector in Germany and China.

Katelijn holds a Masters degree in Sinology (*magna cum laude*) and in Marketing Management and studied at the Nanjing Normal University in China where she finalized her thesis on “the 5th Generation of Chinese Movies”.

Katelijn is Belgian and lived and worked in Netherlands, Germany, China and is currently based in Singapore. She is fluent in 5 languages including Chinese and started to learn Indonesia and Korean. She engaged in volunteering at the Asian Civilisations Museum in Singapore and reads, writes, enjoys arts exhibitions and performances in her free time. She is passionate to explore more about the role of the arts in a more sustainable world.