



Press Release — 20 November 2018

S.E.A. Focus Unveils List of Participating Galleries and Artists

Boutique art fair features even line-up of leading international and Singaporean galleries

S.E.A. Focus, a new platform to raise attention on Southeast Asian modern and contemporary art, today revealed the list of galleries and artists partaking in its inaugural edition (23 – 27 January 2019). Held at Singapore's visual arts hub, Gillman Barracks, this platform aims to foster greater appreciation for the region's art and nurture its demand. The line-up of twenty-six international and local galleries was chosen after a rigorous review process which included inputs from an Advisory Committee consisting of regional art luminaries.

"I am encouraged by the strong list of galleries who are participating in the inaugural edition of S.E.A. Focus. The keen interest by galleries to participate in this fresh initiative reflects our shared goal to galvanise the Southeast Asian art scene," said **Emi Eu**, Executive Director, STPI – Creative Workshop & Gallery. *"I am confident that this showcase will catalyse renewed conversations and unlock interest in our geography's shared art history."*

The galleries exhibiting at S.E.A. Focus include international names such as **47 Canal** (New York), **The Columns Gallery** (Seoul), **Nadi Gallery** (Jakarta) and **Gallery VER** (Bangkok). Approximately half of the galleries will be from Singapore, including stalwarts such as **Art-2 Gallery**, **artcommune gallery** and **Art Seasons**. Other participating international galleries such as **Jan Manton Art** (Brisbane), **Niagara Galleries** (Melbourne) and **RUCI Art Space** (Jakarta) will make their Singapore art fair debut, underscoring the potential of the region.

Visitors can look forward to works from over 54 artists, including blue-chip pioneers **Cheong Soo Pieng** (Singapore), **Chua Ek Kay** (Singapore), **Latiff Mohidin** (Malaysia) and **Nguyen Trung** (Vietnam), as well as contemporary masters such as **Jane Lee** (Singapore), **Kamin Lertchaiprasert** (Thailand) and **Agus Suwage** (Indonesia). They will be complemented by cutting-edge, emerging artists such as **Julian "Togar" Abraham** (Indonesia), **Brisa Amir** (Philippines), **Yeo Kaa** (Philippines), **Gala Porras-Kim** (Columbia/USA), **Amy Lien** and **Enzo Camacho** (Philippines). Artists such as **Octora Chan** (Indonesia), **Thu Myat** (Myanmar), **Lien Truong** (Vietnam) and **Savandhary**



Vongpoothorn (Laos) will also tackle a range of socio-political issues including colonialism, socialism, belonging and identity.

S.E.A. Focus will also feature new commissions ranging from influential artist **Manuel Ocampo** (Philippines) to new talent **Faris Nakamura** (Singapore); while Singapore itself will provide inspiration for fresh works created by **Chen Ching Ming** (Taiwan) and **Shooshie Sulaiman** (Malaysia). Amongst the 18 Singaporean artists in the showcase are compelling paintings by **Jeremy Sharma** and **Ruben Pang**. Other local talents presented include a site-specific durational performance by **Jason Lim** (Singapore) and a special collaboration by promising talents, **Priyageetha Dia** and **Jamie Teo** (Singapore).

Founder of the Sifang Art Museum and member of the S.E.A. Focus Advisory Committee, **Lu Xun**, shared, *"The high quality of the applicants made the evaluation process a challenging but artistically fulfilling experience. I look forward to the stimulating showcases by this cross-section of leading galleries."*

S.E.A. Focus will premiere on 23 January 2019 and open to the public from 24 to 27 January. It is supported by the National Arts Council (NAC), the Economic Development Board (EDB) and the Singapore Tourism Board (STB), S.E.A. Focus is a highlight of **Singapore Art Week 2019** and complements the line-up of exciting visual art activities including curated exhibitions, public art, industry dialogues and multidisciplinary lifestyle events.

Please visit www.seafocus.sg for more information.



Note to Editors:

ABOUT S.E.A. FOCUS

An initiative by STPI Creative Workshop & Gallery, S.E.A. Focus is a platform to foster deeper appreciation and increased demand for Southeast Asian modern and contemporary art through dynamic collaboration between international and local galleries. The inaugural edition of S.E.A. Focus takes the form of a boutique art fair and will be held from 23 to 27 January 2019 in a special pop-up structure at the Gillman Barracks visual arts cluster.

LEADERSHIP

Emi Eu (Executive Director, STPI – Creative Workshop & Gallery)

Emi Eu is a member of the Selection Committee for Art Basel Hong Kong, and has been the Executive Director of STPI since 2009. Since 2007, she has also been the Programme Director of Fondation d'entreprise Hermès Aloft in Singapore, a platform for contemporary artists to explore new expressive forms and bring their creative ideas to life through original works created in situ. Eu served as the Vice President and President between 2012 and 2018 for AGAS (Art Galleries Association Singapore). She was an Adjunct Faculty for the course “Art History & Civilisation: East & West” at the Singapore Management University from 2001 to 2017.

Audrey Yeo (Project Director, S.E.A. Focus)

A gallerist for 10 years, Audrey Yeo is the founder of Yeo Workshop, a Singaporean-owned art gallery situated in Gillman Barracks. The gallery has a strong focus on education and community development. Yeo is also the founder of the Arnoldii Arts Club, an education and arts-based association, that organises public art projects such as “DRIVE”, the Singapore Arts Club Public Art Project.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Jim Amberson

Originally from the USA but based in Asia since 1998, Jim Amberson is a Director in a Multinational Insurer. He has been actively collecting Southeast Asian contemporary art for more than 15 years, acquiring works by Sopheap Pich, Dinh Q. Lê, Yee I-Lann, Handiwirman Saputra and more. Amberson's interest in the region extends to a Masters of Arts Degree from the National University of Singapore in Southeast Asian Studies



and publications that include “Deep S.E.A.: Contemporary Art from South East Asia” and “The “Little Red Dot: Becoming a Red Hot Home for Art”. Amberson is frequently invited to panels to speak on collecting Southeast Asian art, and has loaned his collection to numerous international exhibitions.

Kwok Kian Chow

Writer, curator and museum advisor, Kwok Kian Chow is an Associate Professor and Programme Leader of Arts and Culture Management, and Wee Kim Wee Centre Senior Fellow at the Singapore Management University (SMU). A museum professional with more than 20 years of experience, Kwok was Senior Curator (1992-1994) of the National Museum of Singapore, Director (1994-2009) of the Singapore Art Museum, and Director (2009-2011) and Senior Advisor (2011-2015) of the National Gallery Singapore.

Lu Xun

Lu Xun lives and works in Nanjing, China. He is a collector of contemporary Chinese and international art. In 2013, he founded the new Sifang Art Museum designed by the renowned American architect Steven Holl. He worked closely with architects and artists to plan and commission more than 40 buildings and art installations in the Sifang Collective, which was nominated by The New York Times as a “Leading Culture Destination in Asia and the Pacific” in 2015. Lu has been selected for “40 Under 40” by Apollo Magazine as well as “The World’s Top 100 Art Collectors” by Artnet. He currently sits on the board of Acquisition Committee of the Tate Modern and is a founding member of Delfina Foundation’s Asia Pacific Committee.

Aaron Seeto

The Director of Museum MACAN, Aaron Seeto has vast experience working to advance the goals of contemporary arts organisations and curating significant exhibitions of artists from the Asia and Pacific regions. Seeto was formerly Curatorial Manager of Asian and Pacific Art, at Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art in Brisbane, Australia where he led the curatorial team at the eighth Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art (APT8) in 2015. For eight years prior, he was the Director of Sydney’s ground-breaking 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art.

About the STPI – Creative Workshop & Gallery

STPI is a dynamic creative workshop & contemporary art gallery based in Singapore. Established in 2002, STPI is committed to promoting artistic experimentation in the mediums of print and paper and has become one of the most cutting-edge destinations for contemporary art in Asia. STPI sits alongside National Gallery Singapore and the Singapore Art Museum as part of the national Visual Arts Cluster of leading institutions in the region.

STPI Creative Workshop is a rigorous laboratory for pushing the boundaries of various print and papermaking techniques. Bolstered by specialised facilities and a highly qualified workshop team, STPI Creative Workshop



produces unique collaborations with leading international artists to challenge conventions in art, explore new trajectories in their practice and share their experience with the public.

STPI Gallery is an active platform that fosters the exchange of ideas in contemporary art with its diverse exhibitions and public programmes. The gallery hosts specially curated exhibitions of works produced in STPI Creative Workshop and remains the only gallery from Singapore and the region to participate in all three editions of the prestigious Art Basel fairs (Hong Kong, Basel, Miami Beach) as well as FIAC, Paris and The Armory Show, New York. This enables it to nurture and sustain local and international interest in both its collaborators and in the mediums of print and paper. The gallery's public programmes aims to engage and broaden visitor understanding of contemporary art, while its collaborations with a variety of international curators, collectors and gallerists provide a holistic experience for audiences on a global level.

About the Brand Identity



The brand identity of S.E.A. Focus was conceived as a series of symbols that connect, engage and amplify. These symbols merge to form a tri-partite logo that represents the multiplicity of creative networks and collaborations and a convergence of interests that Singapore and S.E.A. Focus stand for.

About Singapore Art Week

A joint initiative by the National Arts Council, the Singapore Tourism Board and the Singapore Economic Development Board, Singapore Art Week reinforces Singapore's position as Asia's leading visual arts destination. In its seventh edition in 2019, the nine-day celebration of the visual arts takes place in venues across Singapore, from galleries and museums to art precincts and non-profit spaces, from 19 to 27 January.

Reaching out to both Singapore residents and international visitors to promote art appreciation, Singapore Art Week offers a myriad of quality art experiences which span the visual arts, from traditional to modern to contemporary practices. Audiences can look forward to gallery openings, exhibitions, lifestyle events, public art walks, and enriching discussions on art and culture. Singapore Art Week also aims to galvanise the arts sector to launch innovative art and lifestyle concepts and events in conjunction with art events during this period.



About Gillman Barracks

Set in a former military barracks dating back to 1936 and surrounded by lush tropical greenery, the Gillman Barracks visual arts cluster was launched in September 2012. Jointly developed by government agencies, the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB), the National Arts Council (NAC), and the JTC Corporation (JTC), Gillman Barracks' vision is to be Asia's destination for the presentation and discussion of international and Southeast Asian art.

Gillman Barracks is now home to leading international and home-grown galleries, national research centre NTU Centre for Contemporary Art (CCA) Singapore, and art organisations Art Outreach and Playeum's Children's Centre for Creativity. The art businesses and organisations are complemented by an array of cafes, bars and restaurants.

Today, Gillman Barracks is a place for art lovers, art collectors, and those curious about art. The cluster is one of the focal points of Singapore's arts landscape, and contributes to the development of visual art in the region and beyond.

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For media kit, fact sheet and high-resolution images: <http://bit.ly/seafocus>



ANNEX 1 – PARTICIPATING GALLERIES

Singapore

1. Art-2 Gallery
2. artcommune gallery
3. Art Porters
4. Art Seasons
5. Chan + Hori Contemporary
6. Gajah Gallery
7. Intersections
8. Richard Koh Fine Art
9. STPI – Creative Workshop & Gallery
10. Sullivan+Strumpf
11. Wetterling Teo Gallery
12. Yavuz Gallery

International

1. 47 Canal (New York) *
2. artinformal (Manila)
3. The Columns Gallery (Seoul)
4. Commonwealth and Council (Los Angeles) *
5. CUC Gallery (Hanoi)
6. The Drawing Room (Manila)
7. GALERIE OVO (Taipei)
8. Galerie Quynh (Ho Chi Minh City)
9. Gallery VER (Bangkok)
10. Jan Manton Art (Brisbane)
11. Nadi Gallery (Jakarta)
12. Niagara Galleries (Melbourne)
13. RUCI Art Space (Jakarta)
14. Tomio Koyama Gallery (Tokyo)

*Shared booth



ANNEX 2 – PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

Singapore

1. Cheong Soo Pieng
2. Heman Chong
3. Chua Ek Kay
4. Priyageetha Dia
5. Han Sai Por
6. Hong Sek Chern
7. Jane Lee
8. Jason Lim
9. Kenny Low
10. Faris Nakamura
11. Dawn Ng
12. Ruben Pang
13. PHUNK
14. Anthony Poon
15. Jeremy Sharma
16. Teng Nee Cheong
17. Jamie Teo
18. Suzann Victor

Hong Kong

1. Cheuk Wing Nam

India

1. Kanchana Gupta

Indonesia

1. Julian “Togar” Abraham
2. Octora Chan
3. Eddie Hara
4. Radhinal Indra
5. Natisa Jones
6. Jumaadi
7. Timoteus Anggawan Kusno
8. Yuli Prayitno
9. Handiwirman Saputra
10. Agus Suwage

Laos

1. Savanhdary Vongpoothorn

Myanmar

1. Wunna Ang
2. Thu Myat

Malaysia

1. Latiff Mohidin
2. Shooshie Sulaiman

Philippines

1. Brisa Amir
2. Enzo Camacho
3. Yeo Kaa
4. Manuel Ocampo

Taiwan

1. Chen Ching Ming
2. Ni Jui Hung

Thailand

1. Udomsak Krisanamis
2. Kamin Lertchaiprasert
3. Nuttapon Sawasdee
4. Wantanee Siripattananuntakul

United States of America

1. Carolina Caycedo
2. Josh Kline
3. Amy Lien
4. Gala Porrás-Kim

Vietnam

1. Dinh Q. Lê
2. Do Hoang Tuong
3. Tulip Duong
4. Lien Truong
5. Nguyen Trung