



DEBBIE DING

Rules for the Expression of Architectural Desires

2014–2021

24 UV-printed posters, 4 browsing copies of artist book, 2 single-channel videos

Dimensions variable

Collection of Singapore Art Museum

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education@singaporeartmuseum.sg



Did You Know?

1. *Rules for the Expression of Architectural Desires* is a set of speculative schemes, devices and instruments that the artist developed for the urban and social redesign of a city. It was first written in 2014 during the artist's residency at ZK/U Center for Art and Urbanistics in Berlin, Germany. The two single-channel videos were also filmed in Berlin.
2. Even though cities are built using physical materials, at their core, they are built upon and driven by ideas, desires and emotions, which are often conceptual, abstract or imprecise. Whilst *Rules for the Expression of Architectural Desires* is written with the intention of promoting the expression of architectural desires, at its heart, it is a prompt for us to challenge the city's boundaries and re-write its rules to imagine new cities and solutions.



Let's Talk!

1. Study the speculative schemes, devices and instruments that the artist has created. Which catches your attention the most? Why?
2. Select one of the speculative schemes, devices or instruments. Discuss whether it will change the city for the better or worse.
3. Watch the videos included in this work. What do you think the artist is trying to say through the videos? How does the meaning of the work change without the videos?
4. Imagine you are creating a set of rules for designing a new city. What kind of rules would you establish? Why?
5. As with conceptual art in the 1960s, for which language was an important tool, text also plays a central role in *Rules for the Expression of Architectural Desires*. Why do you think artists choose to incorporate text in their works?



About the Artist:

Debbie Ding (b. 1984, Singapore) is a visual artist and technologist who researches and explores technologies of perception. She uses prototyping and iterative strategies for artistic production. Ding is a recipient of the NAC Arts Scholarship (Postgraduate) who pursued MA Design Interactions at the Royal College of Art, London after completing her BA in English Literature at the National University of Singapore. Ding has had solo exhibitions at The Substation (2010) and Galerie Steph (2013), both in Singapore, and participated in group exhibitions including *President's Young Talents* (2018); *After the Fall*, National Museum of Singapore (2017); Singapore Biennale 2016; *Radio Malaya*, NUS Museum (2016); and *Unearthed*, Singapore Art Museum (2014).



Find Out More:

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