

#### **MEDIA RELEASE**

## LIGHT TO NIGHT FESTIVAL 2021 INVITES ARTISTS AND AUDIENCES TO REFLECT ON JOURNEY OF PROGRESS IN NEW HYBRID EDITION

- The first-ever hybrid edition of the festival invites the public to create shared memories through art experiences by local artists within the Civic District and beyond
  - Festival theme of "\_\_\_\_-in-Progress" invites audiences to forge deeper personal connections with art and uncover what progress means for them during this time of flux



19 January 2021 – A marquee event of Singapore Art Week, Light to Night Festival marks its return in 2021 with a host of innovative art experiences to excite and delight more audiences than ever before. Spearheaded by National Gallery Singapore with Civic District partners The Arts House, Victoria Theatre and Victoria Concert Hall, Asian Civilisations Museum, and Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay, the district-wide festival looks to inspire audiences to forge deeper connections with art in new and engaging ways, and start the new year with hope and positivity under the festival theme of "\_\_\_\_-in-Progress."



Inspired by current events that have redefined normalcy for all, the theme "\_\_\_\_-in-Progress" contemplates the journey of progress and change we undertook as we adapt to daily disruptions and move forward in the face of uncertainty. Through the festival's various art programmes and experiences, "\_\_\_\_-in-Progress" invites its participants—audiences and artists alike—to reflect on their own personal journey over the past year, and fill in the blanks with new possibilities and hopes for the future.

Ms. Suenne Megan Tan, Festival Director and Director of Audience Development and Engagement at National Gallery Singapore says, "This year's festival reflects the commitment of arts and cultural institutions in the Civic District to rally the public together in solidarity following a challenging year. In a new normal where everyone has had to adapt and make progress in the face of uncertainty, we are especially inspired by the resilience and creativity shown by the local arts community in response to the negative repercussions of the pandemic. As audiences engage with the festival line-up and create shared memories together, we hope they are similarly encouraged to move forward with a renewed sense of optimism in the new year."

#### **EXPERIENCE ART IN NEW WAYS WITH EXCITING NEW HIGHLIGHTS**

In bringing the theme of "\_\_\_\_-in-Progress" to life, the 2021 edition of Light to Night Festival will extend its reach beyond the Civic District for the first time ever through a progressive hybrid format. This new approach will present to audiences an exciting blend of online, offline, and hybrid online-offline programmes, including a series of exciting festival firsts:

• Augmented Reality: National Collection Comes Alive: See some of your favourite paintings in the National Collection come to life on your mobile devices as you view them in the Gallery, or have them appear on your living room wall—all with the help of Augmented Reality (AR) technology. Audiences will be able to interact with these AR animations via Light to Night Festival's social media channels and the festival microsite, granting them even wider access to new ways of seeing and interacting with the National Collection.



• Art in Motion: For the very first time, the latest edition of Light to Night Festival will also bring art experiences to its audiences on the move. Reflecting the metaphorical significance of the train ride as a transitional state and space in response to the festival theme, Art in Motion presents public art installations by five contemporary visual artists—Danielle Tay, Dave Lim and Adar Ng, Ezekiel Wong, Joanne Pang, and Tang Ling Nah—which will be installed aboard the cabins of an SMRT train that will ply the North-South and East-West lines. Through this initiative, audiences can look forward to encountering various works that explore themes of flux, transitions, and new beginnings, as well as our relationships with nature and space on public trains running islandwide.

#### A PLATFORM TO CELEBRATE LOCAL ARTISTS

Alongside pilot initiatives premiering in this new edition, Light to Night Festival 2021 is broadening its support for the local arts community through greater collaboration with local artists and the mentorship of art students.

- Art Skins on Monuments: A perennial favourite, Art Skins on Monuments will return to the Civic District featuring greater participation from local art talents. These include open call selection **Joanne Ho**, whose work **(Re)rooting**—which was designed using machine learning frameworks—will adorn the entire facade of the Gallery. Elsewhere within the Civic District, a mentorship programme held in partnership with three local tertiary institutes will see the works of art and design students projected onto the facades of the Asian Civilisations Museum, The Arts House, and Victoria Theatre and Concert the Hall.
- Physical art installations: At several locations around the District, audiences will encounter installation works by Singapore artists which respond to the theme of "\_\_\_\_-in-Progress" in unique and thought-provoking ways. On the Padang grounds, they will encounter Nathan Yong's work titled There in the Middleness. Framed by Singapore's vast modern skyline, the installation's



circular form draws inspiration from the ancient Greek symbol of the *Ouroboros* to symbolise hope and healing, along with the timeless, cyclical nature of progression. Comprised of 125 concrete I-beam blocks engraved with uplifting words gathered from the public, the work invites all to discover a sense of renewed hope and peace amid a bustling metropolis.

• Gallery Gigs: Spotlighting a wealth of local talent within the realms of music, dance, film, and comedy, Gallery Gigs serves up a dynamic mix of exciting online and onsite performances. In its online series, artistes including dance duo Scrachmarcs, hip hop artiste Yung Raja, and filmmaker Victric Thng utilise the empty museum space to create unique performances inspired by the art in the National Collection, and share what the festival theme means to them on a deeper personal level. Meanwhile, those looking to enjoy live performances can look forward to comedy sets by Fakkah Fuzz, along with a series of music performances by local musicians Shye and Tim De Cotta.

#### MAKING ART ACCESSIBLE THROUGH INNOVATIVE OFFERINGS

Light to Night Festival 2021 also looks to break down barriers to art through lighthearted initiatives and novel programmes that invite audiences to forge a deeper connection with art.

- Decoding the Civic District: In this engaging experience held within the wider
  Civic District, audiences are invited to solve a mystery by embarking on a
  journey to uncover hidden secrets across five iconic cultural institutions, with
  the opportunity to encounter notable artworks and artifacts along the way.
- Instagram filters inspired by the National Collection: Specially created by Singaporean tech artist Eugene Soh for Light to Night Festival 2021, audiences will be able to access a series of engaging Instagram and Facebook filters available on the festival's dedicated social media pages. Inspired by the works and artistic techniques of Singaporean photographer Tan Lip Seng and



woodcut print works found in the National Collection, these filters offer the public yet more dynamic ways of interacting with, and learning about art.

• Ask Away: Gallery Edition, and #Artsplaining: In Ask Away: Gallery Edition, get up close and personal with the Gallery's leadership through engaging 60-second videos featuring Chief Executive Officer Chong Siak Ching and Gallery Director Eugene Tan, who offer no-holds-barred views on their roles, perspectives, and what drives and inspires them. Meanwhile, #Artsplaining makes a return to the festival line-up with a series of candid conversations between Gallery curators and familiar local personalities such as social media influencer Preetipls and artist-photographer Charmaine Poh, which will be available onsite and online.

## CIVIC DISTRICT PARTNERS PRESENT MULTI-FACETED PERSPECTIVES OF "-IN-PROGRESS"

In addition to participating in *Art Skins on Monuments* and *Decoding the Civic District* game, Civic District partners will be presenting a series of online and onsite programmes that respond to the festival themes of progress and change.

- open books: I Want To Go Home by The Arts House: This year's edition of open books, The Arts House's signature programme, draws inspiration from writer Wesley Leon Aroozoo's work titled I Want To Go Home. In addition to a series of programmes that respond to the festival's theme, it will present an immersive multi-sensory installation co-curated and designed by Mural Lingo and The Arts House, that touches on the ideas of strength and resilience, and how love may manifest during a crisis.
- Asian Civilisations Museum: Asian Civilisations Museum will be presenting a
  series of onsite and online installations, workshops, tours and talks that
  celebrate the progress made so far in these extraordinary times and imagine
  possibilities for a new future. Highlights include Ways of Seeing by Zarch



**Collaboratives**, an onsite installation that invites visitors to interact with the structure of a giant telescope to view one's surroundings through new frames.

- All Things New by Esplanade Theatres on the Bay: Celebrate new music
  and welcome fresh faces as artists embark on brand new chapters of their
  musical journeys at Esplanade's All Things New. Participating artistes include
  new local musicians such as indie band Burmese Bombshells and local pop
  duo The Fleurists, and established acts like R&B and Soul-inspired band
  Astronauts.
- VCHPresents by Victoria Theatre and Concert Hall: Chamber music series VCHPresents returns for Light to Night Festival 2021 with a series of online and live music performances by prize winners from the 2019 National Piano and Violin Competition, harp quartet La Vie en Harp and Southeast Asian music groups Orkestra Sri Temasek and Sari-Sari Philippine Kulintang Ensemble. Audiences will also be able to catch online performances by the SNYO Percussion Ensemble and attend webinars on the development of online music performances, especially in these times.

Ms Elaine Ng, Senior Director of Engagement and Participation at the National Arts Council says, "Light to Night's redefined, hybrid format is very much attuned to Art Week's theme of 'Art Takes Over' where our art encounters transcend physical spaces into virtual realms. With an exciting lineup of interdisciplinary programmes taking place at the Civic District and online, we can look forward to the return of the festival after such a challenging year, to continue enjoying unique arts and culture experiences anytime and anywhere."

"We're especially thrilled to support this year's Light to Night and can't wait to see how the artists will bring the Civic District back to life as we emerge from a very challenging year. Extending its physical displays to digital experiences, we hope that the enhanced



format will allow more Singaporeans to enjoy art, even from afar", says Mr Fong Yong Kian, Chief Executive of Tote Board—the festival's Development Partner.

As part of the overall festival experience, a microsite will be launched to provide audiences with a more convenient and direct access to festival offerings, especially while on the go. With the microsite, audiences will be able to plan their festival visits efficiently at a glance and access its plethora of online programmes including artist talks, performances, and the festival forum by all Civic District partners and at-home AR experiences – all in one platform. The microsite is accessible at www.lighttonight.sg.

For more on the festival, audiences can also follow its dedicated social media accounts on Facebook and Instagram at **facebook.com/ltn2021** and **@lighttonightsg** respectively.

Onsite admission to the Festival is free, commencing from 10am until midnight. Certain programme timings and admission charges may vary. Please visit the site for more information on *Light to Night:* \_\_\_\_\_-in-Progress, or refer to the annexes below.

Light to Night Festival 2021 is supported by the National Arts Council, the Cultural Matching Fund, the Singapore Tourism Board, and Tote Board.

- Annex A: Light to Night:\_\_\_\_\_-in-Progress Programmes
- Annex B: Bios of artists participating in Light to Night:\_\_\_\_-in-Progress

#### For further information, please contact:

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#### **About National Gallery Singapore**

National Gallery Singapore is a leading visual arts institution which oversees the world's largest public collection of Singapore and Southeast Asian modern art. Situated at the birthplace of modern Singapore, in the heart of the Civic District, the Gallery is housed in two national monuments - City Hall and former Supreme Court that have been beautifully restored and transformed into this exciting 64,000 square metre venue. Reflecting Singapore's unique heritage and geographical location, the Gallery aims to be a progressive museum that creates dialogues between the art of Singapore, Southeast Asia and the world to foster and inspire a creative and inclusive society. This is reflected in our collaborative research, education, long-term and special exhibitions, and innovative programming. The Gallery also works with international museums such as Centre Pompidou, Musée d'Orsay, Tate Britain, National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (MOMAT) and National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea (MMCA), to jointly present Southeast Asian art in the global context, positioning Singapore as a key node in the global visual arts scene.

#### **About Singapore Art Week 2021**

Singapore Art Week (SAW), the pinnacle of Singapore's visual arts scene, returns in its 9th edition from 22 to 30 January 2021. Singapore's signature visual arts season will celebrate the coming together of our vibrant artist community in unprecedented times as we simultaneously navigate new modes of artmaking, presentation and look forward to new possibilities for the future. Keeping to the theme of "Art Takes Over", SAW 2021 will present over 100 arts events across both physical and digital spaces, featuring new works, transnational collaborations and virtual art experiences. Offering a diverse range of works from our arts and cultural institutions, private galleries, non-profit arts organisations, independent artists and curators, audiences can enjoy SAW 2021 through physical presentations complemented by digital programmes accessible from the comfort of their homes.

SAW continues to be a spotlight, gathering and launchpad for the arts community in Singapore, in line with the larger #SGCultureAnywhere campaign, sounding a call



towards the creation of new networks, shared knowledge and connectivity both locally and regionally.

SAW 2021, a celebration of Singapore's vibrant art landscape, is a joint initiative by the National Arts Council (NAC), the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) and the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB).

Visit <u>www.artweek.sg</u> for the full SAW 2021 event line-up.

#### **About the Civic District**

The Civic District lies at the very heart of Singapore, and is known as the founding point of this modern metropolis. Located on the banks of the historic Singapore River, the area houses some of Singapore's most notable national monuments, civic spaces and cultural institutions.

Colonial architecture, concerts and contemporary art converge at the Victoria Theatre and Concert Hall, and The Arts House (Singapore's former Parliament Building). Art lovers can enjoy the largest collection of Singapore and Southeast Asian paintings at the former Supreme Court and City Hall buildings, now home to the National Gallery Singapore; and learn about the cultural heritage of Asia and Singapore's diverse cultures at the Asian Civilisations Museum.

Take a walk around the Civic District and enjoy the sights and sounds of the Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay, the Padang, Queen Elizabeth Walk as well as the Jubilee Bridge.

We invite you to explore Singapore's Civic District, the historic birthplace of modern Singapore.

#### **About National Arts Council**

The National Arts Council champions the arts in Singapore. By nurturing creative excellence and supporting broad audience engagement, the diverse and distinctive



arts inspire people, connect communities and profile Singapore internationally. NAC preserves Singapore's rich, cultural traditions as they cultivate accomplished artists and vibrant companies for the future. Their support for the arts is comprehensive – from grants and partnerships to industry facilitation and arts housing. The Council welcomes greater private and corporate giving to and through the arts so that together everyone can make the arts an integral part of everyone's lives. For more information on the Council's mission and plans, visit www.nac.gov.sg.

#### **About Tote Board**

Established in 1988, Tote Board (Singapore Totalisator Board) is a statutory board of the Ministry of Finance. As a broad-based grantmaking organisation, Tote Board works closely with stakeholders and partners, to support broad and diverse worthy projects in the sectors of Arts, Community Development, Education, Health, Social Service and Sports. Through these projects, Tote Board helps to uplift the community by giving hope to vulnerable groups and improving the lives of all in Singapore.

Tote Board's source of grants is derived from operating surplus of the Tote Board Group, which comprises Tote Board and its wholly-owned subsidiary Singapore Pools (Private) Limited and Singapore Turf Club, a proprietary club owned by Tote Board. Tote Board also ensures that Singapore Pools (Private) Limited and the Singapore Turf Club conduct their gaming and racing businesses in a socially responsible manner, to provide legal, safe and trusted gaming as a means to counter illegal gambling.

Tote Board's goal is to help build a flourishing society in Singapore. We want to inspire positive change and contribute towards building an inclusive, resilient and vibrant community, while fostering a caring and compassionate nation.

#### **About the Singapore Tourism Board**

The Singapore Tourism Board (STB) is the lead development agency for tourism, one of Singapore's key economic sectors. Together with industry partners and the



community, we shape a dynamic Singapore tourism landscape. We bring the Passion Made Possible brand to life by differentiating Singapore as a vibrant destination that inspires people to share and deepen their passions.

#### About Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall

First established in 1862, the Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall is one of the most recognisable landmarks in Singapore. The heritage building located in the heart of the city's Civic District contains a 614-seat Theatre and a 673-seat Concert Hall. In 2010, the national monument underwent a four-year refurbishment to restore its Neoclassical façade while getting new state-of-the-art facilities and amenities. The redevelopment also saw the addition of two smaller rooms for music, dance and theatre rehearsals.

Having played a role in the country's history for over 150 years, the Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall continues to be an exciting platform that supports the growth of Singapore's arts industry. The latter has been home to the Singapore Symphony Orchestra since the orchestra's founding in 1979.

#### **About the Asian Civilisations Museum**

ACM is Singapore's national museum of Asian antiquities and decorative art. As the only museum in Asia with a pan-Asian scope, ACM is devoted to exploring the rich artistic heritage of Asia through our outstanding collection of masterpieces, and through ground-breaking special exhibitions. Opened in 1997 and in its present building by the Singapore River since 2003, the museum traces its roots to the Raffles Museum, founded in the middle of the 19th century. ACM focuses on the many historical connections between cultures and civilisations in Asia, and between Asia and the world.

Singapore's history as a port city that brought people together from all over the world is used as a means of examining the history of Asia. Objects on display tell stories of



the trade and the exchange of ideas that were the result of international commerce, as well as the flow of religions and faith through Asia.

Special exhibitions bring magnificent objects from around the world to our Singapore audience. For more information, visit <a href="www.acm.org.sg">www.acm.org.sg</a> or follow the museum on Facebook (@asiancivilisationsmuseum) and Instagram (@acm\_sg).

#### **About The Arts House**

Occupying the almost 200-year-old building that was home to Singapore's first parliament, The Arts House continues in the distinguished tradition of this gazetted national monument and now plays a key role in the country's arts and creative scene. The Arts House at the Old Parliament, as it is affectionately referred to, promotes and presents multidisciplinary programmes and festivals within its elegant spaces. It focuses in particular on the literary arts, celebrating the works of written and spoken word artists from Singapore and beyond.

The Arts House is run and managed by Arts House Limited (AHL). AHL also presents the <u>Singapore International Festival of Arts</u>, as well as manages <u>Goodman Arts Centre</u>, <u>Aliwal Arts Centre</u>, Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall, and Drama Centre.

#### About Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay

Esplanade is Singapore's national performing arts centre. It hosts a year-round lineup of about 3,500 live performances and activities presented by Esplanade, its partners and hirers. Esplanade also brings the arts virtually to audiences in Singapore and beyond, through its diverse range of digital programmes on <u>Esplanade Offstage</u>, an all-access backstage pass to the performing arts and guide to Singapore and Asian arts and culture, with videos, podcasts, articles, quizzes and resources.



As an arts centre for everyone, Esplanade also creates opportunities for seniors, youth, children and underserved communities to experience the arts. More than 70% of the shows that take place each year at the centre are non-ticketed.

The centre works in close partnership with local, regional and international artists to develop artistic capabilities and content, push artistic boundaries and engage audiences. Esplanade supports the creation of artistic content by commissioning and producing new Singapore and Asian work for the international stage. It also develops technical capabilities for the industry nationally.

To bring even more of the arts to a wider audience and provide more platforms to support Singapore's next generation of artists, Esplanade is building a new theatre along its busy waterfront. Named Singtel Waterfront Theatre, the 550-seat venue will open in 2022.

Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay is operated by The Esplanade Co Ltd (TECL), which is a not- for-profit organisation, a registered Charity and an Institution of a Public Character. The Charity Council awarded TECL the Charity Governance Award – Special Commendation for Clarity of Strategy in 2016, and the Charity Transparency Award for four consecutive years since 2016.

TECL receives funding support from Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and its Community Programmes are supported by Tote Board Family, comprising Tote Board, Singapore Pools and Singapore Turf Club.

Visit Esplanade.com for more information.



#### Annex A: Light to Night: \_\_\_\_\_-in-Progress Programmes

#### **Encounter Art**

## Art Skins on Monuments 2021

22 Jan-31 Jan | 7.30pm to midnight

Onsite: Various

locations in the Civic

District

Take a stroll around the Civic District and immerse yourself in a world of colour and light as iconic cultural institutions come to life in bursts of colour. For this edition of Art Skins on Monuments, artists respond to the festival theme of what is in progress for them in captivating light projections.

#### National Gallery Singapore

#### (Re)rooting by Joanne Ho and W.Y. Huang

(Re)rooting embodies the way the memory of a place is passed on and transformed through our imaginations, as well as the process we go through to capture moments in time. In this work, visions of Singapore's past and present are transformed into undulating pixel landscapes and projected onto the Gallery's facade.

These images were created by machine learning frameworks and are based on the visual patterns of chosen datasets: artworks from the National Gallery Singapore's Collection Search Portal (www.collections.nationalgallery.sg/#), photographs from the Rotunda Library and Archive, and images of present-day Singapore. While the images generated are entirely new, they somehow feel familiar. The results are uncanny, non-linear and beautiful—similar to how our minds pick up information from archived media and filter these stories through our own experiences and



imagination, leading us to recall past events that we may not have personally experienced.

To (re)root is a continuous process of attempting to reconnect yourself to your identity, your community, and the world.

Rotunda Library, National Gallery Singapore

I'm All Hands All Eyes by Randy Chan, Fiona Tan,
Finbarr Fallon (Zarch Collaboratives), Faye Lim,
Stanley Yong. Performed by Faye Lim and Shahrin
Johry

I'm All Hands All Eyes traverses the disciplines of architecture, film, dance and music, and is the product of a multi-layered process of making and responding across art forms. This light projection focuses on the choreography of two parts of the body—the hands and the eyes—which are both directly involved in the process of archiving objects. The hands and fingers draw, arrange, open and close, while the eyes search, see, squint and read between the lines.

Though a library is often quiet and still, one's hands and eyes are constantly moving during the process of gathering information. Now, in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic when our smiles are masked, the hands and eyes have become more necessary than ever as instrumental tools of communication.

#### The Arts House

Passages by students from School of Design &



Media, ITE College Central. Mentor: Heider Ismail.
Sound Designer: Safuan Johari

The road ahead is neither clear nor straight, and is filled with unknown obstacles and unchartered paths. Staying stationary is not an option, thus new passages have to be carved out with new routes for us to explore in this uncertain journey.

#### Asian Civilisations Museum

**Generations** by students from School of Art, Design and Media, Nanyang Technological University.

Mentor: Brandon Tay.

Sound Designer: W. Y. Huang

The word "generation" has two meanings: one indicates creation and birth, while the other refers to a group of people from a period of time with a collective experience. In the process of creation, the exchange of shared experiences and histories is pivotal, and weaving together the cultures from past ages creates a new tapestry in the present.

#### Victoria Theatre & Concert Hall

Absence of Presence by students from School of Interactive & Digital Media, Nanyang Polytechnic.

Mentor: William Chan. Sound Designer: Louis Quek

The new reality brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic has had a huge impact on our daily lives, and redefined the very idea of presence. Working from home, homebased learning and virtual performances suddenly



	became the norm rather than the exception. Despite the
	increased isolation and distance, interaction and
	integration are still key to our lives. The works presented
	here explore how we adapted and are still adapting to
	this new reality.
Art in Motion	With the theme "In-Progress," Light to Night
18 Jan-14 Feb	Festival 2021 celebrates the idea of being in flux and of
	evolution and growth.
Location: Available on	
five cabins aboard one	In a time of uncertainty and isolation, the train ride offers
SMRT train plying the	a reprieve. It signals a return to normalcy and freedom of
North-South and East-	movement, and the predictability of train schedules and
West lines	routes is familiar and assuring. When we get on a train,
	perhaps, for the first time in a while, we know where we
	are going, and how we will get there.
	The transitory nature of the train journey echoes the
	festival theme. But what is it like to be on a journey
	where the destination is undefined? How has the
	uncertainty brought about by the pandemic affected our
	artists and their practice?
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	Art in Motion is a travelling pop-up art encounter where
	five local artists respond to these questions through
	commissioned works on SMRT trains on the North-South
	and East-West lines.
	View these site-specific artworks in train cabins travelling
	on the SMRT North-South and East-West line from 18
	January to 14 February 2021, as part of the Light to Night
	Festival 2021 and Singapore Art Week 2021.
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	Featured artists: Ezekiel Wong, Danielle Tay, Tang Ling
	Nah, Joanne Pang, Dave Lim and Adar Ng.
Arrive, Arrive by	Arrive, Arrive is a series of "painterly objects" suspended
Guo-Liang Tan	at the Gallery's Padang Atrium that takes the experience
22-31 Jan   10am-	of viewing paintings out of the gallery and into a public
10pm (Fri–Sun),	space. Catching the natural skylight filtered from the
10am-7pm (Mon-Thu)	atrium's glass ceiling, the hues and tones of these
	colourful wing-like structures shift as one moves around
Onsite: National	the atrium, drawing attention to our embodied experience
Gallery Singapore,	of colour. By looking at the artwork from various vantage
Padang Atrium	points, viewers are invited to think about what really
	makes a painting. Reflecting the Festival's theme, the
	installation invites contemplation and meditation, and
	hopes to provide viewers with a moment of stillness and
	reverie.
There in the	This installation explores how humanity's irresponsible
	The metallation explores flow flamatiky still expensions
Middleness by	encroachment into nature has led to one of the most
Middleness by	encroachment into nature has led to one of the most
Middleness by Nathan Yong	encroachment into nature has led to one of the most destructive pandemics recorded in modern history, and
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possibilities for the future. This will lead them to face the impending challenges that lie ahead with newfound values.

The circle in the installation symbolises hope and healing, as well as the infinite, timeless cycle of development, improvement, and progression. It also brings to mind the concept of new beginnings and the start of a new season. The I-beam represents our strength and progression as a nation, and symbolises the advancement of technology in our hyper-urbanised metropolis.

### Gallery Gigs Goes Live!

23 & 30 Jan | 7:30pm - 10pm

Enjoy live acoustic and electronic acts by local talents Shye, Cravism, Jean Seizure and Tim De Cotta, who are poised to take the stage and bring you some groovy beats! Be sure to catch all four sets over two days.

Onsite: National
Gallery Singapore, City
Hall Wing, Level B1,

#### **Gallery Gigs**

**Auditorium** 

#### Online

Experience Light to Night Festival wherever you are with *Gallery Gigs*, a video series that takes you behind the scenes with local performing artists with the likes of Yung Raja, Lew, .gif,

ScRach MarcS and more! *Gallery Gigs* provides a captivating glimpse into their creative journey as they perform original works in response to artworks from the National Collection. Be inspired by their voices and personal stories as they share what the festival theme "
-In-Progress" means for them.



All Things New 2021	Celebrate new music and welcome fresh faces as artists
1-31 Jan   Various	embark on brand new chapters of their musical journeys.
timings	
Onsite: Esplanade,	
Upper Concourse and	
Outdoor Theatre and	
Online	
VCH presents:	Get ready to hear classical music as you've never heard
Orkestra Sri Temasek	it before as Orkestra Sri Temasek performs musical
goes Classical	favourites on both western and traditional Malay
29 Jan   7pm -7.30pm,	instruments. In this concert, they will bring their unique
9.30pm-10pm	perspective and perform a repertoire that includes
	Piazzolla's Oblivion, Rossini's William Tell Overture and
Onsite: Victoria	Vivaldi's <i>Four Seasons</i> .
Concert Hall	
VCH presents:	Let the Sari-Sari Philippine Kulintang Ensemble guide
Discover Kulintang	you through an exploration of kulintang, a thrilling style of
30 Jan   7pm - 7.30pm	music from the Philippines. Discover the different facets
& 9.30pm – 10pm	of this improvisational art, and gain a fascinating insight
	into one of the region's oldest musical traditions.
Onsite: Victoria	
Concert Hall	



#### Interact with Art

Augmented Reality:
<b>National Collection</b>
Comes Alive

Watch the National Collection spring to life like never before on your smartphone through augmented reality!

Onsite: National
Gallery Singapore and

Online

Instagram AR filters inspired by the National Gollection by Eugene Soh (@dude.sg)

Online

In response to the Festival theme "\_\_\_\_\_-in-Progress", Eugene Soh takes inspiration from the works of Singaporean photographer Tan Lip Seng (whose works are currently featured in a Gallery's virtual exhibition *Stories in Light: Four Modern Photographers in Singapore*) and woodcut print works in the National Collection. Tan is best known for the semi-abstract colour slides he made in the late 1960s and 70s. His experimentations with photo montage and layering led him to develop a specific colour derivation technique using Ortho Film and dizochrome film. Since, Tan has used this signature technique to create the semi-abstract and brightly-coloured landscapes of Singapore.

Soh will contrast Tan's approach with the easy manipulation of images and color saturation using digital image-editing tools today —especially prevalent in social media camera filters —through the interactive AR filter. This filter will enable audiences to see the world through Tan's eyes while giving them creative control to get the feel that they want.

Tan Lip Seng's filter comes with three effects, each based on a specific photography work. The first two



effects are camera styles with background colours—tap on your background and then use the slider to adjust the strength of the background colour. The last effect is a double exposure camera based on Tan's work *Industrial Century* (1963). Tap the screen to capture a double exposure and use the slider to adjust its opacity.

Visit www.instagram.com/lighttonightsg/ to try out the filters.

#### Design-in-Progress: Ways of Seeing by Zarch Collaboratives

22-31 Jan | 10am-11pm (Fri-Sun), 10am-7pm (Mon-Thu)

Onsite: ACM Green

Ways of Seeing invites visitors to peer through the structure of a giant telescope to view one's surroundings through a new perspective. In this unprecedented time of the COVID-19 pandemic, the telescope takes on an additional layer of meaning, aiding in the metaphorical viewing, observing, and savouring of experiences from afar.

## open books: I Want to Go Home

22 Jan-28 Feb | 10am-10 pm

Onsite: The Arts
House Porch

open books returns to The Arts House with an experiential art installation inspired by Wesley Leon Aroozoo's *I Want to Go Home*. Co-curated and designed by Mural Lingo and The Arts House, this immersive multisensory installation invites you to encounter the strength of a man's love and resilience, as well as his determination to be reunited with his loved one. In *open books: I Want to Go Home*, multidisciplinary artists bring Aroozoo's moving story to life and convey the importance of love, hope, and persistence in allowing us to overcome times of crisis.



#### Participate in Art

Decoding Civic	Decoding Civic District is a precinct-wide Escape Game
District	held within the heart of the Civic District as part of the
22-23 Jan, 29-30 Jan	Light to Night Festival 2021. Players will investigate
	hidden secrets across five iconic cultural institutions and
Onsite: Various	examine notable artworks and artefacts from the National
locations in the Civic	Collection to solve a mystery. Discover hidden spots in
District	the Civic District while engaging with arts and culture in a
	completely new way. This is the perfect opportunity to
	have fun with your friends or make new ones, so grab
	your tickets while they last!
Ask Away	An in-depth and personal look at the people behind
	National Gallery Singapore, the Ask Away series features
Online	two key personalities that have made the Light to Night
	Festival possible. Expect the unexpected from the
	Gallery's CEO Chong Siak Ching and Director Eugene
	Tan, as they respond to questions from our Light to Night
	Festival Instagram page!
"in-Progress"	Tell us what's on your mind by taking part in our data
Participatory Wall	string board interactive installation!
22–31 Jan   10am–	String board interactive installation:
10pm (Fri–Sun),	
10am-7pm (Mon-Thu)	
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
Onsite: National	
Gallery Singapore,	
Padang Atrium	
Corridor, Level 1	



## Festival Forum: Meeting-In-Progress with Arts Equator

23 Jan | 1.30pm-6.30pm

Onsite: National
Gallery Singapore, City
Hall Wing, Level B1,
Auditorium

Online: Livestreamed
on the Gallery's
YouTube channel, and
on the Light to Night
Facebook page

Where can we find each other? And where do we go from here? *Festival Forum* discusses ideas, processes and ways forward in this new year of not-so-new normals. Both an agitation and undulation towards a common point of reference, *Meeting-In-Progress* is an attempt to gather everyone in a room, where we can have urgent conversations and find moments of light and lightness.

The Festival Forum comprises of three 60mins sessions

- Burning Questions: Should We Rethink the Necessity of Travelling in the Arts?
- 2. Pandemic as Zeitgeist, Opportunity and Muse
- 3. Game show: "So You Think You Can Work In A Museum?"

The Festival Forum is co-curated by ArtsEquator and National Gallery Singapore as part of Light to Night Festival 2021.

Join the conversation and register today!

# #Artsplaining with Preetipls and Charmaine Poh 23 Jan & 30 Jan | 8– 8.20pm

Onsite: National
Gallery Singapore

The Light to Night Festival is a celebration of artistic expression where public spaces in Singapore are transformed into canvases for artists to showcase their unique pieces, making art more accessible to a broader audience. This #Artsplaining Session aims to ease the public into art appreciation through lively and enriching dialogue with personalities they know and love. These thoughtful conversations on artworks in the Gallery spaces create a casual platform for art advocacy.



#### The Kolektif

**Takeover** 

22-23 Jan & 29-30 Jan

| 5pm-10pm

Onsite: National
Gallery Singapore
(Singapore Courtyard
and Auditorium Foyer)
and Online

We all need some chill time amid all the excitement at Light to Night Festival 2021. That's where *The Kolektif Takeover* comes in! With tons of beanbags, abundant good vibes, and a Kolektif-curated playlist, it's the best place to discover youth programmes at the Festival and meet other like-minded people over good conversation. Brought to you by the Gallery's very own youth collective, Kolektif, of volunteers aged 17 – 25 years old!

the spacebar: When a pandemic overwhelms the world, what happens to human connection? Join us at the spacebar and immerse yourself in a safe space inspired by National Collection artworks. Create meaningful conversations within your friend group through a specially-designed card game, go solo with your reflection in the Gallery, or go on the spacebar website to browse our library of vulnerable, anonymous responses!

#### The Unessential Guidebook to National Gallery

Singapore: The Unessential Guidebook to National Gallery Singapore is a free digital zine available online that will accompany readers as they explore the Gallery. A complimentary zine-making station will be set up at Singapore Courtyard. Stocked with craft materials and a library of local zines, the station encourages visitors to make a zine from scratch while reflecting on what's in progress for them.

**Blind Frenship Dates:** Make a new "fren" through a series of art-inspired activities! Learn something new, make something new, and befriend someone new!



Amongst other activities, engage in breezy conversations on art guided by prompts, explore the Gallery together and jump into a sea of beads as you make friendship bracelets. No art background or experience needed.

Each free and easy friendship date will last an hour and be guided by our trusty Frenship Folio. Let's take off our masks (figuratively) in this pandemic of isolation, and get excited about making new frens!

The Inconvenient Tour: As discussions on climate change become more mainstream, trying to make sense of everything that's happening can feel overwhelming. Enter: *The Inconvenient Tour*. Join us for an intimate tour, full of engaging activities and stimulating conversation, and discover what Southeast Asian art has to say about humankind's relationship with our natural world. Learn about stories of hope and struggle in our own backyard, as artists shed light on how Indonesian activists and local tribes in the Philippines fight to protect their communities. After the tour, stick around to make some art of your own at our tree of life, and win the chance to take home exciting freebies!



#### Annex B: Bios of artists participating in Light to Night: -in-Progress

Artist	Bio
Joanne Ho &	Joanne Ho (b. 1991) is a Singaporean new media artist with
W.Y. Huang	a background in architecture, working with digital
	technologies like AR, VR, 360 film, full-dome projections, and
	multi-sensory installations. Her work with the built and natural
	environment. Ho's recent work with the machine learning
	addresses questions regarding the role of creative intent in
	man-machine collaborations, and what it means to be human
	in the face of a world that is increasingly automated.
	W. Y. Huang is a producer, singer and songwriter who
	divides his time between New York and his hometown,
	Singapore. Huang's practice explores the possibilities of
	Asian Futurism through electronic music. In his works,
	experimental electronic production melds with the forgotten
	textures of traditional Chinese instruments, and artifacts from
	his cultural heritage find a fresh voice through bold stories
	and modern narratives.
Adar Ng & Dave	Adar Ng and Dave Lim are an artist duo who have worked
Lim	together on multiple artistic, curatorial and research projects
	since 2018. Their notable projects include Sticki (2021), The
	Spaces Between Us (2021) and ON/OFF/SCREEN 2021, a
	moving image exhibition. Collectively, their work has been
	exhibited internationally at film festivals such as the Cannes
	Film Festival, Singapore International Film Festival and
	Athens Digital Arts Festival. Their artistic concerns revolve
	around the everyday visual poetry of life, the need to bear
	witness to events, and an insatiable questioning of social
	paradigms.



#### **Ezekiel Wong**

Ezekiel Wong Kel Win has a Master's Degree in Art
Education from Nanyang Technological University, and a
Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts (Honours) from Lasalle
College of the Arts, Singapore-Goldsmiths, University of
London.

Known for his sardonic wit and humour, Wong's artworks draw on satire to highlight societal conflicts and geopolitical issues, as well as his personal reflections.

Challenging the world through his imagination, Wong employs a comical approach to articulate his views on current affairs. He has exhibited locally with recent shows at Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay (2017), The Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA) Singapore (2017), iPreciation Gallery (2016) and Mizuma Gallery (2016); and internationally, with exhibitions at Bienal do Duoro, Portugal (2018), Sabanci University, Turkey (2010), the Singapore Printmaking Society 29th Annual Exhibition (2009), and the Pocket Films Festival, Japan (2007).

#### **Tang Ling-Nah**

Tang Ling Nah is an artist and art educator based in Singapore. Her work is inspired by the city's transitional spaces and reflects on urban conditions, especially the fast pace and the lack of interpersonal intimacy in urban life. She explores the stories told about life by buildings, places and architectural spaces through a diverse range of works including charcoal drawings, book art, installations, performances and videos. In 2008, Tang represented Singapore in the 2nd Singapore Biennale and exhibited at the 11th International Architectural Biennale in Venice in the



	Singapore Pavilion. She is the recipient of the National Arts
	Council's Young Artist Award (Art) 2004.
Danielle Tay	Danielle Tay is a visual artist fascinated by events and
	happenings in daily life which are often overlooked. She
	enjoys bringing the unseen to life, capturing the essence of
	fleeting moments through her art. Her works traverse the
	boundaries of painting and craft, the abstract and the
	figurative, and incorporate diverse artmaking processes. Tay
	has exhibited locally and internationally since 2008, and
	earned a Highly Commended Award in the prestigious Rise
	Art Prize 2018. Her works are held in private collections
	internationally, and she has created commissioned artworks
	for a wide range of clients such as Facebook, Google,
	CapitaLand, Singapore Tourism Board and Starbucks.
Joanne Pang	Joanne Pang is an artist based in Singapore who explores
	the relationships between body, memory and space through
	site-specific installations, paintings and drawings. Pang
	graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Visual Communication
	from Nanyang Technological University and worked as a
	graphic designer before pursuing a Masters of Fine Art at the
	Royal Danish Art Academy in Copenhagen, Denmark.
	She has won numerous art and design awards, including the
	2018 UOB Painting of the Year (Established Artist Category),
	Singapore Young Photography Award (2012) and Singapore
	Design Awards (2012). Her first solo exhibition was held at a
	void deck in Singapore (2009), and she has participated in
	group shows in Singapore Art Museum (2012), 10th
	International Poster Triennial in Toyama, Japan (2012),
	Copenhagen Artweek (2015), as well as local group shows at



	Chan+Hori Contemporary (2018) and Institute of
	Contemporary Arts Singapore (2019).
	Contemporary 74to omgaporo (2010).
	Pang is currently an educator at Lasalle College of the Arts,
	Singapore. She is also founder of Prypress, an independent
	publishing and design studio that collaborates with emerging
	artists and designers. Prypress has participated in
	international art book fairs in Singapore, Taipei, Hong Kong,
	United Arab Emirates and Melbourne.
Guo-Liang Tan	Guo-Liang Tan (b. 1980, Singapore) is a visual artist who
	works primarily as a painter, and produces works in other
	mediums such as text, collage, and video. In his works, Tan
	uses surfaces — painterly or otherwise — as a space for
	engaging with various modes of abstraction. He explores how
	gaps, overlaps, traces and fragmentation frame and orientate
	our sense of time, body and memory.
Nathan Yong	Since Nathan Yong launched his eponymous design studio
	two decades ago, he has gained international recognition
	and a following worldwide. While Yong may be better known
	for his long-term collaborations with luxury brands such as
	Design Within Reach (USA), Living Divani (Italy) or Ligne
	Roset (France), his artistic explorations have enabled him to
	delve deeper into his fascination with materials. From
	delicate glazed porcelain to steel and cast concrete, Yong's
	works of art convey his desire to enhance the intrinsic
	qualities of materials in unexpected ways. Today, Yong has
	reverted to his birth name, Kok Seng, to embrace his true
	self, nurtured by the sum of his numerous experiences.
Shye	Shye is an 18-year-old singer-songwriter and electro pop
	producer born and bred in Singapore. In the solitude of her
	bedroom, she allows her imagination to take flight and



	channels her thoughts and feelings into her music. Shye is
	happy to write her own rules in her journey, and finds the
	process of self-expression both comforting and exhilarating.
	Her wish is that her music not only entertains, but speaks to
	her listeners on a personal level.
Cravism	Singaporean producer Cravism has always been immersed
	in hip-hop culture. In addition to being a professional b-boy,
	Cravism began playing the piano and trumpet in the early
	2000s, and now records and produces his own music. Over
	the past five years, Cravism has released 2 instrumental
	singles, an instrumental album, an instrumental EP and a
	collaborative album with French jazz singer Maya Diegel. His
	work has been featured globally in a campaign for the Adidas
	Originals Flagship Store, and has performed in Singapore
	and the UK, opening shows for Slum Village, Cosmo
	Midnight and others.
Tim de Cotta	Tim De Cotta is a vocalist, bassist, songwriter and producer.
	He draws influences from R&B and hip hop artists such as
	Maxwell, John Legend, Anderson Paak, Common and Mos
	Def, while styling his bass-playing after the likes of Derrick
	Hodge and Stuart Zender. De Cotta has played with various
	bands and is also a highly sought-after sessionist for many
	artists, including Intriguant, The Good Life Project,
	Evanturetime, Michaela Therese, and .gif. He has worked
	with the National Arts Council, Singapore Tourism Board and
	Temasek Holdings.
Jean Seizure	Jean Seizure is a mishmash of many things. She started out
	as an actor at the age of six and starred in dramas such as
	The Price of Peace and Stepping Out, as well as short films
	such as Autograph Book by Wee Li Lin. She has worked as a
	backup vocalist for established local and international



	musicians such as Joanna Dong and Jacky Cheung, and is
	currently one-fifth of local a cappella group, The Apex
	Project. Jean's debut single, Night, ranked 3rd on Spotify's
	Viral 50 Singapore playlist when it was released in 2018, and
	has garnered more than 2.4 million streams on Spotify.
Orkestra Sri	Sri Temasek Orchestra (OrST) was established in 2011 by
Temasek	Orchestral Director Hanafi Idrus and Music Director
	Muhammad Firdaus Mohd. Since its inception in 2011,
	OrST's goal is to seek, sustain and nurture the appreciation
	of Malay music heritage of the Malay Archipelago. OrST is
	the only Malay orchestra in Singapore that performs with
	traditional Malay and western musical instruments, which
	brings a unique flavour to their songs, some of which are
	sung in Malay.
Sari-Sari	Founded by Pamela Costes-Onishi and Hideaki Onishi in
Philippines	September 2009 in Singapore, Sari-Sari Philippine Kulintang
Kulintang	Ensemble has performed both locally and internationally.
Ensemble	Sari-Sari is an independent music ensemble that strives to
	revive the improvisational performance style of Philippine
	kulintang—gong and drum ensemble music from the
	Southern Philippines of Mindanao Island—in a traditional
	setting. The ensemble aims to reinvigorate this art form with
	new compositions and encourage more interaction amongst
	musicians. Sari-Sari also performs other music traditions
	from the Philippines, such as Kalinga music of the North, and
	collaborates with artists from other traditions around the
	region.
Eugene Soh	Eugene Soh a.k.a. DUDE is a tech artist. He is the founder of
	Dude Studios (dude.sg), a creative tech studio focusing on
	Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality, and Mind
	Palace, a social enterprise that uses VR to help dementia
L	



	patients and nursing home residents revisit fond places and
	explore the world from the comfort and safety of their chairs.
	Soh is a self-taught computer programmer, who accidentally
	became an artist after his photographic piece, contextualising
	Da Vinci's Last Supper in a local hawker centre setting, went
	viral on social media in 2012. This work, with its tongue-in-
	cheek commentary on contemporary life in Singapore,
	catapulted him into the art world.
Zarch	Zarch Collaboratives is an architecture studio which creates
Collaboratives	spatial design projects across multiple fields. Ways of Seeing
	was produced by Randy Chan, Fiona Tan, Finbarr Fallon,
	and Faye Lim for Design-in-Progress, the Asian Civilisation
	Museum's programme for Light to Night 2021. The
	installation will be supported by a performance piece,
	workshop, and a webinar where they will discuss the
	collaboration.
Wesley Leon	Shortlisted for the Epigram Books Fiction Prize 2021, Wesley
Arozoo	is a multi-disciplinary artist with 13 Little Pictures and a
	lecturer-in-charge at LASALLE College of the Arts. With
	works spanning disciplines and genres, Wesley's literary
	work I Want to Go Home (Math Paper Press, 2017) was
	accompanied with a film rendition which was nominated for
	the Mecenat Award at the Busan International Film Festival
	2017. His other literary work, Bedok Reservoir (Math Paper
	2017. His other literary work, Bedok Reservoir (Math Paper Press, 2012) was brought to life for stage and performed at
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Press, 2012) was brought to life for stage and performed at
	Press, 2012) was brought to life for stage and performed at the Goodman Arts Centre. Wesley received his Master of
Mural Lingo	Press, 2012) was brought to life for stage and performed at the Goodman Arts Centre. Wesley received his Master of Fine Arts in Dramatic Writing from New York University Tisch
Mural Lingo	Press, 2012) was brought to life for stage and performed at the Goodman Arts Centre. Wesley received his Master of Fine Arts in Dramatic Writing from New York University Tisch Asia.
Mural Lingo	Press, 2012) was brought to life for stage and performed at the Goodman Arts Centre. Wesley received his Master of Fine Arts in Dramatic Writing from New York University Tisch Asia.  Mural Lingo is a multi-disciplinary platform-studio that



	experiences by using a combination of cutting-edge
	technology and captivating mural paintings.
ArtsEquator	ArtsEquator Ltd is a digital media platform which covers arts
	and culture in Southeast Asia. It is committed to developing
	arts writing and criticism which identify Southeast Asian
	creative practices as part of, rather than an adjunct to, global
	contemporary arts. Its principal stakeholders are arts makers,
	arts critics and arts audiences in Southeast Asia.
Preetipls	Preeti Nair, better known as Preetipls (Singapore's TOP
	everything), is best known for her satirical comedy videos on
	social media. She believes that being an 'influencer' means
	having the opportunity to use her platform and influence to
	spread positive social change and raise awareness about
	causes that are close to her heart.
Charmaine Poh	Charmaine Poh uses photography, film, and performance to
	create spaces for narratives in the margins. Central to her
	work is the performativity of the everyday and the ways
	tenderness can be a form of resistance used to rebuild
	worlds. Her practice often employs ethnographic methods in
	working with communities to establish processes of co-
	authorship and sharing. Poh's work has been supported by
	the M1 Singapore Fringe Festival, the Singapore
	International Photography Festival, Objectifs Centre for
	Photography and Filmmaking, The Taipei Arts Festival, The
	International Center of Photography, Photoville, WeTransfer,
	and The New York Times, among others. In 2019, she was
	recognised as one of Forbes Asia's 30 under 30 in the arts,
	and one of CLEO Magazine's Changemakers. Poh graduated
	with an M.A. in Visual and Media Anthropology from the Freie
	Universität Berlin, and a B.A. in International Relations from
	Tufts University.