

For immediate release

# **Media Release**

# Light to Night Festival Returns Bigger, Bolder and Brighter at Singapore's Civic District

Spearheaded by National Gallery Singapore, it will be the largest precinct-wide interdisciplinary arts festival in Singapore to date

**Singapore**, **4 January 2018** – *Light to Night Festival* returns from 19 to 28 January 2018 and looks set to paint Singapore's Civic District in a dazzling array of colours as it transforms iconic cultural institutions and parks into a creative canvas with spectacular works of art.

In its second edition, the Festival will expand from an anniversary celebration event by National Gallery Singapore in 2016 to become a precinct-wide arts festival spearheaded by the Gallery, together with four other precinct partners – The Arts House, Victoria Theatre and Victoria Concert Hall, Asian Civilisations Museum and The Esplanade. It is also one of the marquee events of Singapore Art Week.

Themed 'Colour Sensations', the Festival will take visitors on a captivating, multi-sensorial journey through the changing colours of the precinct from day to night with the various commissioned works. They can look forward to a vibrant kaleidoscope of public art and activities by artists from Singapore and beyond, including interactive light projections, immersive colourscapes, illusionary play with mirrors, and participatory indoor works and performances that span seven programme zones in the precinct – making it the largest precinct-wide visual, literary and performing arts festival in Singapore.

Ms Suenne Megan Tan, Festival Director, *Light to Night Festival 2018*, and Director (Audience Development and Engagement), National Gallery Singapore said, "The Civic District is home to major cultural institutions in Singapore and prides itself as an arts and cultural hub right in the heart of the city. *Light to Night Festival* aims to extend this experience beyond the walls of

these timeless monuments and into the public spaces for a multi-generational audience to gather and enjoy the art around them. We believe that by making art easily accessible, we can encourage more encounters of public art around the precinct, gradually raise their appreciation towards art, and over time nurture a greater art-loving community."

## An art trail of dazzling and interactive public art installations



Watch the Civic District turn into a nocturnal wonderland when the sun goes down, as revellers are spellbound by the illuminated city streetscapes. For the first time, National Gallery Singapore's City Hall façade will become an interactive canvas for audiences to create public artwork. Titled *Chromascope*, visitors are invited to participate by stepping on stomping pads to project coloured visuals onto the Gallery's façade.



Its neighbouring Former Supreme Court Building, together with The Arts House, Victoria Theatre and Victoria Concert Hall and the Asian Civilisations Museum, will also be a sight to behold with the biggest façade light extravaganza in Singapore – *Art Skins on Monuments* – where coloured light projections by 30 Singapore and Singapore-based artists, illustrators and multimedia designers, including new media artist Brandon Tay, visual artist Speak Cryptic, illustrator-artist Aeropalmics and contemporary artist Samantha Lo, adorn each monument.



House of Mirrors in a house-sized kaleidoscope after dark.

On the Empress Lawn, a multi-sensory adventure awaits as *House of Mirrors* by Melbourne artists Christian Wagstaff and Keith Courtney makes its Asian debut. A thrilling blend of both delight and paranoia, the installation is a fascinating labyrinth of endless mirrors which takes one on a journey through thousands of disorientating optical illusions and bewildering reflections – all taking place



Visitors will also see the Esplanade Park tunnel light up as Singapore-based lighting design collective Nipek presents *Trip to the Colourscape*, a display of vibrant hues aimed at stimulating one's awareness of our environment through the interplay of coloured lights and shadows. This experience will be enhanced with musical performances at the Esplanade Park by local bands such as Cosmic Child and Sang Mataharitidur Mati. In addition, Year 1 students from the National University of Singapore's Architecture faculty will be presenting a new site-specific installation, *Art Incubator: Tropical Primitive Hut*, which will take centre stage at the ACM Green. This interpretation of the primitive hut explores the natural connections between people, architecture and the environment that may often be overlooked during Singapore's rapid urban development – adding a different perspective to visitors' experience of the Civic District.

"Public art is a focal point for the Festival as it provides a refreshing way for the public to experience this arts and cultural precinct, while igniting conversations that bring people closer

together. We see this as a throwback to the Civic District's rich heritage of being a common, shared space where people from all walks of life meet to interact and bond by the Singapore River. And today, we are taking this forward by creating a platform to celebrate the artistic and creative pulses of Singapore," said Ms Tan.

# National Gallery Singapore invites public participation in its indoor commissions



A Stitch in Time

As part of the Light to Night Festival, National Gallery Singapore has also commissioned five artists who are richly informed by their own history and experience of the region to create indoor participatory art works, of which two will be unveiled at the Festival. A Stitch in Time by Filipino artist David Medalla is an expansive sculptural work that was inspired by his chance reunion with a handkerchief that he had gifted to an ex-

lover years earlier. Visitors are encouraged to stitch words or small memorabilia onto the canvas as a display of interconnectedness and accidental discoveries.

The UOB Southeast Asia Gallery will also see an internationally-acclaimed performance work by Taiwanese artist Lee Mingwei – **Sonic Blossom**, which reminds one of the fragility of life and the moments that make it beautiful. In the live one-on-one performance, a classically-trained opera singer will approach one visitor at a time in the galleries to perform a personal short rendition of *Lieder* (art songs) by Franz Schubert.





[From left to right] One or Several Tigers, and Walk, Walk, Walk: Search, Deviate, Reunite

The two works will accompany three other commissioned pieces – *One or Several Tigers* by Singaporean artist Ho Tzu Nyen, *The House is Crumbling* by Thai artist Pinaree Sanpitak, and *Walk, Walk, Walk: Search, Deviate, Reunite* by teamLab – and an existing work by teamLab *Flowers and People – Dark*, which have been progressively opened to the public since December, to encourage one to also experience the museum as a space for people to gather and interact.

#### A Festival for everyone

Festival-goers can look forward to an endless evening of fun and enjoyment with more than 30 programmes in 10 days that have been specially put together by the Civic District precinct partners.

Right at the centre of all the action, be prepared to soak in the Festival atmosphere at **Art X Social**, as the Padang will turn into a sprawling picnic ground with more than 80 food and craft stalls, complementing the experience of watching the light installations and projections unfold across the Civic District. With a wide variety of programmes, from dramatised readings, music performances, poetry recitations and artist talks, there is something for everyone to kickstart the brand new year.

The Festival runs for 10 days, and starts from 5pm till midnight on weekends (Fri & Sat), and visitors can still enjoy the outdoor light art installations from 8pm till 10pm on weekdays (Sun – Thurs). National Gallery Singapore will also extend its opening hours till midnight on Fridays and Saturdays of the festival, and visitors can enjoy complimentary admission to all exhibitions including the special exhibitions *Colours of Impressionism: Masterpieces from the Musée d'Orsay* and *Between Worlds: Raden Saleh and Juan Luna*.

It is also proudly supported by Development Partner, Tote Board, Strategic Partner, National Arts Council and Official Radio Stations, 88.3Jia FM & Power 98FM.

Admission to the Festival is free. St Andrew's Road will be closed during the two weekends on Friday and Saturday from 4pm till 1am. For more information about the Festival, please visit www.lighttonight.sq.

Annex A: Quote sheet from partners and artists involved in indoor commissions at

National Gallery Singapore Annex B: Festival Factsheet

**Annex C: Light to Night Festival Brochure** 

#### For Media Enquires

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# **About National Gallery Singapore**

National Gallery Singapore is a visual arts institution which oversees the largest public collection of modern art in Singapore and Southeast Asia. Situated 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 venue. Reflecting Singapore's unique heritage and geographical location, the Gallery features Singapore and Southeast Asian art from Singapore's National Collection in its long-term and special exhibitions. The Gallery also works with international museums to jointly present Southeast Asian art in the global context, positioning Singapore as a regional and international hub for the visual arts.

In 2016, the Gallery won the awards for "Best Attraction Experience", "Breakthrough Contribution to Tourism" and "Best Customer Service (Attractions)" at the prestigious Singapore Tourism Awards for its role in adding to the vibrancy of Singapore's tourism landscape.

#### **About Tote Board**

Established in 1988, Tote Board (Singapore Totalisator Board) is a statutory board of the Ministry of Finance. As a 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. Being a broad-based grantmaker, Tote Board strives to identify synergies and needs across multiple sectors, and tailor our funding efforts

accordingly to create greater impact. The wide reach of Tote Board's grants has enabled us to touch the lives of Singaporeans from all walks of life. We provide equitable opportunities for vulnerable groups, strengthen communities, and inject vibrancy and liveability in our community spaces through our grantmaking. Tote Board's grants are derived from surpluses from the gaming businesses Singapore Pools (Private) Limited (a subsidiary company of Tote Board) and Singapore Turf Club (a proprietary club of Tote Board), as well as the collection of casino entry levies. Tote Board also ensures that Singapore Pools and Singapore Turf Club conduct their businesses in a socially responsible manner, so as to provide a safe and trusted avenue for gaming and 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 Singapore Art Week**

Light to Night Festival is part of Singapore Art Week 2018 (17 – 28 January 2018). 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 sixth edition in 2018, the twelve-day celebration of the visual arts takes place in venues across Singapore, from galleries and museums to art precincts and non-profit spaces.

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 art fairs, 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. www.artweek.sq

#### **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, historic birthplace of modern Singapore.

# Annex A: Quotes from partners and the artists involved in indoor commissions at National Gallery Singapore

# **Development Partner, Tote Board**

"As the Development Partner of National Gallery Singapore (the Gallery), Tote Board is heartened to note that the Gallery's programmes are made easily accessible and actively participated by the public. We look forward to another exciting edition of Light to Night 2018, with a series of interactive and programmes for all to enjoy. Indeed, the Gallery's programmes have contributed to a vibrant arts and culture scene, enhancing the quality of lives of Singaporeans" - Mr Fong Yong Kian, Chief Executive, Tote Board

# Strategic Partner, National Arts Council

"As one of the marquee events of Singapore Art Week 2018, Light to Night Festival will bring a unique experience for everyone at the Civic District. We are glad that the major cultural institutions are coming together to reimagine the precinct and offer a multi-sensorial encounter with the arts." - Ms Chua Ai Liang, Senior Director, Engagement & Participation, National Arts Council

#### Sonic Blossom, by Lee Mingwei

"While taking care of my mother as she recuperated from surgery, I found great beauty and comfort in Franz Schubert's Lieder. Through the singers selected for this project, I hope to share this beauty with you who have come to visit the gallery. If offered one of these songs as a gift, please accept the encounter and allow the experience to transform you."

#### The House is Crumbling, by Pinaree Sanpitak

"The House is Crumbling is a setting of a soft, fragile, shared environment which can go either which way, depending on how each of us handles it. Whether you are tying or un-tying, simple actions can make a change. Though things may seem all right, we are living in unsteady times."

#### One or Several Tigers, by Ho Tzu Nyen

"One or Several Tigers is a theatrical installation that channels a tiger, a colonial surveyor and convict labourers in a ritual that condenses a million years of tiger-human in the Malayan world / Perhaps, one might depart with the sense that not only can a different account of Singaporean history be written, but that history itself could be evoked in a different way - one that comes much closer to a dream."

# Walk, Walk: Search, Deviate, Reunite, by teamLab

"This space is made of a group of anonymous and diverse figures. As they keep walking, the artwork continues to move. When visitors touch the figures, they react, sometimes stop, sometimes change the direction and choose a different path. Visitors choose something, discard other thing and keep walking. Whether or not visitors physically stop, figures in front

of you continues to move.

The Zen expression "Hoho kore dojo" says every step is the place to learn. The characters of the work continue walking endlessly while facing various challenges. Visitors may also face the same challenges by walking after the figures or confront the figures one after another.

We hope visitors would realize a new perception of the world and deepen their thoughts by walking through, facing challenges and immersing themselves in Walk, Walk, Walk: Search, Deviate, Reunite." - Toshiyuki Inoko, Founder

#### Annex B: LIGHT TO NIGHT FESTIVAL 2018 FACTSHEET

All information accurate as of 18 January 2018

#### **Outdoor art commissions at the Civic District**



Art Skins on Monuments

By Brandon Tay X Safuan Johari

19 January 2018 - 28 January 2018

8pm – midnight (19, 20, 26, 27 January) | 8pm – 10pm (21 – 25 January, 28 January)
National Gallery Singapore's Former Supreme Court Building, Asian Civilisations
Museum, The Arts House, Victoria Theatre and Victoria Concert Hall

Art Skins on Monuments is the biggest facade light show in Singapore that span four cultural institutions. Curated by Brandon Tay and Safuan Johari, it will feature a total of 30 design images created by 30 Singapore and Singapore-based artists, illustrators and multimedia designers that will be projected on the facades of the Asian Civilisation Museum, The Arts House, Victoria Theatre and Victoria Concert Hall and National Gallery Singapore's Former Supreme Court Building.

The 30 Singapore and Singapore-based artists include Aeropalmics (Dawn Ang), Allison M. Low, Amon Wong, Andy Yang, Brandon Tay, Clara Yee, Djohan Johari, Eric Foenander, fFurious, JABA (Didier Mathieu), Kiat, KILAS, Kristal Melson, Louis Lam, Lucinda Law, Machineast, Mindflyer (Michael Ng), Mojoko, Race Krehel, Reza Hasni, Samantha Lo, Sean

Lam, SOAK, Speak Cryptic, SYSSTM, The Ink & Clog, TMRRW, Wu Jun Han, Zaki Shariff, and ZERO.



# Chromascope

**By Spinifex Group** 

19 - 20 January 2018, 26 - 27 January 2018 | 8pm-midnight

21 - 25 January 2018, 28 January 2018 | 8pm-10pm

National Gallery Singapore façade, City Hall Wing

This interactive installation invites audiences to create a public artwork by stepping on stomping pads to shine coloured lights onto the Gallery's façade.

#### About the artist

Spinifex Group is a Creative Studio, Digital Agency and Production Company all rolled into one. Spinifex Group not only invent great ideas, but bring them to life too, and we do it all inhouse. From the worlds largest building projection, to Australia's first facial recognition billboard, we combine creativity, technology and strategic thinking to help brands connect with audiences in more engaging ways.

Spinifex Group have delivered powerful experiences on some of the worlds biggest stages, where the mandatories are "never seen before" and "one chance only". We've honed our capabilities across countless events, exhibitions, festivals, shows and product launches. Our media rich content experiences cover everything from mega canvases to 4" screens.

Spinifex Group's rare breed of original thinkers include some of the finest creatives, strategists, directors, designers, artists, animators, technologists, developers, producers, technicians and support staff.

Spinifex Group have been exposed to vast and varied challenges over the past 30 years but our passion and overarching objective has remained unchanged... to create experiences that are engaging, memorable and relevant, but most importantly, which connect our clients with their audiences.

Spinifex is part of the Project Worldwide agency network. Project is an independent global network of wholly owned agencies with more than 2,000 full time employees. Our agencies closely collaborate with one another on behalf of our clients products and services, inspiring people to participate and act. Visit project.com for more information.



Art Incubator: Tropical Primitive Hut

19 – 20 January 2018, 26 – 27 January 2018 | 10am-midnight

21 – 25 January 2018, 28 January 2018 | 10am-10pm

ACM Green

In collaboration with twelve Year 1 students from National University of Singapore's Architecture faculty, this site-specific installation creates an architectural intervention that transforms your experience of the Civic District.



#### **House of Mirrors**

19 - 20 January 2018, 26 - 27 January 2018 | 10am-midnight

21 - 25 January 2018, 28 January 2018 | 10am-10pm

#### **Empress Lawn**

Timed admission of 15 min per person at \$2 each | Tickets available onsite

Take a multi-sensory trip through a house-sized kaleidoscope that turns your reflection into many things: shadow, ghost, stranger and constant companion. Created by Melbourne artists Christian Wagstaff and Keith Courtney.

#### About the artists

Creative Production Services Group Pty Ltd is an award winning Australian owned company owned by two principals, Melbourne artists Christian Wagstaff and Keith Courtney. Formed to design and produce events, art exhibitions, public installations and temporary interior projects.

The company is supported by a permanent team of studio artists and production crew. In addition, they use a range of contracted creative professionals at the top of their fields. Creative Production Services Group Pty Ltd produces high quality creative projects, designing, developing and producing installations and programs that consistently translate creative ideas into a vast array of diverse public attractions, events and exhibition.



Trip to the Colourscape

19 – 20 January 2018, 26 – 27 January 2018 | 8pm-midnight

21 – 25 January 2018, 28 January 2018 | 8pm-10pm

Esplanade Park Tunnel and Esplanade Park

Since the 1960s, this tunnel has led people from Empress Place to Queen Elizabeth Walk (Esplanade Park). Now, see it refreshed with vibrant hues in a special commission by Singapore-based lighting design collective Nipek. This is accompanied by All Things New at Esplanade Park, which celebrates new music, new faces and the new musical journeys of Singapore artists on Fridays and Saturdays during Light to Night Festival 2018.

#### About the artist

Nipek is a Singapore-based practive of Lighting Designers. We enrich people's lives through providing creative, comfortable and exciting lighting solutions for built environments.

#### **Indoor art commissions at National Gallery Singapore**

The 5 new indoor artworks which is part of a special art commission series in conjunction with the festival, looks at how the Gallery as a public institution, and through the festival, bridges art & ideas, between past and present, between artists and the community in Singapore and beyond.



Photo credit: National Gallery Singapore

The House is Crumbling

By Pinaree Sanpitak

4 December 2017 - 1 April 2018

Commissioned by National Gallery Singapore for Light to Night Festival

The House is Crumbling is a sculptural installation made up of 4,000 khit pillows with 16 strings sewn into the different sides of each block. The work is a combination of fixed structure and loose forms that invite the visitors to continuously construct, de-construct, re-construct, change, alter, engage or disengage with the surroundings and environment within the Gallery space.

Since 2000, Pinaree has been creating large scale immersive works exploring the sensory perception. For *The House is Crumbling*, she extends the experience by providing a modular environment to look at how the body interacts with space and its surrounding. Visitors enter a

room with structures of "bodies" created by a single soft module. They are encouraged and challenged to interact with these bodies and their own.

#### About the artist

After graduating with a BFA in Visual Arts and Communication Design from the School of Fine Arts and Design, University of Tsukuba, Japan in 1985 Pinaree Sanpitak settled in Bangkok, Thailand since 1987 working in a wide range of mediums from painting, drawings, metal, glass, textile, food to interactive large-scale installations.

She had exhibited in solo and group shows in Thailand and internationally including solo shows at Sherman Contemporary Art Foundation, Sydney, Australia (2014), Toledo Museum of Art, Ohio, USA (2015) The Winter Garden, Brookfield Place and Tyler Rollins Fine Art New York, USA (2017) Group shows at *Sensorium 360 degree*, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore (2014), *Open Sea,* Lyon Museum of Contemporary Art, France (2015), *First Look*, The Asian Art Museum San Francisco, USA (2015), *Utopias-Heterotopias*, Art Wuzhen, Wuzhen, China (2016), SEA+ Triennale 2016 -The National Gallery of Indonesia (2016), *Sugar Spin – You Me Art and Everything*, Queensland Art Gallery / Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia (2016).



Photo credit: Ho Tzu Nyen

One or Several Tigers

By Ho Tzu Nyen

18 December 2017 - 28 January 2018

One or Several Tigers is a large-scaled multimedia installation, which can be described as a hybrid of shadow puppetry and 3D animation technology. It is the final work in a series of tiger-related projects that have spanned across the fields and disciplines of music/dance (*The Song of the Brokenhearted Tiger*, 2012), theatre (*Ten Thousand Tigers*, 2014) and visual arts (2 or 3 *Tigers*, 2015). All these projects have received significant national and international attention.

#### About the artist

Born in Singapore, Ho Tzu Nyen makes films, videos and live performances related to historical and philosophical texts and artefacts. His installations, which have been shown internationally in museums, galleries, film and performing arts festivals, appropriate the structures of epic myths, invoking their grandeur while revealing them to be not merely stories, but discursive tools.



Photo credit: National Gallery Singapore

A Stitch in Time

By David Medalla

19 January 2018 - 1 April 2018

Filipino artist David Medalla created his cosmic propulsion entitled *A Stitch in Time* in London, in 1968, during the 'Summer of Love'. He gave two of his ex-lovers a handkerchief each, a packet of needles and several spools of cotton thread when he met them at Heathrow airport. He told them they could stich anything they like - poems, names, messages, drawings, etc. - on the handkerchiefs. Many years later, at another airport, Schiphol in Amsterdam, David met a handsome young backpacker who carried on his back a totem-like pole of pieces of multicoloured clothes stitched together, into which were attached various objects like old Chinese coins, keys, empty cigarette packets, and dried flower leaves, barks and roots of tropical trees.

When David asked the backpacker where he got the cloth totem-pole the latter replied someone gave it to him in Bali. The backpacker handed the cloth totem-pole to David to examine. When David lifted the cloth totem-pole he saw to his amazement that the bottom piece of cloth was one of the original handkerchiefs he gave to one of his lovers. David handed back the cloth totem-pole to the backpacker without telling him the fact that the handkerchief which David gave one of his lovers was the start of the cosmic propulsion and participatory artwork entitled *A Stitch in Time*.

A Stitch in Time is about travel, time and chance, but it's also about production. It involves the audience sewing small objects of significance onto a large cloth in a public space, which requires a creative concentration and an engagement with the artwork. The pieces now exist as large, beautifully textured cloths but they are also a testament to all those who contributed to them, as well as the collaborative process through which they were created.

#### About the artist

Born in the Philippines and is currently living in London and Berlin, David Medalla's works range from sculpture and kinetic art to painting, installation and performance art. His unpredictable and playful approach to art-making has made him difficult to categorise, but he is increasingly recognised as a significant figure in the development of installation, kinetic and participatory art. His practice deconstructs the idea of sculpture as solid, timeless and monumental by creating objects and situations that can never be repeated and are continually changing form. He has won awards from the New York Foundation for the Arts and Jerome Foundation of America. In 2016, he was shortlisted for the inaugural Hepworth Prize for Sculpture.



Photo credit: National Gallery Singapore

Flowers and People – Dark

By teamLab

5 January 2018 - 12 August 2018

Neither a pre-recorded animation nor on loop, the artwork is rendered in real time by a computer program. The interaction between the viewer and the installation causes continuous change in the artwork. Previous visual states can never be replicated, and will never reoccur.

The flowers bud, grow, and blossom before their petals begin to wither and eventually fade away. The cycle of growth and decay repeats itself in perpetuity. Depending on the proximity of the viewer to the work, the flowers shed their petals all at once, wither and die, or come to life and blossom once again.



Photo credit: teamLab

Walk, Walk, Walk: Search, Deviate, Reunite

By teamLab

5 January 2018 - 12 August 2018

Commissioned by National Gallery Singapore for Light to Night Festival

This large-scale interactive digital installation welcomes the visitors into a labyrinth of space, encounters and confrontations presenting endless narrative cycles in the quest for enlightenment. The 3D environment is set in a manner by which the introspective journey of the individual is continually challenged by the presence of figures, playfully enticing, teasing, responding to the spectator as if sensing his or her movement, body heat and voice.

The work establishes the make-believe world between the real and unreal. Human interaction is interspersed with that of the virtual characters. The multiple digital protagonists populating the space continually cross the path of the person visiting – blurring the lines between the two worlds. The physical and digital share the ephemeral moments in a fleeting encounter.

Like many of teamLab's earlier works, this immersive work reflects the collective's continued exploration of Japanese space logic. As the visitor navigates through this experience, his or her sense of direction will continuously be presented with options, which path to take, which image to follow or interact with. The anonymity and multiplicity of the individual characters in

space empowers the spectators to create their pockets of stories - make their own choices towards what they deem as the path to enlightenment.

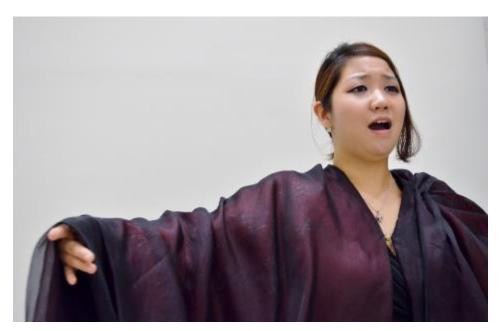
#### About the artist

teamLab (f. 2001) is art collective, an interdisciplinary group of ultra technologists whose collaborative practice seeks to navigate the confluence of art, science, technology, design and the natural world. Various specialists such as artists, programmers, engineers, CG animators, mathematicians and architects form teamLab.

teamLab aims to explore a new relationship between humans and nature through art. Digital technology has allowed us to liberate art from the physical and transcend boundaries. We see no boundary between ourselves and nature; one is in the other and the other in one. Everything exists in a long, fragile yet miraculous continuity of life.

teamLab has been the subject of numerous exhibitions at venues worldwide, including teamLab Dance! Art Exhibition and Learn and Play! teamLab Future Park which has welcomed over 470,000 visitors; Expo Milano 2015 Japan Pavilion, Milan; Saatchi Gallery, London; Maison&Objet, Paris; the National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, Taichung; DMM.PLANETS Art by teamLab which recorded 5-hour queue; teamLab: Living Digital Space and Future Parks, Silicon Valley; ArtScience Museum, Singapore; among others. Now exhibiting teamLab: Living Digital Forest and Future Park at PACE BEIJING (Beijing, China) till November 19.

teamLab's works are in the permanent collection of the Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney; Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide; Asian Art Museum, San Francisco; Asia Society Museum, New York; Borusan Contemporary Art Collection, Istanbul; and National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne.



Sonic Blossom

By Lee Mingwei

19 January 2018 - 16 February 2018

An internationally-acclaimed performance work by Lee, *Sonic Blossom* is a live one-on-one performance in which a classically-trained opera singer performs short *Lieder* (art songs) by Franz Schubert. Wearing a custom-designed costume, the singer will approach one visitor at a time in the galleries. If the visitor chooses to accept a song, he or she will be guided to a chair in the galleries, while the singer takes up a spot opposite the visitor and delivers a personal performance of the *Lieder*.

#### About the artist

Born in Taiwan, Lee Mingwei is currently living in New York City and Paris. He creates participatory installations, where strangers can explore issues of trust, intimacy and self-awareness. Lee's projects are often open-ended scenarios for everyday interaction, and take on different forms with the involvement of participants and change during the course of an exhibition. He has held solo exhibitions internationally including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Modern Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, Ullens Centre for Contemporary Art, and was also featured in biennales in Venice, Lyon, Sydney, Whitney and Asia Pacific Triennials.