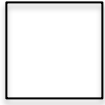


ONE BY ONE METRE SPACE



PRESS RELEASE

Singapore, 8 January 2016 - An artistic response to the changes in the Jalan Besar enclave around Sungei Road Flea Market, the exhibition 'One By One Metre Space' investigates ideas of transitory spaces, physical changes and the contestation of land. The month-long exhibition will be presented at Flaneur Gallery from 15 January to 21 February 2016. The exhibition, talk and its follow-up publication are curated by sungei.net projects; a site-specific art research group that interrogates contested spaces.

"The more one investigates and interrogates a mapped location, the more one learns about the complexity of its dimensions as a physical as well as a virtual space of collecting and exchanging both ideas and objects."

sungei.net projects

As the '1 x 1 m spaces' forming the historic flea market make way for the Jalan Besar MRT station in 2017, questions about the use of our urban spaces and their intrinsic value are brought up by the participating artists. 'One By One Metre Space' presents artworks by Adrian Tan, Debra Ong, Jennifer Ng, Ling Yang Chang and Mindy Tan as they interrogate the transitory space, connect with its people through interviews, field notes and record their observations.

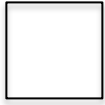
'One By One Metre Space' is the area allocated to each flea market vendor, a space that will soon be lost. As the artists discover, dialogue and reflect on this contested territory that has existed for decades, they connect the traces of objects or subjects to generate narratives of their own. As a result of months of visiting the literal spaces, the exhibition is aptly held within the located praxis in Flaneur Gallery and features a myriad of art forms.

Flaneur Gallery in collaboration with sungei.net projects will be transformed into a venue for exchange of art and ideas, with a visit to the Sungei Road flea market (which is just across the gallery) and an auction as part of the exhibition opening. As the bric-a-bac are brought into the gallery as speculative artworks, flea market stall holders and gallery-goers will interact and engage in conversation, exchange and trade. As the interaction takes place, the exhibition 'One By One Metre Space' manages to question the intrinsic value of this 'market place' and explore the relationship between the forgotten flea market and the new economies of the art market.

Event: 'One By One Metre Space' Exhibition
Venue: Flaneur Gallery, 129 Jalan Besar, Singapore 208847
Date: 15 January – 21 February 2016
Opening Reception on 15 January 2016, 7.30pm – 9.30pm, open to public
Opening Hours: Wed to Fri: 3pm – 8pm, Sat and Sun: 1pm – 6pm, closed on Mon and Tue
Free admission

Website: www.sungei.net
Facebook: www.facebook.com/sungei.netprojects
Instagram: www.instagram.com/sungei.net_projects

ONE BY ONE METRE SPACE



sungei.net projects is an art research initiative that explores notions of urban memory and the meaning of loss through practices of archiving and collaborative art-making. Territory 1: Jalan Besar will be mapped by a curated collective of artists who are invited to respond to the area. www.sungei.net

ONE BY ONE METRE SPACE is part of Singapore Art Week (16 – 24 January 2016). An initiative by the National Arts Council, in partnership with the Singapore Tourism Board and Singapore Economic Development Board, Singapore Art Week reinforces Singapore's position as Asia's leading arts destination. It is a nine-day celebration of the visual arts, offering a myriad of quality art experiences, from art fairs, gallery openings, exhibitions, lifestyle events and public art walks, to enriching discussions on art and culture. www.artweek.sg

ORGANISED & CURATED BY
sungei.net projects

PART OF

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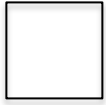


For media enquiries, please contact:

Rubix Cube Communications
Sophia Ang
+65-9694 5145
sophia@rubix-cube.com

sungei.net projects
Adrian Tan
+65-9664 2116
sungei.net@gmail.com

ONE BY ONE METRE SPACE



Annex

Artists and Artwork Highlights



1. Adrian Tan

Title: 1 x 1 m space

Medium: Video on found TV

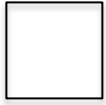
In Tan's '1 x 1 m space' he attempts to exchange and sell bric-a-bac purchased from the Sungei Road Flea Market. The work is the artist's first exploration into the performative space, and is a personal treatise to experience the community's struggles and sense of uncertainty in speculative buying and selling.

Title: SRFHZ and NOT FOR SALE (by sungei.net projects)

Medium: Installation (seperate on two levels)

SRFHZ or 'Sungei Road Free Hawking Zone' and NOT FOR SALE are related works spreaded over the two floors of the gallery and deftly highlights the complexity of the enclave and its community. In *SRFHZ*, a series of 'Request to save the land' documents between 2011 and 2015 are re-positioned as discursive art tools to draw peoples attention to the plight of the community.

ONE BY ONE METRE SPACE



'NOT FOR SALE' is a selection of salvaged objects from Mr Koh Eng Khoon (President of the *'Association for the Recycling of Second Hand Goods'*) and the contrast with SRFHZ opens up questions on the intrinsic value of the market.

Adrian Tan is a visual artist working with objects, paintings, drawings and situations. He started sungei.net projects while in London and has continued this project while teaching in Singapore. The sungei.net (Malay for 'river') project is an urban memory experiment that looks into how visual, verbal and written tools can be transformed into objects, paintings and discursive situations.



2. Debra Ong

Title: Transmigration II (sojourn)

Medium: Ink and Ice Wall, 200 x 200 cm

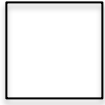
Ong's durational performance sculpture reflects the transitory nature of spaces, and our memory of past places. A large wall of ice, a reference to the Singapore Ice Works (Kek Sng Kio) situated at Sungei Road, is gradually inked. The ink is constantly in flux as it becomes more and more diluted with water and this continues till it washes away completely. This process echoes natural processes like decomposition, purification and fading away of memories.

Title: 全部多少? (All how much?)

Medium: Installation

The phrase “全部多少?” is often used to strike a bargain when one buys a few things at once, or in bulk. In this project, Ong attempts to find out how much these vendors are willing to sell their entire stalls for; Including even the

ONE BY ONE METRE SPACE



trolley they use to transport their stall or the chair that they are sitting on. The work deals with notions of uncertainty and questions 'What is the price of history and nostalgia?' in the face of the market's eventual demise.

Debra Ong is an artist from Singapore and a graduate from Central Saint Martins. She has recently been working in the mediums of Chinese painting, conceptual photography and performance sculpture. Her works use the language of nature and natural phenomena to inspire the processes used in her work. Some of the awards she has won include Clyde & Co Art Award, London, 2014; ABC Award Image Production (Life Drawing), London, 2014 and Young Artist Award, National Museum of Singapore, 2012.



3. Jennifer Ng

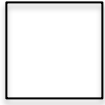
Title: No need to ask, these are all treasures

Medium: Mixed Media and Cement (Variable sizes)

In Ng's works she explores the rhizomatic weaving/collaging of forms with found objects. Using the materials interspersed with narratives of/ from the Sungei Road Flea Market, disparate objects are put together in re-storying and recreating forms and stories tightly bounded by cement and metal cables.

Jennifer Ng believes that materials / 'things' are essential bridges between people and spaces. In her works, she often engages the processes of weaving, casting and assembling to articulate the transitory actions and conditions of accumulation, formation and disintegration. Likewise, the approaches and methods employed are purposeful and instrumental in promoting dialogue and negotiation between people and spaces. With these considerations, she recreates and re-stories. Jennifer received her formal art training in Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the National Institute of Education at the Nanyang Technological University. She is currently pursuing a part-time Masters degree in Art Education and teaches full-time in a local junior college.

ONE BY ONE METRE SPACE



4. Ling Yang Chang

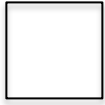
Title: The Sungei Road Story

Medium: Chinese Ink on Paper (364 x 20 cm)

Ling presents a series of Mixed-Media Chinese paintings in interpreting the changing facets of the Sungei Road Flea Market. In his artwork, Ling portrays a sentimental rendition of a space that holds memories and meaning for him.

Ling Yang Chang has been involved in many aspects of art-making over the last twenty years: artistic creations, group and solo exhibitions, workshops, public lectures and art teaching. As a graduate in Chinese studies, Yang Chang finds a natural affinity for Chinese brush painting, with its close attention to beauty of lines, poetical resonance and philosophical depth. His work is characterized by a delicate balance of Chinese and Western

ONE BY ONE METRE SPACE



influences. Even in the free rein of Western Abstract expression, the fine lines and tonal qualities of Chinese painting are never absent.



5. Mindy Tan

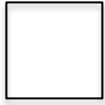
Title: Sungei Road

Medium: Still and Motion Photography

In Mindy Tan's photographic works, she documents what ten dollars can buy for her at the flea market and contrasts this starkly with things purchased in shopping malls. Her photographs contrast urban living in Singapore with the forgotten street market and with this cleverly juxtaposition makes visible the social inequalities present in our society. In her other series of moving images (cinographs), she depicts the intricacies of Sungei Road and its people, poignantly recreating the mood and capturing not just the sight but sounds and with it the emotions of the place.

Mindy Tan's photography examines the human condition. Her interest lies in getting to the core of the human spirit, specifically the lives of people living within the perils of big cities in South-East Asia. Her background in journalism was honed from her years as a newspaper reporter at the Singapore Press Holdings, covering issues on foreign labour in Singapore, and youth & community issues. She is disconcerted by a South East Asia transforming its traditions for a modernity that has left more people on the lower side of equal and wishes the world can slow down.

ONE BY ONE METRE SPACE



ANNEX 2

Programme Information and Highlights

1. 'One By One Metre Space' Exhibition

Venue: Flaneur Gallery, 129 Jalan Besar, Singapore 208847

Date: 15 January – 21 February 2016

Opening Hours: Wed to Fri: 3pm – 8pm, Sat and Sun: 1pm – 6pm, closed on Mon and Tue

Free admission

Website: www.sungei.net

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Instagram: www.instagram.com/sungei.net_projects

2. 'One By One Metre Space' Talk

Venue: Flaneur Gallery, 129 Jalan Besar, Singapore 208847

Date: 23 January 2016, Saturday

Time: 3.00pm – 4.30pm

Free Admission

'One By One Metre Space' talk invites all to join the discussion with guest speakers from the *the 'Association for the Recycling of Second Hand Goods'*, Lil Chung (Exactly Foundation) and CCA Singapore Research Fellow Tony Godfrey to interact with participating artists and the curator of the exhibition to explore ideas and experiences about contested spaces in Singapore.