



Singapore Contemporary Young Artists

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUM > PARTS: *'WHEN ARTISTS MEET THE PUBLIC'*

By Singapore Contemporary Young Artists (SCYA)

SCYA's 5th Group Art Show

Opening on 21st March 2014 & exhibition runs till 2rd April 2014

THE EXHIBITION

What are the people living in Singapore talking about nowadays? What are our priorities and what do we hope for the future?

Modern Singapore faces a contrasting and conflicting journey, transiting from the Old World to the New; where Singaporeans have developed significant aspirations and views about life and living in modern Singapore.

This exhibition brings together 11 artists from Singapore Contemporary Young Artists (SCYA) collaborating with non-artists Singaporeans or Forigners to create a new work based on shared views and experiences about Singapore's social, cultural, political landscape. The resulting exhibition explores a variety of situations pertaining to what matters for the people of Singapore.

This exhibition will display 11 new artworks from Benedict Chen, Billy Soh, Dan Wong, Daryl Goh, Deusa Blumke, Homa Shojaie, Jacquelyn Soo, Melanie Chua, Rachel Seah, Shazwany Aziz, Terry Wee with 11 collaborators.

The exhibition will be held at The Substation Gallery from 21st March to 2rd April 2014.



Singapore Contemporary Young Artists

OPENING HOURS AND VENUE

SUM > PARTS: 'When Artists Meet The Public' runs from 21st March 2014 to 2nd April 2014.

Opening Night: 21st March 2014, 7pm – 10pm
Gallery Viewing Dates: 22nd March to 2nd April 2014
Gallery Viewing Hours: 11am – 8pm daily
Venue: The Substation Gallery
45 Armenian Street, Singapore 179936

Artist + Collaborator Talk (in the gallery): 22 March 2014, 2pm – 6pm
Artist + Collaborator Talk (in the gallery): 23 March 2014, 2pm – 6pm
Artist + Collaborator Talk (in the gallery): 29 March 2014, 2pm – 6pm
Artist + Collaborator Talk (in the gallery): 30 March 2014, 2pm – 6pm



Singapore Contemporary Young Artists

ABOUT SCYA

'Highlighting Contemporary Art by Young Artists in Singapore'

SCYA is the acronym for Singapore Contemporary Young Artists, a society that generates interest in Contemporary Art by Singaporean/PR Artists to drive art outreach to diverse communities in Singapore.

SCYA provides Art Consultancy in outreach and public engagement to communities, schools, corporate and government sectors, promoting Contemporary Art by Young Artists in Singapore.

SCYA functions to achieve our objectives through these cores:

(Main) Community Art: Engaging the community / members of public through community making art projects with young artists.

Education Outreach: Talks and Workshops - Educational programmes to engage the public, corporate and educational sectors with young artists in Contemporary Art Practices.

Exhibition: Organising art exhibitions with educational/ social missions for corporates and institutions to promote and showcase Contemporary Art.

(Supporting Platform) Artists Network & Database: An online database that covers and tracks young artists and artistic forms in Singapore.

Address: Goodman Arts Centre, 90 Goodman Road
Blk B, #03-08, Singapore 439053

Website: www.contemporaryart.sg

Blog: www.scyaproject.wordpress.com



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ABOUT THE SUBSTATION

The Substation presents a diverse range of artists, programmes and events: from traditionally trained dancers to local rock bands; established visual artists to young poets; publications to international short film festivals; experimental theatre to seminal conferences on Singapore arts and culture. As an arts space, The Substation aims to support research and innovation in the arts, and to bring different artistic perspectives together in critical dialogue.

The Substation's place in the Singapore arts scene during the early 1990s was as a pioneer arts space. At The Substation, they have supported, and continue to support, an impressive diversity of artists, a number of whom have proven themselves over the years, and while maintaining their independence. Their principle mode of working with artists is to develop long-term relationships, and to engage in intense curatorial and artistic dialogue with artists. The Substation's approach both deepens and supports the diversity of local arts practices.

Website: <http://www.substation.org/>



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ABOUT THE ARTISTS & COLLABORATORS

Artist x Teacher

Benedict Chen & Ang Gim Yean

This collaboration brings two individuals' conversations about their experience on education in Singapore. The contrasting opinions attempts to finds the "truth" behind their memories and will be expressed in a visual form.

Bios

Benedict Chen is an apprentice engineer for the Enzan System used in tunnel construction (DTL3 and the coming Thomson Line). He exhibits regularly and is currently working on several documentary style photographic projects that revolves around Singapore, his family and work.

Ang Gim Yean is a public servant with an education background in Chemistry. Her core concerns are education, ethnicity and religion. She is a facilitator for OnePeople.sg since 2006. Her exposure to the arts is limited to the occasional visit to exhibitions with family.

(Picture not available at this time)



Singapore Contemporary Young Artists

Artist x Biostatistician

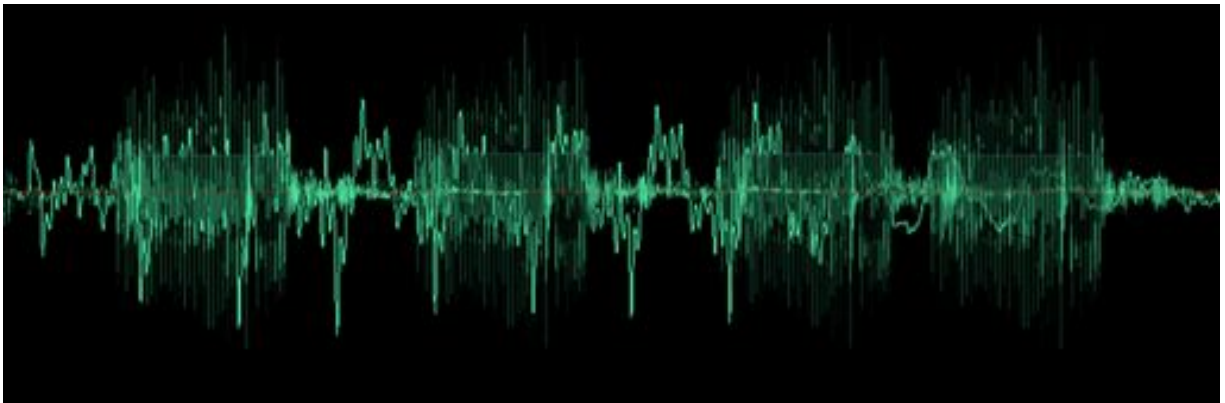
Billy Soh & Chen Zhao Jin

In the second instalment leading up from *Anything But The Message* (previous exhibition in April 2014), this collaborative exhibition attempts to shift the attention and explore the interpretation of abject sounds and noise heard in different surroundings that we each work, sleep and eat in.

Bio

Billy Soh is a photographer who specialises in portraiture, animal portraiture, food styling and photography as well as fine arts photography. He has been independent since 2006.

Chen Zhao Jin is a Science post-grad in the field of bio-statistics.



Artist x Watch Mechanic

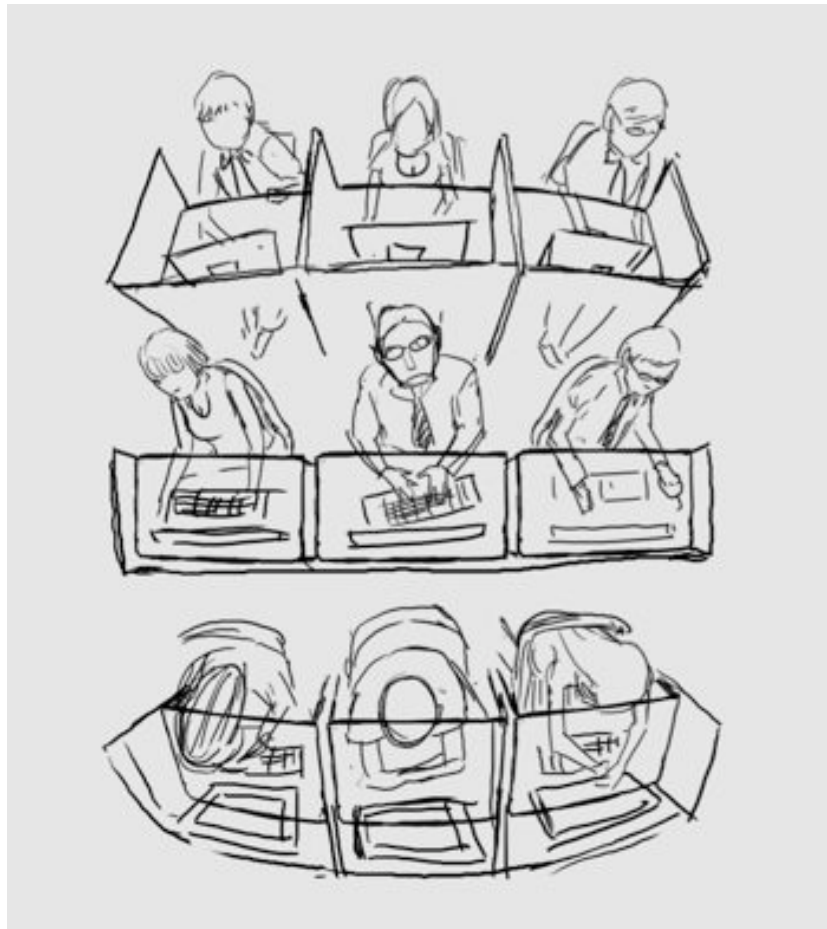
Dan Wong & Shawn Tan

This duo will be creating an artwork that uses the visual metaphors of rows and columns to convey various constructed aspects of Singaporean life in a light-hearted and humorous way.

Bio

Dan Wong works as a commercial illustrator and storyboard artist.

Shawn Tan works at a company that makes watch mechanisms; he also runs a business trading in hardware materials.





Singapore Contemporary Young Artists

Artist x Real Estate Agent

Daryl Goh & Joezer Liu

This collaboration explores the confine spaces in our locality and the relationship between domestic and urban tight spaces. It seeks to interrogate our reaction to this phenomenon, understand why we deal with them and how they affect our way of seeing.

Bios

Daryl Goh is an art practitioner and educator based in Singapore. He has practiced both traditional and digital art media, and lectures at the LASALLE College of the Arts. His work has been featured in various publications including print, web and broadcast. Daryl also co-founded [Mug Collective](#), a group dedicated to curatorial discourse and exhibitionary practices.

Joezer Liu is a highly sought after consultant in one of the top real estate agencies, Dennis Wee Realty. Currently, he champions an aspiring team of realtors and conducts regular trainings for them.

A real estate advertisement for a property named 'SUBSTATION'. The top half of the ad is a solid red rectangle with the words 'SUBSTATION' in white, uppercase, sans-serif font, and 'FOR SALE' in a much larger, bold, white, uppercase, sans-serif font below it. Below this red banner, there are two portrait photographs of men in business suits. The man on the left is Joezer Liu, and the man on the right is Daryl Goh. Between the two portraits, the text reads: 'Just remember, we do not just sell houses. We sell lifestyle.' with 'lifestyle.' in red. Below the portraits, there are logos for 'SINGAPORE REAL ESTATE THE HANDMAKER' and 'dg'. At the bottom of the ad, there is a red banner with white text: 'www.SingaporeRealEstate.com.sg', 'www.DarylGoh.com', and 'The Substation, 45 Armenian Street, Singapore 179936'. Underneath the portraits, the names and phone numbers of the agents are listed: 'Joezer Liu 9222 2285 info@singaporerealestate.com.sg' and 'Daryl Goh 9759 8570 daryl@darylgo.com'.

Artist x Elderly Gardener

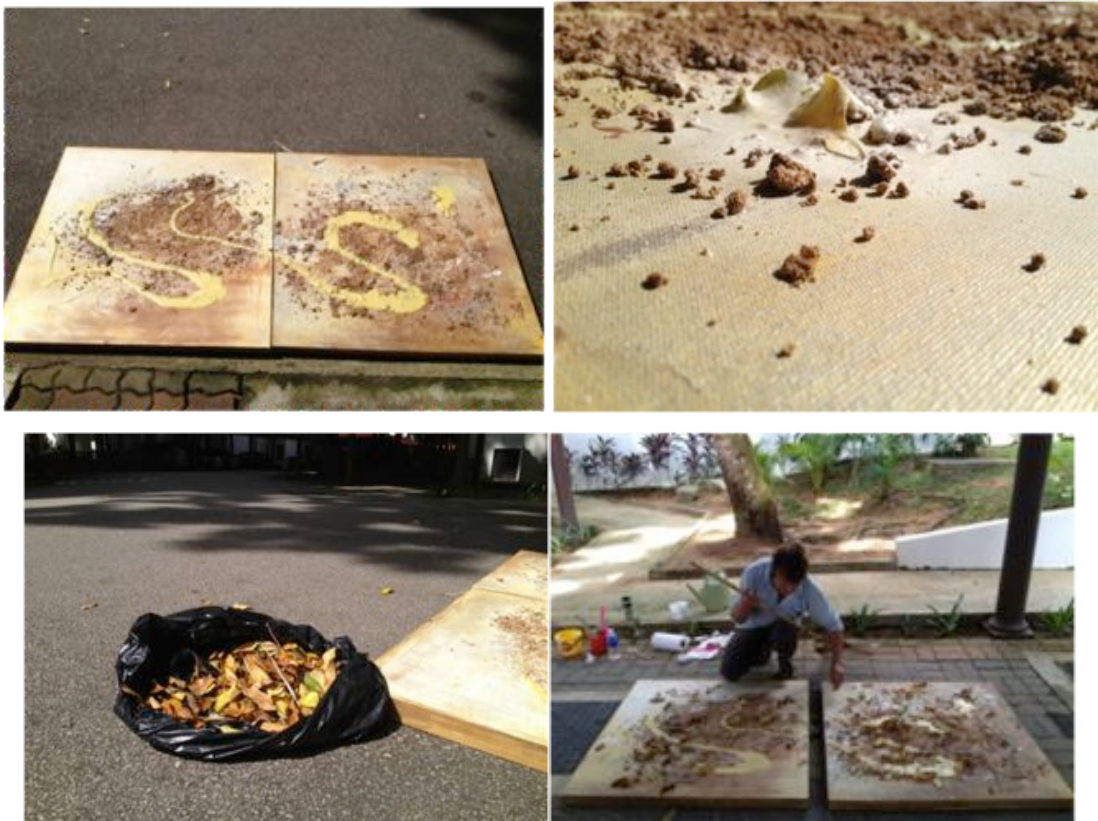
Deusa Blumke & Wong Soon Tuan

“The Art of Work” is a collaboration based on an observation of the elderly in Singapore and how hard they continue to work past their retirement. Sometimes even working in a calm atmosphere, it also brings challenges. The collaboration will produce works coming from their practices exploring eternal dilemma and struggles to keep going.

Bios

Born in Brazil, Deusa Blumke attained her BA (Hons) in Fine Arts at LASALLE College of the Arts in 2012. Deusa's foray into art is an exploration in order for understanding and embracing life itself, as she seeks its meanings and embraces its surprises.

Mr Wong Soon Tuan has been Deusa's estate's gardener for 4 years. He has 3 children and enjoys arranging flowers for fun.





Singapore Contemporary Young Artists

Artist x Financer

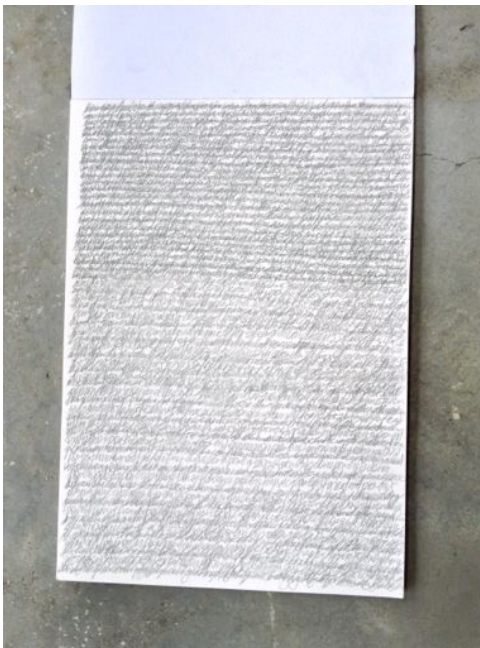
Homa Shojaie & Brian Wood

In this project Brian and Homa have been exploring issues of POWER in a series of writing/drawings. Looking into dynamics of feminine and masculine, chemistry, power, gender, sex, class, complementarity, tradition, and transformation of it. Their final piece in Substation will be an installation exploring the dynamics of this conversation.

Bios

Homa Shojaie was born in Iran. She studied painting at Atelier Aydin Aghdashloo in Tehran and Architecture at The Cooper Union in New York City. She has been Practicing Art in Chicago and teaching Architecture at IIT and The School of the Art Institute of Chicago (2003-2012). She is a MAFA candidate at LASALLE College of Arts.

Brian Wood moved to Singapore with his family 18 months ago from New York. For the past 15 years he has worked in finance, primarily in analytical roles at investment banks and hedge funds, and is currently seeking a new challenge. Aside from a lifelong interest in photography, he has little experience in the visual arts.



Artist x Environmental Activist

Jacquelyn Soo & Olivia Choong

How well do we know about the edible plants and flowers that grow in Singapore? This collaborative project about food & cultivation will explore the secrets of Singapore's local plants and flowers and how it can create both positive and negative results in agricultural and sustainable impact to the natural environment.

Bios

Jacquelyn Soo is the founder of SCYA and a multi-disciplinary artist residing in Singapore. Jacquelyn explores 'culture blindness' and landscape in her work: the damage and result of cultural ignorance to the landscape of her home is the basis of her study.

Olivia Choong co-founded and runs Green Drinks Singapore, a non-profit environment-focused society that raises awareness on pertinent local and global environmental issues, and connects people for knowledge sharing and meaningful collaboration opportunities.





Singapore Contemporary Young Artists

Writer x Pet Shop Owner

Melanie Chua & Maxine Mikaeleia Ang

In Singapore where homes are small and scarce, there is a surprising number of pet owners and domestic animal support groups. The collaboration will look at the consequences of animal breeding, physical and psychological, on both pets and owners.

Bios

Melanie Chua is a writer and editor. She has edited magazines, books and case studies on socio-cultural issues and the arts. Her own work holds an interest in urbanity and experiment with form.

Maxine Mikaeleia Ang is the founder of The Water Dish, one of the top online petshops in Singapore. She believes pets are fellow beings that should be adopted rather than commoditised.

(Picture not available at this time)

Artist x Culinary Chef

Rachel Seah & Ivan Loh

This is a collaboration between fashion student Rachel Elffin and baker Ivan L who will be headed to craft an image of the prosperous Singapore, mapping its success through Bodyscapes. This project involves the interests of both parties; Rachel is currently working on Bodyscapes as a degree endeavor and hopes to infuse her partner's liking for forage fish, minnow fish and domesticated fishes.

Bios

Rachel Seah is currently a degree student at LASALLE majoring in Fashion Media and Industries. In the hope to reinterpret the ways of seeing fashion; Rachel has embarked on fashion films and installation pieces that discuss the issues faced in our society today.

Ivan Loh is a culinary trained chef who had his training at Shatech, decided to make shift his expertise to baking pastries and had since been creating cupcakes, and cream cakes. To unwind his day, Ivan loves listening to acoustic tunes and care for his guppies.



Artist x 3rd Generation Javanese in Singapore

Shazwany Aziz & Abdul Aziz Solman

Her research interests lie broadly in the interface between two subjects, urban and cultural geography, and how people adapt to the everyday in our asian but western-influenced environment. The result is an artwork that is presented as a medium to voice the concerns and thoughts of others.

Bios

Shazwany Aziz lives and works in Singapore, where she received a BFA in 2010 from LASALLE College of the Arts. Intrigued by the unknown and the known of the everyday, she uses time, space, situations and unspoken ideas to capture fleeting moments of daily life.

Born in Singapore, 1959, Abdul Aziz Solman (her father) is a third generation immigrant who was born, grew up and spends most of his childhood and youth in Kembangan. Growing up among the elders, there was a strong sense of Javanese culture, from the language spoken to the cuisine and clothing that existed in the everyday life.



Artist x Student

Terry Wee & Shawn Cheong

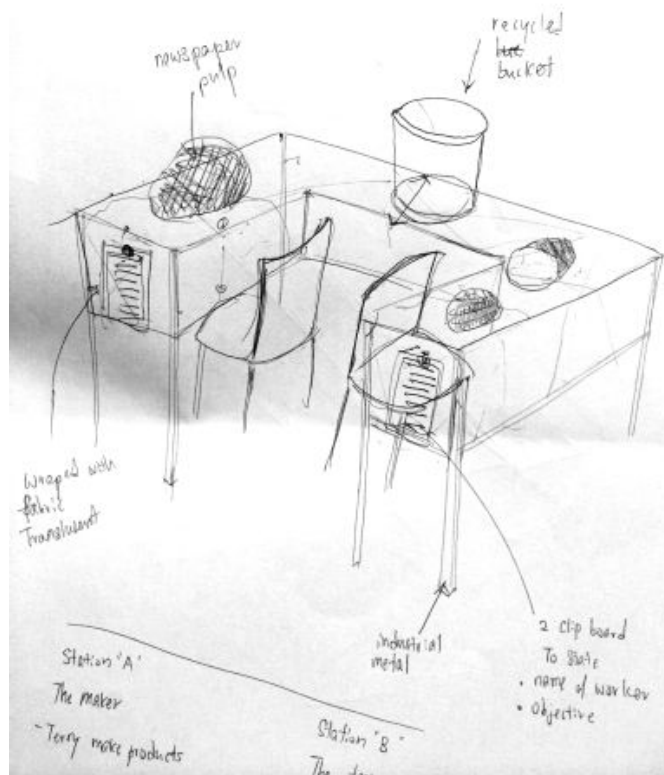
Terry and Shawn has a common question as how art could serve the community. Inspired by industrial working line, various parts are either assembled or make by different department.

Bios

Born in Singapore on 1988, Terry Wee practices painting, installation art as well as performance art.

His interest in art deals mainly with modern day contexts of spirituality; the theme Spirituality in his research talks about the human sensation as well as the tangible feeling of space.

Shawn Cheong is a personal friend of Terry Wee and is currently a student.





Singapore Contemporary Young Artists

EXHIBITION ORGANISED BY

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Curator / Chairperson | Jacquelyn Soo |
| Exhibition Administrator/Marketing Personnel | Fatin Syahirah |
| Technical Officer / Treasurer | Billy Soh |
| Catalogue Editor | Reena Devi |
| Catalogue Writers | Reena Devi |
| | Heather Chi |
| | Stefanie Tham |
| | Bruce Quek |
| Collateral Designer | Foo Wen Xin |
| Moderator for Artists + Collaborator Talks | Jolene Loh |

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