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Press Release

The Lie of the Land: Real

Jon Chan | Lavender Chang | Kray Chen | John Clang | Yeo Tze Yang



John Clang, *The Land of My Heart (Octopus)*, 2014, Fine art archival print, Edition of 3 + 2 Artist's Proof, H101.6 x W149.7 cm

Exhibition Period 05 August – 16 September 2023

Opening Reception Saturday, 05 August 2023, 4 – 7 pm
Registration essential.
RSVP with info@fostgallery.com

About the Exhibition

FOST Gallery is delighted to present a special edition of the annual group show, *The Lie of the Land*, in conjunction with Singapore's National Day. As with past editions, the artworks are inspired by the urban and natural landscapes of Singapore. However, there will be two parts to the exhibition this year, *Real* and *Imagined*, each part will feature five artists working across different mediums. The first part, *Real*, will feature representational works by Jon Chan, Lavender Chang, Kray Chen, John Clang and Yeo Tze Yang.

Jon Chan's two new paintings, disjointed in their composition and format, alludes to the sense of alienation felt by many urbanities; while Yeo Tze Yang's large scale painting of a stretched plastic sheet, evokes drama in the ordinary. Kray Chen interprets the ubiquitous plastic chairs sat on by

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almost everyone, but with legs at different heights, hints at the hierarchical structure of any society. John Clang's image of the glamorous *kebaya*-clad Singapore Airlines stewardess, iconic for being photographed in world-famous exotic locales, is now placed in a public housing estate playground. Lavender Chang's long exposure photographs taken on different bus rides produces a ghostly documentation mirroring the hazy memory of a weary passenger meandering through familiar streets everyday but not quite present in the moment.

About the Artists

Jon CHAN (b. 1982; Singapore) is an artist who works through the dimensions of unsolicited real-time performances and the circulation of mediated images, but he does so primarily from the position of a painter. Chan is guided by an attunement with the notion of the divided-self and a sense of alienation which is situated in doubt, a sense that one is stuck between two opposing conditions which one feels disconnected from. From this view, he has decidedly taken on local settings for his paintings, choosing specific sites and terrain that house these particular disjunctions.

Chan graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (First Class Honours) in 2007, and a Masters of Fine Arts, from LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore. He is the winner of the *Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry Arts award* of 2007 and the winner of the *IMPART Art Prize 2023* (Artist Category). He has also participated in numerous exhibitions nationally and internationally.

Chan lives and works in Singapore.

Lavender CHANG's (b. 1983; Taiwan) focus lies in conceptual photography. Chang's work is a reflection of the sensitivity towards the subtle nuances surrounding her. She hopes to focus on these experiences, to create a canvas allowing further contemplation and letting the passage of time to leave behind traces of her mortality.

Her solo exhibitions include *Diverse Oneness*, commissioned by Alliance Française de Singapour for its 70th anniversary and *Floating Rays of a Wanderer*, Art Porters Gallery, Singapore (both 2019), *I Am a Seed Though A Different One From You*, The Arts House, Singapore, *The Movingly Minute Scale of a Restricted Life*, Societe Generale, Alliance Française de Singapour, Singapore (2016).

Selected group shows include the 10th anniversary exhibition of ION Arts' Young Talent Programme, *REUNITE 2019*, ION Art Gallery, Singapore, *Ecopsychology*, Objectifs – Centre for Photography and Film, Singapore (2019), *In Praise of Shadows*, ADM Gallery, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (2017), *The Singapore Art Show*, Artspace @ Helutrans, Singapore (2016), *Sensorium 360°*, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore (2014), *Kuala Lumpur International Photo Awards*, Malaysia (2011), and *International Orange Photo Festival*, China (2010).

In 2011, she was the recipient of the Gold award at *The Crowbar Awards*, Singapore, and was the winner of the *Noise Singapore Prize*. Chang was one of the winners of the 2012/2013 Affordable Art Fair's *Young Talent Programme*. In 2013, she held her winner's solo show in ION Art Gallery, Singapore. In 2015, she won the *6th France+ Singapore Photographic Art Awards*. In 2016, her collaboration with &Larry won the President Design Award's *Design of the year*. In 2018, her cinematography work for John Clang's debut feature film, *Their Remaining Journey*, premiered at the 2018 International Film Festival Rotterdam and garnered a nomination for the festival's *Bright Future Award*. It is also the opening film for the National Gallery Singapore's *Painting with Light: Festival of International Films on Art*. In 2020, *A Love Unknown* is selected by the International Film Festival Rotterdam for its Bright Future Main Programme and Asian premiere at the 12th DMZ International Documentary Film Festival, on Singular Screens by Singapore International Festival of Arts, curated by Asian Film Archive in 2021.

Chang lives and works in Singapore.

Kray CHEN (b. 1987; Singapore) completed his MA in Fine Arts from LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore (in partnership with Goldsmith's College of Art). Chen's practice largely deals with the lived experience and body politics, reflecting on the body and the self within the economical machine, observing the fissures and ruptures of the psyche arising from the parallel quests to progress and to conserve.

His solo exhibitions include *Hot Temple*, FOST Gallery, Singapore (2020), *5 Rehearsals of a Wedding*, Objectifs Chapel Gallery, Singapore (2018), *It's a Set Situation*, Grey Projects, Singapore (2016), *1st Prize*, The Institute of Contemporary Art Singapore (2013). Group shows include the Singapore Biennale (2019), the inaugural *Bangkok Art Biennale* (2018), *China Remixed Initiative*, Indiana University Bloomington, USA (2017), *The Pleasure of Improbable Placements*, La Casa De Cultura Des Bernardes, Spain (2014), *Paradis sans promesse*, FRAC Des Pays De La Loire, France (2015). In 2021, Chen's work *When the odd ones out get in* was commissioned by the Singapore Art Museum for the hoarding around its Bras Basah building site.

Kray has participated in the NTU-CCA residency (2016) in Singapore, the FRAC Des Pays De La Loire residency in Nantes, France (2015) and the Hangar residency in Barcelona, Spain (2014). In 2017, he won the Young Artist Award, conferred by the National Arts Council, to encourage the development of young artistic talents in Singapore. It represents Singapore's highest award for young art practitioners, aged 35 years and below in the year of the award, whose artistic achievements and commitment have distinguished them among their peers.

The practice of Singaporean visual artist **John Clang** (b. 1973; Singapore) often straddles dual realities of global cities, unfettered by confines of time and geography. A double-sight navigator of a world in constant flux, he absorbs seemingly mundane and banal external stimuli and conveys his internal observations and ruminations through the mediums of photography and film.

He has participated in numerous group exhibitions including Singapore Art Museum (2009), National Museum of Singapore (2010), CCC Strozina, Florence (2014), Sundaram Tagore Gallery, New York (2014), Pera Müzesi, Turkey (2018), ArtScience Museum, Singapore (2020), Deichtorhallen Hamburg, Germany (2021) and Gajah Gallery, Singapore (2021). In 2010, he garnered the *Designer of the Year* award at the President's Design Award, and remains the first and only photographer to receive this distinguished accolade.

In 2015, Clang earned his Master of Arts Fine Arts from LASALLE College of the Arts in partnership with Goldsmiths, University of London. In 2017, he made his first foray into film with *Their Remaining Journey*, which premiered at the 2018 International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) and garnered a nomination for the festival's *Bright Future Award*. He released his second feature, *A Love Unknown*, in 2020, and most recently his third film *Absent Smile*, in a world premiere at the Singapore International Film Festival in 2022.

Clang lives and works in New York and Singapore.

YEO Tze Yang (b. 1994; Singapore) is a visual artist with a primary focus on representational painting. He makes art about the human experience through depictions of the unnoticed; observing people, places and objects in his immediate surroundings. A self-taught painter of daily life, Yeo takes his cues from art movements like Realism in painting, film, photography and literature.

He was conferred the Silver Award at the UOB Painting of the Year 2016 and graduated from the National University of Singapore in Southeast Asian Studies in 2019. He lives and works in Singapore.

Selected Images



Jon Chan
SOS
2023
Oil on linen
H80.1 x W151.9 cm



Kray Chen
Between the Chair and the Butt #2 (Stack of 6 in Pearl White)
2020
Plastic chairs and automotive paint
H86 x W53.5 x D59 cm (stacked)



Yeo Tze Yang
The Landscape Now
2021
Oil on canvas
H55 x W100 cm



Yeo Tze Yang
A Hole In The Plastic Sheet
2023
Oil and sand on canvas
H180 x W230 cm



Lavender Chang
Wanderer #190
2019
Fine art archival print
Edition of 3 + 2 Artist's Proof
H81.45 x W100 cm / H100 x W122.7 cm



John Clang
The Land of My Heart (Octopus)
2014
Fine art archival print
Edition of 3 + 2 Artist's Proof
H101.6 x W149.7 cm

NB: More images can be furnished upon request.

Location	FOST Gallery 1 Lock Road #01-02, Gillman Barracks Singapore 108932
MRT	Labrador Park
Bus	Opposite Alexandra Point: 51, 57, 61, 93, 97, 97e, 100, 166, 175, 963 or 963e
Gallery Hours	Tue–Sat: 11am–7pm Sun/Mon/Pub Hol: Open by appointment
Admission	Free
Enquiries	Call +65 6694 3080 or e-mail info@fostgallery.com
