## **Press Release**

Jimmy Ong Jimmy ONG

Exhibition Period: 25 July - 31 August 2014

**FOST Gallery** 



Jimmy Ong, LKY as Mother & Daughter, 2010, charcoal on paper, 244x132cm.

About the Exhibition FOST Gallery is pleased to present works by the preeminent Singaporean artist Jimmy Ong.

The mounting of the exhibition "Jimmy Ong" commemorates FOST Gallery's representation of Ong. A profound and prolific artist, well-known for working with charcoal, Ong has exhibited extensively in Singapore, and internationally in New York, Hong Kong and Sri Lanka, amongst other cities. His works are also in permanent collections of the National University Of Singapore Museum and the National Gallery Singapore.

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The exhibition will feature most recent works from the "Nassim Hill Revisited" Suite in which Ong reminisces on his time spent in the Nassim area, where he used to maintain a home and studio in the early 90s. A small selection from previous series "Ancestors On The Beach" (2008) and "Beyond LKY" (2010), both shown at the now-defunct Valentine Willie Fine Art will also be exhibited.

"Nassim Hill Revisited" consists of large charcoal works depicting flora and still-lifes of vegetables and fruits. The intensity of Ong's concern in figure and form is clear through the anatomical and biomorphic treatment of the subjects in the works in this exhibition. Subtly suggestive and provocative, Ong's seemingly innocuous depictions of tropical plants and fruits raise the same issues seen in his other series of works. From the loaded titles to the evocative compositions of the works on display, Ong has seamlessly placed plants and fruits in the realm of men, their indulgent tendencies and their vicissitudes of preference, elevating the idea of still life to greater concerns apart from mere depiction. While Jimmy Ong has been making still-lifes for much of his artistic practice, this current exhibition will be the first time since 2004 that Ong's still-lifes are being exhibited.

Ong's large-scale figurative works from "Ancestors On The Beach" are characteristic of his oeuvre. His subjects are often placed in a Freudian surrealistic context which examines the nature of human relation and gender roles. "Beyond LKY" was the annual group show organised by Valentine Willie in conjunction with Singapore's National Day in August in 2010.

FOST Gallery will host Ong's solo exhibition of new works in January 2015.

## **Press Images**



Jimmy Ong, Nassim Hill Revisited (Banana Blossoms), 2013, charcoal on paper, 46"x46".

Note: Images are not to scale. High-resolution images are available upon request.

## About the Artist

**Jimmy Ong** (b.1964) was born in Singapore and currently works from his studios in Yogyakarta, Indonesia and the USA.

Since graduating from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia, USA in 1992, Ong has exhibited in numerous local and international exhibitions including Gallery 456 in New York (USA), National Art Gallery in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), Newhouse Center of Contemporary Art, Staten Island, New York (USA), Asian Civilisation Museum (Singapore), Plum Blossoms Gallery in Hong Kong and New York (USA), Lunguganga, Bentota (Sri Lanka) and Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York (USA).

Ong's works are housed in the collections of the National University Of Singapore Museum and the National Art Gallery Singapore.

## About Gillman Barracks

Gillman Barracks is a new contemporary art destination in Singapore. Nestled amid lush greenery, this former colonial barracks is now home to local and international art galleries, dining, and creative businesses, as well as the Centre for Contemporary Art (CCA) that opened in late 2013. The CCA enhances the region's contemporary art landscape through its international artist residency, research and exhibition programmes.

For more information, visit please www.gillmanbarracks.com

GILLMAN BARRACKS

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: 11am-6pm

Mon/Pub Hol: Open by appointment

Admission

Free

**Enquiries** 

Call 6694 3080 or e-mail info@fostgallery.com

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