

Ila

There can be no touching here, 2020

No more handshakes. Skip the hugs. “Touch” in this glitch season has become ever more dangerous. Although touch is an essential form of connection between social beings, inappropriate touching is the subject of discussion in this work entitled *There can be no touching here*.

It is by Ila, a visual and performance artist in Singapore whose artworks often invoke conversations about the female collective in society.

This work contains explicit mentions of sexual assault. Yet, rather than focusing on the trauma, Ila takes a meditative approach towards this subject of harm and boundaries. Taking the view of an observer, this work invites us to converse about assault and engage in an examination of the crime.

Concepts revolving around sexual assault are illustrated through an interactive mind-map projection. This helps the viewer to study the language that surrounds the topic, incident and crime, so that we may find ways to talk about the subject with care, openness, and transparency.

This work includes 3 banners, which discuss the often-problematic portrayal of sexual assault in the media, and what is being done to redress these issues. They also explore how we can care for and help in the healing of boundaries which have been dishonoured, and how we can envision better ways of relating to one another.

This co-curated piece spans the public corridor, forming a passageway between the 2 exhibitions *Time passes*, and *An Exercise of Meaning in a Glitch Season*.

By the way, please note that there can be “no touching” in this gallery.