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SINGAPORE
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2016

AN ATLAS OF MIRRORS

Media Release

Singapore Biennale 2016 Kicks Off Closing Month Programmes and Activities
Last chance to experience the Singapore Biennale with tours, workshops and parties



Singapore, 7 February 2017 – The Singapore Art Museum (SAM) celebrates the last month of Singapore Biennale 2016: *An Atlas of Mirrors* with extended opening hours and various programmes before it closes on 26 February 2017. Singapore Biennale programmes in the closing month of February include curator tours, artist performances, artist-led walks and workshops, a free bicycle rental service, Valentine’s Day celebrations, a local art and design market, and art and music collaborations with Noise Singapore and W Singapore.

Anchored at the Singapore Art Museum, the fifth edition of the Singapore Biennale features contemporary artworks by 63 artists and art collectives from 19 countries and territories across Asia. From immersive, site-specific installations to large-scale sculptures and film, the artworks explore migratory and intertwining histories and cultures within and beyond the region, and presents new ways of seeing and understanding the world and ourselves. Please refer to **Annex A** for more details.

For the closing month of the Singapore Biennale, opening hours at the Singapore Art Museum will be extended to 9pm on Fridays and Saturdays, with 1-for-1 admission ticket offers on Saturdays from 6pm to 9pm. Visitors are invited to experience the Singapore Biennale with tours led by Singapore Biennale 2016 curators Joyce Toh and Michael Lee, as well as with the Singapore Biennale Mirror Walks, a series that takes visitors on an engaging journey of the artworks and themes explored in the exhibition by Biennale artists Perception3 and Affiliate Project artists Mamakan Art Collective.

Biennale on Wheels

Visitors may also choose to explore the Singapore Biennale on free-to-rent bicycles, as the artworks are spread across 7 different venues, including National Museum of Singapore, de Suantio Gallery at Singapore Management University, Peranakan Museum and Asian Civilisations Museum. “Biennale on Wheels”, a collaboration with Hello, Bicycle!, provides bicycles for museum visitors to rent with a refundable deposit of \$50 from the Singapore Art Museum.

Curator tours and artist workshops

Singapore Biennale artists David Chan and Sharmiza Abu Hassan will be conducting artist workshops on 18 and 19 February respectively, where participants will learn how to create 3D sculptures based on the artists’ works for the Biennale. From 24 to 26 February, the closing weekend of the Singapore Biennale, artist Azizan Paiman will serving bites and food for thought to visitors at his artwork, the *Putar Alam Café*, at SAM at 8Q.

Singapore Biennale closing month events

Other Singapore Biennale closing month activities include Valentine’s Day celebrations, W Singapore x Singapore Art Museum: “The Courtyard” party, a SAM x Noise Singapore art and music festival, and SAM x The Local People Art Market.

Singapore Biennale 2016 celebrates Valentine’s Day on Saturday, 11 February, with a 1-for-1 ticket promotion and a slew of activities. Programme highlights include live music performances by local musicians Becka, Jean Seizure, Picks, Sherman Zachary, Ken Loh and The Unemployedd, baked treats and coffee sales by Pretty Awkward Pastry and Wheely’s Cafe, DIY potpourri stations and bouquet and corsage sales by Fleurapy, on-site portrait sketching by illustrators PAYNK, Jill Tran, James Leong, Asia Soernargo and Ang Wei Tyng from the Organisation of Illustrators Council (OIC) and the SAM courtyard being converted into a picnic wonderland by Picneeds.

Closing the Singapore Biennale on a high, the W Singapore x Singapore Art Museum: “The Courtyard” party returns on Friday, 24 February, celebrating art and music with an outdoor party at the atmospheric SAM courtyards with DJs Shigeki, Maurice Simon, Oliver Osborne and Mr. Has. Taking place the next day on Saturday, 25 February is the SAM x Noise music and art festival. Performing at select Singapore Biennale artwork spaces, Noise musicians LEW, Tim de Cotta, HubbaBubbba, MARICELLE and Canvas Conversations will be responding to the themes and ideas of the artwork with original tunes, creating a walking music and art trail of the Singapore Biennale.

Other events and activities, including workshops, SAM x The Local People Art Market and live performances will take place throughout the closing weekend of the Singapore Biennale. Please refer to **Annex B** for the full list of programmes.

Singapore Biennale 2016 is anchored at the Singapore Art Museum on Bras Basah Road and SAM at 8Q at Queen Street, and artworks are also located at Asian Civilisations Museum, de Suantio Gallery at SMU, National Museum of Singapore, Stamford Green and Peranakan Museum. Titled *An Atlas of Mirrors*, Singapore Biennale 2016 takes place from 27 October 2016 to 26 February 2017. The four-month long international contemporary art exhibition is organised by SAM and commissioned by the National Arts Council of Singapore.

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About the Singapore Biennale

<http://www.singaporeartmuseum.sg/SingaporeBiennale>

#SingaporeBiennale

The Singapore Biennale was established in 2006 as the country’s pre-eminent platform for international dialogue in contemporary art. It places Singapore’s artists within a global context, and fosters productive collaborations with the international arts community. In this way, the Biennale provides new opportunities for local visual artists, arts organisations and businesses. It further cultivates deeper public engagement with contemporary visual arts through a four-month exhibition, and its accompanying public engagement and education programmes that include artist and curator talks and tours, school visits and workshops, and community days. It complements achievements in other areas of arts and culture, collectively enhancing

Singapore's international profile as a vibrant city in which to live, work and play. The 2006 and 2008 editions of the Biennale were organised by the National Arts Council. As with the 2011 and 2013 editions, Singapore Biennale 2016 is organised by the Singapore Art Museum, and commissioned by the National Arts Council.

About the Singapore Art Museum

The Singapore Art Museum (SAM) is a contemporary art museum which focuses on art-making and art thinking in Singapore, Southeast Asia and Asia, encompassing a worldwide perspective on contemporary art practice. SAM advocates and makes accessible interdisciplinary contemporary art through research-led and evolving curatorial practice. Since it opened in January 1996, SAM has built up one of the most important collections of contemporary art from the region. It seeks to seed and nourish a stimulating and creative space in Singapore through exhibitions and public programmes, and to deepen every visitor's experience. These include outreach and education, research and publications, as well as cross-disciplinary residencies and exchanges.

SAM occupies two buildings: the old St Joseph's Institution on Bras Basah Road, built in 1855 and now a National Monument; and SAM at 8Q, a conservation building across the road on Queen Street that was the old Catholic High.

In 2011, SAM was the venue organiser of the Singapore Biennale, becoming the main organiser in 2013 and 2016. SAM was incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee on 13 November 2013, operating under the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth. To find out more, visit www.singaporeartmuseum.sg

About the National Arts Council, Singapore

The National Arts Council champions the arts in Singapore. By nurturing creative excellence and supporting broad audience engagement, we want to develop a distinctive global city for the arts. With a nod to tradition and an eye to the future, we cultivate accomplished artists and vibrant companies. Our support for the arts is comprehensive – from grants and partnerships to industry facilitation and arts housing. The Council welcomes greater private and corporate giving to and through the arts so that together we can make the arts an integral part of everyone's lives.

For more information on the Council's mission and plans, please visit www.nac.gov.sg

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Annex A: Singapore Biennale 2016

Singapore Biennale 2016: *An Atlas of Mirrors*

Date: 27 October 2016 – 26 February 2017

Venue: Various venues including

Singapore Art Museum, SAM at 8Q, The Peranakan Museum, Asian Civilisations Museum, National Museum of Singapore, Stamford Green and De Suantio Gallery, SMU

Website: www.singaporeartmuseum.sg/singaporebiennale

Singapore Biennale 2016 is a four-month long international contemporary art exhibition organised by Singapore Art Museum (SAM) and commissioned by the National Arts Council of Singapore (NAC). Taking place from 27 October 2016 to 26 February 2017, Singapore Biennale 2016 presents artworks by 63 artists and artist collectives from 19 countries and territories from Southeast Asia, East and South Asia.

Titled *An Atlas of Mirrors*, Singapore Biennale 2016 examines the challenges of the region's contemporary conditions and positions Southeast Asia as the vantage point from which the world can be pictured anew. The works presented at Singapore Biennale 2016 will draw on the diverse artistic viewpoints that trace the migratory and intertwining relationships within the region, and reflect on shared histories and current realities with East and South Asia.

Engaging with the wider visual arts community in Singapore, Singapore Biennale 2016 will include a number of Affiliate Projects, organised by other art institutions responding closely to Singapore Biennale 2016's title *An Atlas of Mirrors* and its curatorial themes. It will also offer a range of opportunities to the art community and the general public to get involved with SB2016 through activities such as curator-led tours, artists and curator dialogue tours, artist-led workshops, and public talks.

For more details, please visit the Singapore Biennale 2016 website at www.singaporeartmuseum.sg/singaporebiennale.

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Annex B: Singapore Biennale 2016 Closing Month Programme

**Singapore Biennale 2016: *An Atlas of Mirrors*
Programme for February 2017**

Exhibition Date: Till 26 February 2017

Time: Monday to Thursday: 10am – 7pm
Friday & Saturday: 10am – 9pm
Sunday: 10am – 7pm

Venue: Singapore Art Museum | 71 Bras Basah Road, Singapore 189555
SAM at 8Q | 8 Queen Street, Singapore 188535
And other venues

Visit www.singaporeartmuseum.sg/singaporebiennale for the latest programme.

DATE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE
Daily, till 26 Feb	10am – 6pm daily	Biennale on Wheels https://www.singaporebiennale.org/biennale-on-wheels.php	SAM
	Various	Daily Guided Tours https://www.singaporebiennale.org/daily-guided-tours.php	SAM & SAM at 8Q
4 Feb, Sat	7.30pm – 8.30pm	Curator Tour with John Tung https://www.singaporebiennale.org/curator-tours.php	SAM
5 Feb, Sun	8.30am – 11.30am	Singapore Biennale 2016 Mirror Walk with Mamakan Art Collective https://www.singaporebiennale.org/mirror-walks.php	SAM at 8Q
10 Feb, Fri	7pm – 8.30pm	Home-Fragrance Workshop by Je T'aime Perfumery https://www.singaporebiennale.org/home-fragrance-workshop.php	SAM Glass Hall

DATE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE
11 Feb, Sat	10am – 9pm	Singapore Biennale celebrates Valentine's Day https://www.singaporebiennale.org/valentines-day.php 1-for-1 Ticketing Promo F&B by Pretty Awkward Pastry and Wheely's Floral booths and sales by Fleurapy Live performances by Becka, Sherman Zachary, Ken Loh, Jean Seizure, The Unemployedd and Picks Live portrait sketching by illustrators PAYNK, Jill Tran, Asia Soernargo, James Leong and Ang Wei Tyng Picnic set up by Picneeds	SAM
18 Feb, Sat	1pm – 4pm	Artist Workshop: Finding Indiana with David Chan https://www.singaporebiennale.org/finding-indiana-david-chan.php	NMS
	5pm – 6.45pm	Singapore Biennale 2016 Mirror Walk with Perception3 https://www.singaporebiennale.org/mirror-walks.php	SAM
	6.45pm – 8pm	An Outdoor Tour with Michael Lee https://www.singaporebiennale.org/curator-tours.php	SAM
19 Feb, Sun	1pm – 4pm	Artist Workshop: Tale of the Swordfish Attacks by Sharmiza https://www.singaporebiennale.org/tale-of-the-swordfish-attacks-by-sharmiza.php	SAM Glass Hall
22 Feb, Wed	7pm – 8pm	Curator Tour: Family Night at the Museum with Joyce Toh https://www.singaporebiennale.org/curator-tour-family-night.php	SAM
24 – 26 Feb, Fri – Sun	Various	Artist performances by Singapore Biennale artist Azizan Paiman https://www.singaporebiennale.org/azizan-paiman.php	SAM at 8Q
24 Feb, Fri	7pm – 1am	SAM x W Singapore: The Courtyard Featuring DJs Shigeki, Maurice Simon, Oliver Osborne and Mr Has in an open-air dance party at the atmospheric, 160-year-old museum courtyards.	SAM
25 Feb, Sat	4pm – 9pm	SAM x Noise Singapore music and art festival Featuring performances by Noise musicians LEW, Canvas Conversations, Hubba Bubbas, Tim de Cotta and MARICELLE at select Singapore Biennale artworks.	SAM
26 Feb, Sun	10am – 7pm	SAM x The Local People Art Market The all-day art market features artisanal goods on sale by local craftsmen and designers, alongside F&B sales and live music performances.	SAM