

Arts Picks

Olivia Ho recommends

LIGHT SINGAPORE

For the bicentennial edition of the night festival, artists dressed up bridges along the Singapore River, projected a ghostly 19th-century boat into Marina Bay and placed in Fort Canning Park a piano that, when played, turns a nearby clearing into a venue for a light show.

The last, *Keys Of Light* (right), is an interactive installation by Netherlands-based projection art studio MrBeam. Farther up the hill from it, in Raffles House, is *Reflecting Holons* by Dutch artists, Jetske Visser and Michiel Martens, made from long strips of oil-like transparent foils that, when spun by micro-controllers, resemble bubbles.

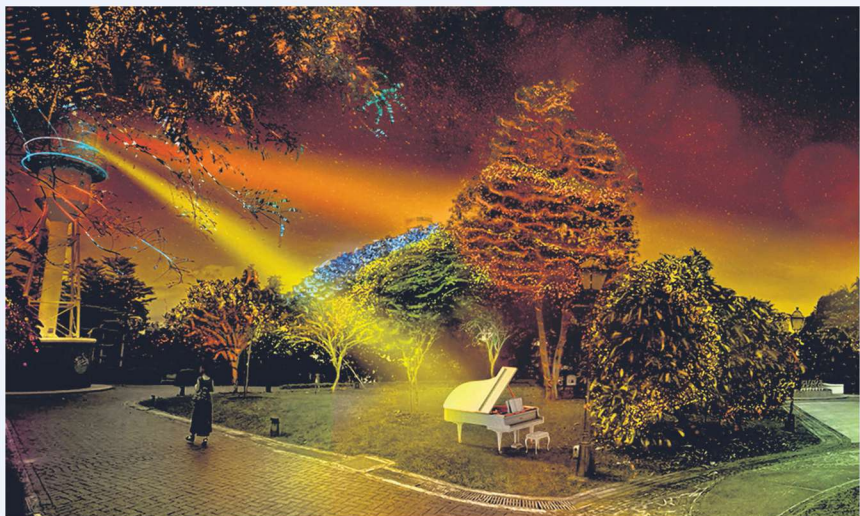
To see the art in action, check out this Art In 60 Seconds video at www.straitstimes.com/files/art-in-60-seconds-in-light-singapore

WHERE: Various locations in Marina Bay. *Keys Of Light* and *Reflecting Holons* are on Fort Canning Raffles Terrace (accessible by steps from Hill Street) **MRT:** City Hall/Clarke Quay/Raffles Place

WHEN: Till Feb 24, 7.30 to 11pm daily with extended hours to midnight on Fridays and Saturdays

ADMISSION: Free

INFO: www.lightmarinabay.sg



EXPLORATIONS: CHINESE INK AT NAFA

The Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (Nafa) marks the Chinese New Year season with this traditional Chinese ink exhibition of 26 works by 15 artists, including the school's students and alumni.

Works include National Arts Council Young Artist Award recipient Hong Sek Chern's *Painting* (With Blush Red, 2018, above).

Tomorrow, Nafa will also hold a public demonstration of spring couplet calligraphy.

Proceeds from the works sold at the exhibition and demonstration will go towards the Nafa Development Fund.

WHERE: Lim Hak Tai Gallery, Nafa Campus 1, 80 Bencoolen Street **MRT:** Bencoolen/Bugis **WHEN:** Till Feb 24, 11am to 7pm, Tuesdays to Sundays. Closed on Mondays.

The calligraphy demonstration is tomorrow from 11am to 2pm

ADMISSION: Free **INFO:** www.nafa.edu.sg/events/explorations-chinese-ink-at-nafa



DEVICES

From egg traps for predatory snakes to the building of artificial swiftlet houses to churn out edible birds' nest at a lucrative speed, Malaysian artist Chris Chong Chan Fu's solo exhibition looks at the mechanising of nature and ecological exploitation (above, Egg With 18K Gold Hook, 2019).

WHERE: Chan + Hori Contemporary, 02-00 Gillman Barracks, 6 Lock Road **MRT:** Labrador Park

WHEN: Till March 1, 11am to 7pm, Tuesdays to Fridays; noon to 6pm, weekends. Closed on Mondays

ADMISSION: Free

INFO: www.chanhori.com



PHOTOS: CHAN + HORI CONTEMPORARY; LIGHT SINGAPORE, MULAN GALLERY; NANYANG ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS

WITHIN WITHOUT

Singapore artist Andre Wee fuses art and technology in his solo exhibition, which features both 2D interactive prints with augmented reality digital elements and 3D printed sculptures created via digital sculpting that play with the idea of the familiar and the uncanny (left, *Green City 2.0*).

Wee, 30, says he chose to work with these media in an attempt to bring newer forms of technology into the traditional art space.

"They may be rough around the edges or primitive because these are emerging technologies, but I hope that this inclusion of them into the gallery acts as a starting point for more of such works to come."

WHERE: Mulan Gallery, 01-07, 36 Armenian Street

MRT: City Hall/Bras Basah

WHEN: Till Feb 23, 11.30am to 6.30pm, Tuesdays to Saturdays

ADMISSION: Free

INFO: www.mulangallery.com.sg

ARTS

BOOKS

Book Launch: They Told Us To Move: Dakota-Cassia

Dakota Crescent was one of Singapore's oldest public housing estates. In 2016, its residents were relocated to make way for redevelopment. This book tells the story of the relocation through the eyes of Dakota residents, volunteers and academics.

WHERE: library@harbourfront, 03-05 VivoCity, Harbourfront Walk **MRT:** HarbourFront **WHEN:** Feb 23, 2.30pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** To register, go to bit.ly/ZFLAr36 -conversations-on-relocation

CONCERTS

The Low Lifes

In an evening of music inspired by literature and classical texts, these works will be performed by a unique brass ensemble. The Low Lifes comprise three trombone players and one tuba player, which is the typical arrangement for a low brass section of a symphony orchestra.

WHERE: Esplanade Concourse, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Feb 6, 4.45 to 7.45pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** esplanade.com

VCO Organ Series: Thomas Trotter - Arrival, 1819

British virtuoso organist Thomas Trotter will present a recital featuring organ greats. Works include those from Bach and Ginastera as well as familiar British tunes such as Holst's *Jupiter* and Elgar's *Land of Hope And Glory*.

WHERE: Victoria Concert Hall, 9 Empress Place **MRT:** Raffles Place **WHEN:** Feb 15, 7.30pm

ADMISSION: \$20 **TEL:** 6348-5555 **INFO:** www.sistic.com.sg

We Are Singer-Songwriters: Sarah Cheng-De Winne

With humble beginnings as a choir girl, Sarah Cheng-De Winne won her first solo singing competition at age 14. Under the informal mentorship of established jazz musicians and musical theatre practitioners in Singapore, her love of poetic writing turned into songwriting.

WHERE: Esplanade Outdoor Theatre, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Feb 17, 6.45pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** esplanade.com

DANCE

ICN 2019 - Arunika: A Musical

Inspired by one of the darkest untold stories in Indonesian history, ICN Cultural Production presents a musical depicting the era when slavery was widespread throughout the region.

WHERE: Drama Centre Theatre, Level 3 National Library Building, 100 Victoria Street **MRT:** City Hall/Bugis **WHEN:** Feb 16, 2.30 to 7.30pm **ADMISSION:** \$18 - \$24, go to show.icnmusical.com

Alice, Bob & Eve

Alice, Bob & Eve is a movement research "living laboratory" hidden in a gallery space, probing how digital technologies choreograph people's movements in society. Over four hours, witness how Alice, Bob and Eve accumulate and analyse forms of data, while mediating between humanising machines and coding humans.

WHERE: Sota Gallery, Level 2 School of the Arts Singapore, 1 Zouji Said Drive **MRT:** Dohby Ghaut/Bencoolen **WHEN:** Feb 22 & 23, 4.30pm - 8.30pm **ADMISSION:** \$16 - \$20, tickets

& information at alicebobeve.peatix.com (each ticket entitles visitors to multiple entries for both days)

EXHIBITIONS (MUSEUMS)

DigiMUSE Presents

Launched in conjunction with Singapore Art Week 2019, this edition explores the coming together of art, culture and technology through the use of new creative tools. The featured art installations utilise technology such as immersive reality, robotics, artificial intelligence, 3D printing and social media.

WHERE: National Museum of Singapore, 93 Stamford Road **MRT:** Bras Basah/Dohby Ghaut **WHEN:** Till Feb 17, 10am - 7pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** nationalmuseum.sg

Raffles in South-east Asia: Revisiting The Scholar And Statesman

This exhibition presents a complex, multi-layered picture of Singapore's founder, Sir Stamford Raffles, while showcasing the rich artistic and cultural heritage of Java and the Malay world. It is a collaboration between the British Museum and the Asian Civilisations Museum.

WHERE: Asian Civilisations Museum, 1 Empress Place **MRT:** Raffles Place **WHEN:** Till April 28, 10am - 7pm daily (Fridays till 5pm) **ADMISSION:** Singaporeans & permanent residents, \$12 (free for students & seniors); foreign residents & tourists, \$20 (\$15 for students & seniors) **TEL:** 6332-7798 **INFO:** acm.org.sg

EXHIBITIONS (GALLERIES)

I Am You: Elodie Chandernagor

Presented by UltraSuperNew Gallery,

this photographic exhibition by French artist Elodie Chandernagor challenges the illusion of self and explores the human body.

WHERE: 109 Rowell Road

MRT: Jatan Besar

WHEN: Feb 15 - March 15, 11am - 7pm

ADMISSION: Free

INFO: <https://bit.ly/2CW5tS3>

The Afloat Guard Is Not Afraid Of A Long March

Presented by ShangHART Singapore, this exhibition features works by 12 artists of different generations. Their individual breakthroughs and progressions chart the evolution of Chinese contemporary art through the years.

WHERE: ShangHART Singapore, 02-22 Gillman Barracks, 9 Lock Road **MRT:** Labrador Park **WHEN:** Feb 16, 4 - 7pm; Feb 17 - April 18, 11am - 7pm (closed on Mon & Tue) **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** shanghartsingapore.com

Duo Exhibition: Mauro Corda & Lee Jung Woong

Opera Gallery's dual exhibition showcases realism and imagination when East meets West and the harmonious blend of cultures by featuring two contrasting aesthetics.

WHERE: Opera Gallery, 02-16 Ion Orchard, 2 Orchard Turn **MRT:** Orchard **WHEN:** Feb 22 - March 9, 11am - 8pm (Mon - Fri), 10am - 8pm (Sat & Sun) **ADMISSION:** Free **TEL:** 6735-2618 **INFO:** E-mail spore@operagallery.com

THEATRE

Off Centre

The Necessary Stage's Off Centre returns 26 years after its premiere in 1993. Written by Hareesh Sharma and directed by Alvin Tan, it is a landmark

play in the history of Singapore theatre, best remembered for presenting an honest and unflinching look at mental illness and the stigma surrounding it. It follows the unlikely friendship between Saloma and Vinod and traces their journeys as they deal with their personal conflicts as well as social prejudices on mental health.

WHERE: Victoria Theatre, 9 Empress Place

MRT: Raffles Place

WHEN: Till Sun, Wed - Feb 17, 8pm (Wed - Sat), 3pm (Sat & Sun)

ADMISSION: \$36 - \$45, 20 per cent discount for students, full-time national servicemen & seniors.

Go to www.sistic.com.sg or call 6348-5555

TEL: 6440-8115

INFO: E-mail admin@necessary.org

Fun With Hand Puppets

Get insights into the art of manipulating hand puppets with instructors from The Finger Players. No experience is needed.

WHERE: Esplanade Forecourt Garden (near Jubilee Bridge), 1 Esplanade Drive

MRT: Esplanade/City Hall

WHEN: Feb 15 & 16, 5.30 & 6.30pm

ADMISSION: Free

INFO: esplanade.com

Checkpoint Theatre Presents: Stick Life

What happens when an artist picks up her paintbrush after a long hiatus? Does the body still remember what has been lived? Or are the senses dulled by time? Dana Lam rediscoverers and reclaims her journey from the 1950s through her twin first loves: writing and painting.

WHERE: 72-13 Mohamed Sultan Road

MRT: Fort Canning

WHEN: Feb 28 - March 10, 8pm (Thu - Sat), 3pm (Sat & Sun)

ADMISSION: \$45 (go to www.sistic.com.sg or call 6348-5555)