

imaginarium Into the Space of Time







www.singaporeartmuseum.sg





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#imaginariumSG

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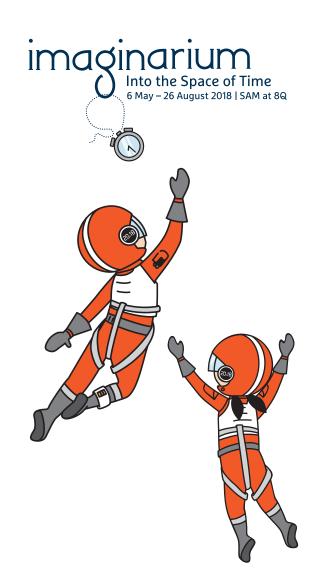


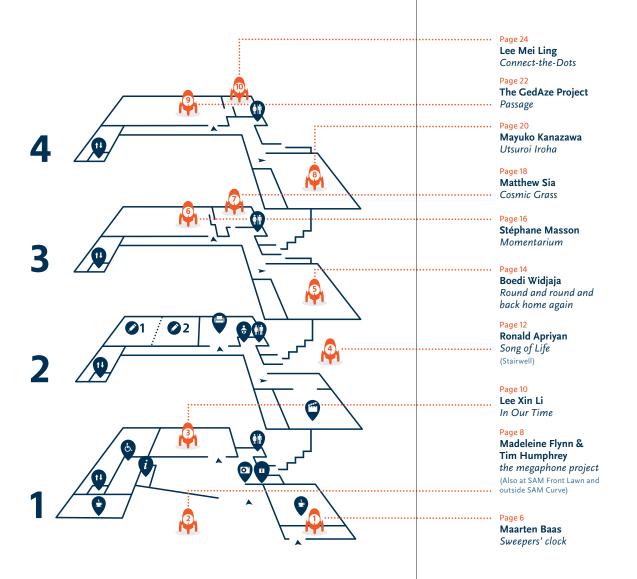
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Another fun programme of







#### LEGEND

- information & Ticketing Counter
- Cafe / Restaurant
- **D** Lift
- Imaginarium Short Films (Moving Image Gallery)
- Time Machine
  (The Original Selfie Machine)
- Quiet Room
- Diaper Changing Station
- Washroom
- fi Locker
- Workshop Space



### Dauntless time travellers!

Singapore Art Museum welcomes you back to our annual family-friendly exhibition with *Imaginarium: Into the Space of Time*. Through the eyes of 10 contemporary artists around the world, this year's *Imaginarium* takes a closer look at the concept of time, and the tales and theories that shape our memories and futures.

Mysterious yet imbued in every living being, time has fascinated humankind for ages. From charting the movements of planets to cataloguing our days, new tools of measure are constantly being created to frame or direct our lives. Join us as we discover what the fourth dimension means to different people and cultures.

Through immersive and interactive artworks, we invite all time travellers who visit *Imaginarium: Into the Space of Time* to engage your senses and expand your horizons in this journey through time.

#imaginariumSG



## **MAARTEN BAAS**

### Sweepers' clock

2009 Single-channel video Video duration: 720 min Collection of the Artist

hat appears at first glance to be a large flat analogue clock is in fact a recorded performance featuring two handymen sweeping trash for 12 hours. Creating and erasing sections of the clock, minute by minute, they cleverly combine the marking of time with a durational performance.

Sweepers' clock is part of Maarten Baas' 'Real Time' series of four 12-hour films, in which people's actions, rather than the mechanics of traditional clocks, present the passage of time as a highly physical, even labour-intensive, process. The artist combines theatre, art, film and design in a variety of surprising but highly-recognisable formats.

'Real Time' was launched in April 2009 and has since expanded from films and standing clocks, to an iPhone app and special commissions.

Maarten Baas (b. 1978) is considered one of the most influential designer artists of the early 21st century. His work straddles boundaries between art and design. Known for his rebellious, intellectual, theatrical and artistic style, he incorporates conceptual art, craftsmanship, installation, public space and performance in his oeuvre. Maarten's most renowned works *Smoke, Clay* and *Real Time* garnered him worldwide acclaim. In 2016, Maarten won the ArtPrize for *Sweepers' clock*. He lives and works in the Netherlands.

Image courtesy of the Artist

# MADELEINE FLYNN & TIM HUMPHREY

## the megaphone project

2007 – 2018
Site-specific installation with sound, steel, wood and electronics, interactive and pre-recorded sounds Dimensions variable
Collection of the Artists
Singapore Art Museum commission

he megaphone project is an interactive installation that encourages discovery and participation in a game of sound and physical play.

Fourteen striking red megaphones of various shapes and sizes recreate the miracle of wireless tin can telephones. The joyful manipulations of voices from the local community are naturally reinforced through simple acoustics, with varying time delays, allowing voices to mysteriously and ambiguously return. The audience creates a lively environment of play and enjoyment that is all their own invention.

From time to time, the sounds from the megaphones combine to form a chorus that blends its voices and effects into a cohesive sonic whole. The art, and the performance, is thus co-created by the passers-by. The artists' aesthetic is shaped by ideas of a democratic and decentralised mode of cultural production, one that invites audience members who encounter the work to express themselves in gesture and voice.

Image courtesy of the Artists

**Madeleine Flynn** (b. 1965, Australia) and **Tim Humphrey** (b. 1957, Australia) are leading experimental Australian artists who create unexpected situations for listening. In 2017, they were awarded the prestigious Australia Council Award for Emerging and Experimental Artforms.

Presented and commissioned internationally, their long-term collaborative practice is driven by a questioning about listening in human culture, and seeks to evolve and engage with new processes and audiences through public and participative interventions. Their practice intertwines local, national and international relationships.

## **LEE XIN LI**

In Our Time

2018 Site-specific installation Vinyl print, fabric, bean bags (in collaboration with doob Bean Bags)

Dimensions variable

Collection of the Artist Singapore Art Museum commission The artist's participation is supported by DP Architects

■ his intricate and vivid illustration of Singapore's landscape is peppered with references to pop culture and childhood memories recalled by the artist, but which are also familiar to many who grew up in or have lived on this island. It brings both children and adults together beyond the boundaries of time and into a collective space where memories can be shared and people can be seen as they imagine themselves to be.

Watching his niece and nephew role-play with their toys, the artist recalls the innocence and dreams of his childhood where for both the artist and his sister, any place could be their playground. Even as childhood has since given way to the responsibilities of adulthood, he finds himself drawn back to these memories.

> Visitors are invited to share their personal stories in the drawing room, and in contributing to the artwork, mark their own place in this maze of collective memories and shared heritage.

Lee Xin Li (b. 1988, Singapore) is a Singaporean illustrator working at DP Architects. The architecture graduate from the National University of Singapore sees illustration as a medium to explore the urban and cultural heritage of Singapore. It is also Xin Li's way of documenting and connecting with a home that is rapidly changing. The illustrator is fascinated with the rich textures he finds in landscapes in Singapore and beyond. He uses illustration to juxtapose layers of culture, history, architecture and nature with personal references to pop culture or childhood.

Image courtesy of the Artist

## **RONALD APRIYAN**

### Song of Life

2018
Series of 3 acrylic paintings on wall and video
371.5 x 458.4 cm
Video duration: 7:51 min
Collection of the Artist
Singapore Art Museum commission

set of three murals based on childhood songs from artist Ronald Apriyan's early years span the staircase landings in SAM at 8Q. These nursery rhymes recall for him beautiful memories, memories that he hopes his children will also have through passing these songs on.

Ronald views such timeless songs as a means of transmission of hopes and prayers from parents to their children, especially in a time of change. The songs address different stages of a child's development, with these stages reflected chronologically in the paintings from the first landing to the third.

Collectively, the vibrant murals celebrate the joy of childhood innocence – a time of spontaneous curiosity and imagination. Even as the adorable surreal characters are created to appeal to children, it is also imagined that the rich detail and imagery may reawaken a sense of wonder in adults.

A video of the artist and the songs that inspired the murals is available at the staircase landing on the fourth floor.

Ronald Apriyan (b.1979, Indonesia) is a painter who works and lives in Yogyakarta. He believes children retain an innocence that adults have lost. Often referencing memories and dreams in his work, he hopes to create a bridge to one's childhood through sentiments conveyed in a candy pastel palette. Reminiscent of children's drawings in their playfulness and humour, his works hark back to an idyllic childlike state of being in a world of imagination and possibilities. His paintings express a common desire to relive childhood and to not grow old.



#### SONG LYRICS

SATU SATU AKU SAYANG IBU
(One and One. I Love You Mother)

Satu, satu, aku sayang Ibu Dua, dua, juga sayang ayah Tiga, tiga, sayang adik-kakak Satu, dua, tiga, sayang semuanya

One and one, I love my Mum Two and two, I also love my Dad Three and three, I love my siblings One, two, three, I love them all

Composer: Mr Soerjono (Pak Kasur) and Sandiyah Soerjono (Ibu Kasur) NAIK NAIK KE PUNCAK GUNUNG
(Up Climb To The Mountain Top)

Naik naik ke puncak gunung Tinggi tinggi sekali Naik naik ke puncak gunung Tinggi tinggi sekali Kiri kanan kulihat saja Banyak pohon cemara Kiri kanan kulihat saja Banyak pohon cemara

Climb up to the top of the mountain, high, so high I see to the left and right, so many pine trees I see to the left and right, so many pine trees I see to the left and right, so many pine trees I see to the left and right, so many pine trees

Composer: Saridjah Niung (Ibu Soed)

BINTANG KECIL (Twinkle Little Star)

Bintang kecil
Di langit yang tinggi
Amat banyak
Menghias angkasa
Aku ingin
Terbang dan menari
Jauh tinggi
Di tempat kau berada

Little star up in the sky Twinkling in the sky I want to fly and dance Far and high to where you are

Composer: Mr Daljono (Pak Dal)



## **BOEDI WIDJAJA**

### Round and round and back home again

2018
Installation with 14 mutoscopes, 3 LED displays and TV monitors Dimensions variable Collection of the Artist Singapore Art Museum commission

n a room designed to reference the chamber of a camera obscura, visitors are invited to peer through peepholes, turn hand-cranked mutoscopes and activate motorised mutoscopes in order to be transported back to the past or be propelled into the future.

Considering time as a space for memory and illusion, the artist has created an immersive installation that explores the development and mechanics of earlier and newer animation devices. Due to the split second retention of images in perception, animation devices can create meaningful movement by employing rapid change and visual memory.

Building upon a shared visual memory of time-travel films and documentation of space exploration in this work, both time and space (travel) are traversed in mere seconds.

**Boedi Widjaja** (b. 1975, Indonesia) lives and works in Singapore. Trained as an architect, he spent his young adulthood in graphic design, and turned to art in his thirties. His works often connect diverse conceptual references through his own lived experience of migration, culture and aesthetics; and investigate concerns regarding diaspora, hybridity, travel and isolation. The artistic outcomes are conceptually-charged, and span mediums from drawings to installations, sound and live art. He has shown in numerous exhibitions internationally, such as *MAP1*: *Waterways* (2017), at the 57th Venice Biennale Diaspora Pavilion and in the Barbican (2017).

Image courtesy of the Artist

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## STÉPHANE MASSON

#### **Momentarium**

2018
Site-specific installation,projection with sound,
Wood, glass jars
Dimensions variable
Collection of the Artist
Singapore Art Museum commission

ith the prevalence of social and mass media, would we consider our recorded memories and moments to be timeless or ephemeral? In *Momentarium*, Stéphane Masson asks if time can truly be captured and preserved by the use of technology.

This installation was created over the course of several months in an open call that saw public volunteers recorded as they smiled, laughed, grimaced, gesticulated and danced before our cameras. These briefly filmed sequences are projected onto 280 glass jars that are stacked across a wall, a monument of captured moments.

Locked in space but not frozen, the images appear simultaneously transient and immortalised. In observing the scale of the installation, one might say that it reflects a pervasive human desire to capture, store and share memories and occurrences even as we question how such images can be distinguished when viewed en masse.

Providing an opportunity for viewers to contribute to this wall of moments, two cameras are positioned on each side of the jars to capture a fleeting moment of visitors to the artwork, via a live feed.

Image courtesy of the Artist

Stéphane Masson (b. 1972, France) is a self-taught artist who initially worked as a master light technician in theatres. He started to explore the medium of videos as artwork in 2004. This videographer appropriates mundane objects with the help of the moving picture. Answering an urge to inject a bit of craziness and magic in the everyday, he transforms our environment through unexpected encounters. He participated as the designer in the artwork *Le Vaisseau* (using holographic solutions) which won the first prize for Heritage & Innovation for an Immersive Device in 2016.

## **MATTHEW SIA**

#### **Cosmic Grass**

2018

Installation with optic fibers, board, LED lights and sound

Dimensions variable

Collection of the Artist

Singapore Art Museum commission

Soundscape developed by Samuel Caleb Wee s Earth's climate warms at an unprecedented pace, scientists believe that such effects are influenced by humans and that the global scale of human activities have fundamentally changed the natural world. In this installation, artist Matthew Sia creates a breathtaking visual metaphor of our relationship with nature. Through technology, *Cosmic Grass* readily responds to human presence in the room.

Emulating a grassy plain, the artwork that comprises islands of fiber optic lights allows visitors to experience their impact on this environment and, by extension, the role they can play in determining our future. Like the proverbial ripple effect, here we see how even a small action can light up the entire field.

The meditative soundscape of electronic synthesizer layers and ambient sounds from a rainforest invites further contemplation on the interconnectedness of life.

Matthew Sia (1987, Singapore) is an installation artist and interactive designer based in Singapore whose work combines conceptual themes with technological experimentation. He graduated from the London College of Communication with a Bachelor of Arts in Graphic and Media Design. His installation work has been showcased at the Maker Faire in London, as well as at various events in Singapore. He has been featured in publications such as Culture Push.

Image courtesy of the Artist

## **MAYUKO KANAZAWA**

#### Utsuroi Iroha

2014

Interactive installation with painting and animation on canvas, kinect, handy camera, iPhone, PCs, projectors and speakers Artwork and sounds by Mayuko Kanazawa

Artwork and Sounds by Mayuro Kanazaw Engineering by Ichi Kanaya, Masataka Imura, Shinji Tanaka and Yu Shimura Dimensions variable Collection of the Artist

tsuroi Iroha invites the audience to become part of the artwork, while travelling through seasons and time. Movement and image-recognition sensors react to visitors with different surprising results – raise your hands to animate flowers in Spring, morph into a mythical creature in Summer, jump to play with forest animals in Autumn, and become a snowman in Winter!

Residents of tropical countries, such as Singapore, experience the passage of time quite differently from those who live in temperate regions. The artist uses the changing seasons to highlight how Japanese culture and emotions are strongly affected by changes in the seasons. The theme of the four seasons has deep roots in her culture and through this work, she hopes to share how Japanese people co-exist with nature and encourage visitors to consider how their actions can impact nature and the environment.

Mayuko Kanazawa (b. 1981, Japan) started out as an illustrator of children books. She then extended certain characters from her illustrations into video installations. With the help of technology, she has since been creating immersive installations which allow visitors to interact with her work.

This artwork is supported by JAPAN FOUNDATION &

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## THE GEDAZE PROJECT

#### Passage

2018

Yarn, repurposed fabric, found, personal and fabricated objects Dimensions variable Collection of the Artists Singapore Art Museum commission

n this immersive installation, the viewer assumes the role of an astronaut, embarking on an exploration of space and memories. Donning a crochet helmet, the viewer encounters comets and curious forms that conceal familiar objects, such as toys that evoke the familiarity of early childhood.

This journey through the universe is presented as a metaphorical reflection of our voyage through time, where we "shoot for the moon" but through twists and turns in life, find ourselves landing amongst the stars and comets. Regardless of our place within the constellation, the artists' work encourages us to persevere, and to celebrate and learn from both triumphs and failures.

From this galactic perspective, everyone has a special place in this universal passage of time.

The GedAze Project is a duo comprising Manila-based crochet, textile and performance artist Aze (b. 1977, Philippines), and New York-based mixed-media artist Ged (b. 1962, Philippines). While both artists use textiles as their medium, their collaborative projects evolve organically from their differences and similarities. Their works explore the relation between their interests, experiences and the self on an emotional and intellectual level.

Image courtesy of the Artists

## **LEE MEI LING**

#### Connect-the-Dots

2018
Pencil, ballpoint pen, marker, acrylic and charcoal drawing on canvas 200 x 200 cm
Video projection with sound
Collection of the Artist

Singapore Art Museum commission

Lee Mei Ling (b. 1966, Singapore) graduated with First Class Honours in Fine Arts from the University of Michigan; with a major in Fibre Art and a minor in painting and ceramics. Due to her diverse training, she has demonstrated immense versatility in the use of materials and in technical expressions. She frequently employs techniques of the textile traditions in experimenting with new materials. Mei Ling's works are widely collected and commissioned, and she has participated in both solo and group shows in Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Taiwan and the United States.

ecalling the connect-the-dots books of her childhood, the artist meticulously charts the progress of life via three characters in a process of 'aging' portraits.

Like a blank canvas, life begins with many possibilities. But as its 'dots' are joined with time and each passing stage, its image or outcome becomes clearer.

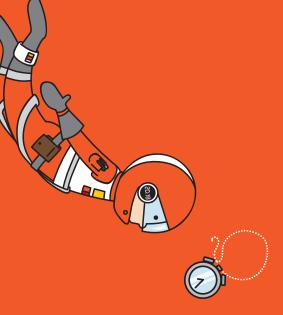
Every choice, be it a rebellious act or the pursuit of things material and immaterial, leaves their mark in our lives.

Even the lines on our faces reveal the acquisition of wisdom gained through experience, time and grace.

The artist often uses her personal experiences to inform her work, and the theme of life's unpredictability and transience often recurs in her oeuvre.

The artist will complete one of the canvases on-site in May, and visitors are welcome to watch the work-in-progress.





## **PROGRAMMES**





## **IMAGINARIUM SHORT FILMS**

Sunday, 6 May – Sunday, 26 August 2018 | Moving Image Gallery, Level 2 Total run-time: 42 min on loop. Parental guidance is advised.

Catch a special selection of short films revolving around the concept of time at the Moving Image Gallery. Sink into the doob Bean Bags and enjoy!



THE GIRL AND THE CAT

Ervin Han and Bernard Toh 2017, Singapore, 13 min, No dialogue 🙉

After a young girl is separated from her mother at a *pasar malam* (night market) at Geylang Serai in Singapore, she goes on an adventure with three stray cats, where reality is mixed with fantasy.



**AURÉLIE'S GARDEN** 

**Qistina Ruslan** 2015, Malaysia, 5 min, No dialogue **G** *Singapore Premiere* 

Aurélie, a quiet florist, chances upon a journey that leads to self-discovery, new friends, and a realisation that we all play a part in the world.



THE LITTLE BIRD AND THE CATERPILLAR

Lena von Döhren 2017, Switzerland, 4 min, No dialogue G Singapore Premiere

High above in a maple tree, a little bird cherishes and nurtures the green leaves that make up his home. One day, a hungry caterpillar sets out to eat the appetising leaves. An adventurous journey begins as the feathered creature tries to keep the glutton away.



MR NIGHT HAS A DAY OFF Ignas Meilunas

2016, Lithuania, 2 min, No dialogue G Singapore Premiere

Mr Night, a malevolent creature of the sky, gets tired of seeing everything in bright and sunny colours and, with a wink towards the audience, sets out to change it...



MY WORLD

Miyako Makio 2017, Singapore, 6 min, No dialogue G Singapore Premiere

A world once filled with life starts deteriorating, causing everyone living there to stop functioning completely. Everything changes when a little light bulb girl wakes up and started working again.



PULANG (GOING HOME TO INDONESIA)

**Dessy TAB** 

2016, Indonesia, 5 min, Bahasa Indonesia with English subtitles G

Singapore Premiere

What's it like to move to another country? A young girl recalls how her family returned from France to Indonesia, but memories get entangled with the child's own imagination and fantasies.

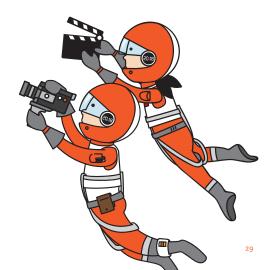


**ECLIPSE** 

**Jerrold Chong** 2016, Singapore, 6 min, No dialogue 🙉



A son visits his estranged father on the day of an impending solar eclipse. An event of cosmic significance coincides with an emotional revelation for father and son



## IMAGINARIUM OPENING ACTIVITIES

Join us at the opening of *Imaginarium* for an exciting afternoon filled with family-friendly activities and fun! There will be two events – the Children's Craft Fair where children call the shots in making, buying and selling; and enjoy Teen Open Mic, where teens from Homeschool Singapore will showcase and perform original songs.

#### **CHILDREN'S CRAFT FAIR**

Sunday, 6 May | 3pm-5pm | Free

#### **TEEN OPEN MIC**

Sunday, 6 May | 3.15pm-4pm | Free

#### **IMAGINARIUM OPEN HOUSE**

Friday, 15 June | 10am - 7pm

Bring the whole family to SAM this Hari Raya Aidilfitri Open House for fun workshops and hands-on activities around the museum. Free admission for all to *Imaginarium*: *Into the Space of Time*.

#### **WORKSHOPS**

#### TODDLER ART WORKSHOPS

Tuesdays, 5, 12, 19, 26 June Saturdays, 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 June 10.30am – 11.30am

Introduce your child to the wonderful world of art through sensory craft and play.

Recommended for children aged 18 months to 3 years old. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-register at www.singaporeartmuseum.sg.

#### **PERFORMANCES**

## IMAGINARIUM POETRY READINGS Friday, 8 June | 7pm – 8pm

Listen to poetry readings inspired by the artworks in *Imaginarium: Into the Space of Time*, and you might just get caught in a time warp.

#### **TOURS**

## PREVIEW TOUR WITH ARTISTS & DIRECTOR

Saturday, 5 May | 3pm

\$25 for adults

\$20 concession for students, docents, seniors. NSF. children

Meet the *Imaginarium* artists and our Director of Curatorial, Programmes and Publications, as they share more about the artworks in this exclusive preview tour.

Recommended for children aged 7 and above.

#### TOUR FOR EDUCATORS

Friday, 25 May | 4pm – 5.30pm | Free For educators only.

Join our Education Manager as she explains key concepts, highlights education aspects of *Imaginarium* artworks, and introduces educational resources for the exhibition.

Registration required via education@singaporeartmuseum.sg

#### START SMALL DREAM BIG AT SAM: A TOUR AND BRIEFING FOR PRESCHOOL EDUCATORS

Thursday, 24 May | 2pm – 3.30pm & 4pm – 5.30pm | *Free* For educators only.

Join this consultative session and tour, and be equipped with tips as you embark on the *Start Small Dream Big* programme.

#### SCHOOL TOURS AND WORKSHOPS

Offer your students a multidisciplinary and holistic contemporary art experience at *Imaginarium: Into the Space of Time* with these guided tours and workshops.

For more information on guided tours, self-directed visits and school workshops, visit www.singaporeartmuseum.sg/education.

#### **GUIDED TOURS FOR SCHOOLS**

Weekdays, 7 May – 24 August 10am, 12pm, 2.30pm | Free By Request Only.

#### SCHOOL SELF-DIRECTED TOURS

Weekdays, 7 May – 24 August 10am – 7pm | *Free* By Booking Only.

#### **SCHOOL WORKSHOPS**

Weekdays, 7 May – 24 August 10.30am, 2.30pm | \$15 – \$30 per pax

This programme is eligible for the Tote Board Arts Grant Subsidy and is endorsed under the NAC-AEP for pre-schools.

#### QUIET HOUR AT SAM

Saturdays – Thursdays (12 May – 23 August) | 9am | Free By Booking Only.

During Quiet Hour at SAM, specialneeds groups from Special Education schools can visit the museum an hour before usual gallery hours to enjoy the artworks

For more programmes, visit www.singaporeartmuseum.sg/programmes

For more details on bookings, email education@singaporeartmuseum.sg

#### **MERCHANDISE**

## IMAGINARIUM TRAVELLER'S KIT

Grab an *Imaginarium* Traveller's Kit before you begin travelling through time! Each kit comprises a set of 4-colour pencils and a *I Am a Time Traveller* badge.

## A TRAVELLER'S GUIDE THROUGH TIME

\$2

Grab this Traveller's Guide before you begin your exploration of *Imaginarium*: Into the Space of Time!

Available for sale via the vending machine near SAM Curve and at the front desk at SAM at 8Q.

#### TIME MACHINE

\$2

Beat the clock and freeze time with your fellow time travellers in this Time Machine! \$2 for two photobooth prints.

### **FOOD**

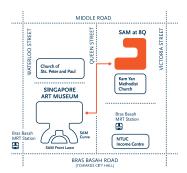
#### IMAGINARIUM THEMED MEALS AT STANDING SUSHI BAR

**Sushi Set** \$20 – 22

**Kids Bento** \$10 – 12

Savour the specially created sushi set meals and have a taste of how sushi was served over time

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#### SAM AT 8Q

8 Queen Street, Singapore 188535

#### **OPENING HOURS**

Saturdays to Thursdays | 10am to 7pm Fridays | 10am to 9pm

#### **ADMISSION**

Permanent Residents	
Singaporeans / · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · Free
Children under six	Free
Students & Senior Citizens	\$3
Adults	\$6

20% off admission tickets for 20 or more persons.

Free entry to SAM at 8Q every Friday from 6pm to 9pm and on Open House days.

Tickets can be purchased from the Information and Ticketing Counter at SAM at 8Q or from SISTIC.

#### **ENQUIRIES**

+65 6589 9550

enquiries@singaporeartmuseum.sg

#### **GETTING TO SAM AT 8Q**

#### By bus

7, 14, 16, 36, 77, 111, 131, 162, 167, 171, 175, 502, 518, 700

#### By MRT

2-minute walk from Bras Basah MRT station (CC2). Take Exit A.

10-minute walk from Dhoby Ghaut (NS24/NE6/CC1), Bugis (EW12/DT14) or City Hall (NS25/EW13) MRT stations.

#### By car

Carparks are available at Waterloo Street, NTUC Income Centre, Manulife Centre, Hotel Grand Pacific and Singapore Management University.

#### STROLLERS, WHEELCHAIR ACCESS AND LOCKERS

Lifts provide easy access to all galleries. Lockers are available for visitors' use.



