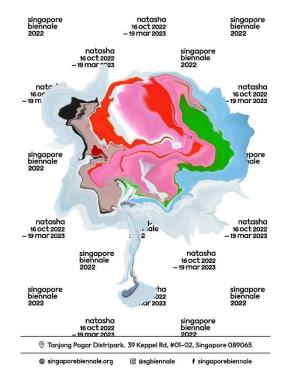
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SINGAPORE BIENNALE 2022: FIRST LIST OF MORE THAN 50 ARTISTS AND COLLABORATORS EMBARKING ON A COLLECTIVE JOURNEY WITH NATASHA

With key venues to encounter artworks, re-discover life and our relationship to the world, and the transformative potentials held by the act of naming



Singapore Biennale 2022 Key Visual – intervened by Firas Shehadeh

Singapore, 27 July 2022 - The 7th Singapore Biennale 2022 (SB2022) or Natasha, announced an exceptional line-up of over 50 artists and collaborators. This edition of the Singapore Biennale, organised by the Singapore Art Museum (SAM) and commissioned by the National Arts Council, Singapore (NAC), has been named by the Co-Artistic Directors, Binna Choi, Nida Ghouse, June Yap and Ala Younis. This act of naming encourages fellow artists, collaborators, and audiences to re-discover ways of seeing and relating to the world, as they embrace intimacy and spontaneity towards the transformative potentials in life and relationships within it — from self to others, from human to non-human, from living to non-living and vice versa, and beyond. The artists and

collaborators are also referred to as 'fellows' of the journey with Natasha, and will share their own inquiries through artistic imagination and research.

Natasha's fellow artists and collaborators are invited from Singapore and Southeast Asia as well as Germany, India, Jordan, South Korea, the Netherlands, and other geographies of the world. These are places where the Co-Artistic Directors live, have lived, or have had significant journeys. The invitations emerged from the intimate and deeper relations with the life and practices of the invited artists, and how the process of creation is integral to everyday life. Natasha's fellows comprise not only visual artists, but also musicians, writers, researchers, academics, and art professionals.

SB2022 Co-Artistic Directors, Binna Choi, Nida Ghouse, June Yap and Ala Younis, said, "While the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way we used to live by suspending ordinary life, and causing the loss of many, we now witness a process of normalisation, whether voluntary or forced. Many biennales have also celebrated this 'return' post-pandemic, with a renewed hope for a world different from what we live(d) in. Visiting Natasha is not only to return, but to be conscious of the values most intensively experienced during the pandemic: intimacy, living the unknown, the capacity to adapt, realising other possibilities of living and relating to the world."

Natasha invites new ways of gathering

Audiences can look forward to projects that create spaces for interaction, reflection and which invite public participation. "The Library of Unread Books" initiated by Heman Chong (Singapore) and Renée Staal (Netherlands / Singapore) will transform a retail unit into a reference library comprised of donated books belonging to individuals that remain unread. The books are accessible to anyone who visits the library, returning them to a common resource pool. Valentina Desideri (Italy) and Denise Ferreira da Silva (Brazil) will bring their ongoing studio process to SB2022, which facilitates collaborative studying and experimenting with different tools for reading and healing within the exhibition space. Materials and reading tools are provided for the public to engage with, and the artists will also conduct workshops within the space.

Navigating Life with Natasha

A selection of works in SB2022 delve further into Natasha's interests in drawing attention to and discussing the facets of life which connect or intersect with creating, writing, encoding and navigating each other and the world. Artists such as Assem Hendawi (Egypt) draw perspectives from various disciplines to explore an artificial intelligence programme that aims to create a planned economy and manage infrastructural commons across Africa. Similarly, Kiraņ Kumār's (India) work looks at the life of pioneer computer scientist Alan Turing (1912–1954) through a piece of speculative history.

Offering different readings of histories, social practices and myths are works by artists such as Natasha Tontey (Indonesia) who will present a different interpretation of Minahasan¹ society and ritual; Wu Mali (Taiwan) whose project researches stories arising from the locals of the Cijin² region. In addition, Elina Waage Mikalsen (Norway) will explore the cultural meaning and narratives of fire in Sami traditions; and Doa Aly (Egypt) explores the space of excavation as an aesthetic and forensic encounter, where the fidelity of historical interpretation is put into question.

Natasha invites renewed experience of places

The invited works and interventions are presented in close conversations with a variety of environments across different places in Singapore. Among these sites is Tanjong Pagar Distripark (TPD) where SAM is located. TPD is situated in a historic port, where logistics and thousands of containers make the surrounding landscape. Natasha will present works, including many new commissions, on two levels in TPD, as well as at Sentosa Cove, before a ferry trip takes visitors to Lazarus Island and St John's Island where the journey with Natasha continues. Spaces such as Yan Kit Playfield, Regional Libraries, SAM Residencies, are also taken as Biennale venues, and will allow for everyday engagement with the general/unintended public.

¹ Minahasan, people inhabiting the northernmost extension of the island of Celebes (Sulawesi), Indonesia, in and around the port town of Manado. Their population was about 670,000 at the turn of the 21st century.

² Cijin District is a district in Kaohsiung City after Yancheng District, with an area of 1.4639 square kilometres, or 0.5652 square miles. It has a population of 26,956 as of May 2022.

Partners

SB2022 is pleased to be working with a variety of partners whose generous support of the international platform has enabled the diversity and depth the Biennale continues to offer to the public. This year's edition of the Biennale is proudly supported by our Principal Supporter, Mapletree who has been a staunch supporter of the arts over the years.

Benesse Prize at Singapore Biennale 2022

Benesse Holdings Inc. will be collaborating once again with Singapore Art Museum on the Benesse Prize at the Singapore Biennale. In its third edition with the Singapore Biennale, the winner of the Prize will be announced during the opening of SB2022 in October.

The main event for SB2022 will run from 16 October 2022 to 19 March 2023. Audiences can enjoy a two-for-one early bird ticket promotion from July to September (only available in pairs). More information on ticketing can be found on SB2022's website (<u>https://www.singaporebiennale.org/</u>). You can also join the conversation on Facebook (<u>@SingaporeBiennale</u>) and Instagram (<u>@sgbiennale</u>).

Remaining artists, artworks and programmes will be announced in October 2022.

More information can be found in the Annexes.

- Annex A: List of SB2022 Artists
- Annex B: Ticketing Information

Other assets may be downloaded at https://bit.ly/SB2022mediakit.

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For media queries, please contact:

Leck Choon Ling	Rachael Lim
Manager	Associate
Tate Anzur	Tate Anzur
+65 8288 3592	+65 9221 8190
choonling.leck@tateanzur.com	rachael.lim@tateanzur.com

About the Singapore Biennale

The Singapore Biennale was established in 2006 as the country's pre-eminent platform for international dialogue in contemporary art. It presents and reflects the vigour of artistic practices in Singapore and the region within a global context, and fosters productive collaborations and deep engagement with artists, arts organisations, and the international arts community.

The Singapore Biennale cultivates public engagement with contemporary art through a period of concerted activities including exhibitions, public engagement and education programmes that feature 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 (NAC). NAC has commissioned SAM to organise the Biennale since 2011.

About the Singapore Art Museum

Singapore Art Museum opened in 1996 as the first art museum in Singapore located in the cultural district of Singapore. Known as SAM, the museum presents contemporary art from a Southeast Asian perspective for artists, art lovers and the art curious in multiple venues across the island, including a new venue in the historic port area of Tanjong Pagar.

The museum is building one of the world's most important public collections of Southeast Asian contemporary art, with the aim of connecting the art and the artists to the public and future generations through exhibitions and programmes. SAM is working towards a humane and sustainable future by committing to responsible practices within its processes.

To find out more, visit www.singaporeartmuseum.sg.



About the National Arts Council

The National Arts Council champions the arts in Singapore. By nurturing creative excellence and supporting broad audience engagement, our diverse and distinctive arts inspire our people, connect communities and profile Singapore internationally. We preserve our rich, cultural traditions as we cultivate accomplished artists and vibrant companies for the future. 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, visit <u>www.nac.gov.sg</u>.



Annex A: List of SB2022 Artists and Collaborators

Singapore

- 1. Ang Kia Yee
- 2. AWKNDAFFR (Wayne <u>Lim</u> & <u>Soh</u> Kay Min)
- 3. Tini Aliman
- 4. Zachary Chan
- 5. Heman Chong
- 6. Ila
- 7. Zarina Muhammad
- 8. Ong Kian Peng
- 9. Alfian Sa'at
- 10. Adele <u>Tan</u>
- 11. Berny Tan
- 12. Erika <u>Tan</u>
- 13. Tan Tarn How
- 14. Jeannine Tang
- 15. Billy Yong

Southeast Asia

- 16. Angkrit Ajchariyasophon (Thailand)
- 17. Extended.Asia (Indonesia)
- 18. Tith Kanitha (Cambodia)
- 19. Shooshie <u>Sulaiman</u> (Malaysia)
- 20. Pratchaya Phinthong (Thailand)
- 21. Araya Rasdjamreansook (Thailand)
- 22. Natasha Tontey (Indonesia)

Rest of the world

- 23. Sarah Abu-Abdallah (Saudi Arabia)
- 24. Afifa Aleiby (Iraq / the Netherlands)
- 25. Doa <u>Aly</u> (Egypt)
- 26. Hemali Bhuta (India)
- 27. Brightworkroom (<u>Kim</u> Hyona & <u>Kim</u> Inkyung, South Korea) with <u>Yoon</u> Mi Ae, <u>Na</u> Jeong Suk, <u>Kym</u> Jinhong
- 28. Jeamin Cha (South Korea)
- 29. Yejin Cho (South Korea)
- 30. Valentina <u>Desideri</u> (Italy)
- 31. Denise Ferreira da Silva (Brazil)
- 32. Lucy Davis (United Kingdom)
- 33. Areumnari Ee (South Korea)

- 34. Cevdet Erek (Turkey)
- 35. Brian Fuata (New Zealand / Australia)
- 36. Samia Halaby (Palestine/USA)
- 37. Assem Hendawi (Egypt)
- 38. Elaine W. Ho (USA/Hong Kong)
- 39. Raed Ibrahim (Jordan)
- 40. Joo Jae-hwan (South Korea)
- 41. Kiraņ <u>Kumār</u> (India)
- 42. Daniel Lie (Brazil)
- 43. Malaeb (Jordan)
- 44. Maile <u>Meyer</u> and Drew Kahu'āina <u>Broderick</u> (Hawai'i USA)
- 45. Elina Waage Mikalsen (Norway)
- 46. Ranu Mukherjee (United Kingdom / USA)
- 47. Moad <u>Musbahi</u> with Flora <u>Weil</u> and <u>Huruf</u> (David Ho, Hsin Yin Low, Kai-Cong Fam, Louie Lee Weiyi, Sueh Li, Tan Zi Hao)
- 48. No Ghost Just A Shell with works by Angela Bulloch & Imke Wagener, Liam Gillick, Pierre Huyghe, Richard Phillips, Rirkrit Tiravanija, M/M (Paris), Philippe Parreno (Van Abbemuseum collection, the Netherlands)
- 49. Nina bell F. House Museum with Donghwan Kam, Nuraini Juliastuti, Sophia Park, Ying Que (the Netherlands/South Korea/Indonesia)
- 50. Firas Shehadeh (Jordan)
- <u>Shin</u> Beomsun with Koon Kwon, Kyungtae Kim, Maya West, mediabus and <u>Lee</u> Sungeun (South Korea)
- 52. S.O.I.L COMMUNITY with CONA PROJECTS (India)
- 53. Åsa Sonjasdotter (Sweden)
- 54. Renée Staal (the Netherlands / Singapore)
- 55. Aarti Sunder (India)
- 56. <u>Wu</u> Mali (Taiwan)
- 57. Haegue Yang (South Korea/Germany)
- 58. Ali Yass (Iraq)
- 59. Trevor Yeung (China)
- 60. Daniela Zambrano (Peru)

Annex B: Ticketing Information

Early Bird Promotion

2-for-1 Early bird ticket promotion from 27 July till 30 September 2022!

Ticket Prices

NON-SINGAPOREAN PERMANENT RESIDE		SINGAPOREANS/ PERMANENT RESIDE	INTS
Standard	Concessions Students/ Seniors	Standard	Concessions NSFs/ Seniors
\$25.00	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00

More details on ticketing and purchasing can be found on SB2022's website here.

*Free admission for children aged 6 and below, persons with disabilities (PWD) and their caretakers, and local/locally-based students and teachers.

*Concessions are available to overseas students, seniors aged 60 and above, and Full-time National Servicemen (NSFs) excluding foreign personnel.