

For Immediate Release

SINGAPORE ART WEEK 2018 ACTIVITIES AT SINGAPORE ART MUSEUM



SINGAPORE, 16 JANUARY 2018 – Singapore Art Museum celebrates Singapore Art Week with a range of art experiences over two weekends, from the reveal of a new artwork commission at the museum’s front lawn, to artist talks and workshops, as well as outdoor movie screenings and an art market. The activities at SAM take place from 20 to 28 January, during which visitors may also explore the ongoing exhibition on the moving image, titled *Cinerama: Art and the Moving Image in Southeast Asia*.

During Singapore Art Week, Singapore Art Museum is also launching an anthology of texts by T. K. Sabapathy, an esteemed art critic and scholar of art developments and art history in Singapore, Malaysia and Southeast Asia. Please refer to [Annex A](#) for the Art Week at SAM calendar of events.

Art Week at SAM activities

Dates: 20 & 21 and 27 & 28 January

Admission: Free (admission fees for Cinerama apply for non-SG/PRs on 27 & 28 January)

Venue: SAM Front Lawn, Courtyards and SAM at 8Q

On 20 and 21 January, besides free entry to the *Cinerama: Art and the Moving Image in Southeast Asia* exhibition, there are free art workshops and activities for all ages at [SAM at 8Q](#), from face-painting and caricature stations to Polaroid photo booths.

Taking place at the [SAM Front Lawn](#) on 27 January (Saturday), there will be an outdoor movie screening of *It's a Great, Great World*, a Singaporean film set in the Great World Amusement Park, directed by Kelvin Tong. There are fringe activities at the [SAM Curve](#) before the screening, and free snack giveaways from 7pm onwards.

On 28 January (Sunday), the well-loved SAM x The Local People Art Market returns to both museum buildings ([SAM](#) and [SAM at 8Q](#)) with a curated selection of accessories, crafts and gourmet snacks by local designers, artisans and entrepreneurs.

Singapore Art Museum Front Lawn Commission: *Harvest* (2018) by Gerald Leow

Dates: On view from 19 January onwards; artist and curator talk on 20 January

SAM Front Lawn | Free



As part of Singapore Art Week 2018, Singapore Art Museum unveils its latest Front Lawn commission by Singaporean artist Gerald Leow. Titled *Harvest*, the monumental 4.7m tall structure is a rice granary that reflects on history of Bras Basah, the area in which SAM is located, as well as the history of the museum itself.

Bras Basah, a name derived from the Malay term *beras basah*, which means “wet rice”, was so names for the stench of decaying rice transported by ships to the harbour in the past. With their high pointed roofs and elevated platforms for harvest storage and as farmers’ resting places, rice granaries (known as *lumbung* in Malay), was once a common sight in this region. Join artist Gerald Leow on 20 January (Saturday) as he speaks about the inspiration and process behind the artwork at the SAM Front Lawn.

Please refer to [Annex B](#) for the artwork write-up on Gerald Leow’s *Harvest*, a Singapore Art Museum commission as part of Singapore Art Week 2018.

Cinerama exhibition, curator tours and artist workshops

Dates: Ongoing; curator tour on 24 January; artist workshop on 27 January

SAM at 8Q | Free for SG/PRs, free for all on 20 & 21 January

Cinerama: Art and the Moving Image in Southeast Asia explores notions of memory and identity through animation and immersive film installations by artists across Asia.



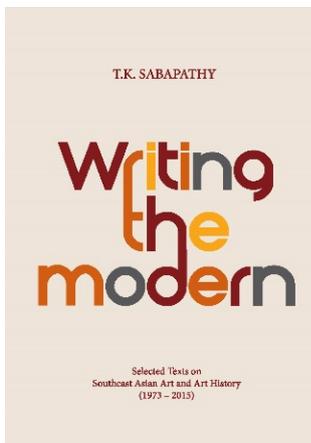
On the first weekend of Singapore Art Week (20 and 21 January), entry to the exhibition is free of charge (U.P. \$6 for non-SG/PRs; free for SG/PRs). Other programmes taking place during Singapore Art Week include: an after-hours tour by the *Cinerama* lead curator on 24 January (Wednesday), featuring an in-depth exploration of the stories behind the artworks; *Cinerama*

artist Sarah Choo Jing's hands-on filmmaking workshop on 27 January (Saturday), which delves into the staging, recording and post-production processes used in her artworks.

Please refer to [Annex C](#) for more information on *Cinerama: Art and the Moving Image in Southeast Asia* and programmes taking place during Singapore Art Week.

Publication of T. K. Sabapathy's anthology, *Writing the Modern: Selected Texts on Art & Art History in Singapore, Malaysia & Southeast Asia, 1973-2015*

Available from 19 January at www.nuspress.nus.edu.sg, and from 26 January at leading bookstores



During Singapore Art Week 2018, Singapore Art Museum will launch an anthology by T. K. Sabapathy, featuring his writings on art developments and art history in Singapore, Malaysia and Southeast Asia over four decades.

From the early 1970s till today, Sabapathy has contributed significantly to Singapore's and the regional art scene in various capacities – as historian and educator, critic, advisor and advocate of the visual arts and culture. His dedication to the documentation

and development of the region's art scene has been instrumental in the building of the modern and contemporary art history of Singapore and Southeast Asia, and in the establishment of SAM.

Writing the Modern: Selected Texts on Art & Art History in Singapore, Malaysia & Southeast Asia, 1973-2015 brings together Sabapathy's most significant and influential writings for the first time, and will be available at leading bookstores from Friday, 26 January.

Please refer to [Annex D](#) for more information on *Writing the Modern*.

Art Week at SAM activities take place from 20 January to 28 January, during which visitors may explore the latest SAM Front Lawn Commission by artist Gerald Leow, as well as the ongoing exhibition on the moving image, titled *Cinerama: Art and the Moving Image in Southeast Asia*. For more information, visit www.singaporeartmuseum.sg/artweekatSAM.

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ABOUT THE SINGAPORE ART MUSEUM

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.

In 2011, SAM was the venue organiser of the Singapore Biennale, becoming the main organiser for the 2013 and 2016 editions. 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

SINGAPORE ART MUSEUM ONLINE

www.singaporeartmuseum.sg

www.facebook.com/singaporeartmuseum

www.instagram.com/singaporeartmuseum

www.youtube.com/SAMtelly

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ANNEX A

ART WEEK AT SAM: CALENDAR OF EVENTS

www.singaporeartmuseum.sg/artweekatSAM

Saturday, 20 January 2018			
10am – 7pm	SAM at 8Q	Exhibition <i>Cinerama: Art and the Moving Image in Southeast Asia</i>	Free
10am – 7pm	SAM at 8Q, Level 2	Art workshops	Free
10am – 7pm	SAM at 8Q, Plaza	Activities for all ages: - Instagram and polaroid photoboosts - F&B pop-up stalls - Face painting and caricature stations - Pop-up haiku booth	Free
4pm – 5pm	SAM Front Lawn	Artist and curator talk SAM Lawn Commission by Gerald Leow	Free, by registration
Sunday, 21 January 2018			
10am – 7pm	SAM at 8Q	Exhibition <i>Cinerama: Art and the Moving Image in Southeast Asia</i>	Free
10am – 7pm	SAM at 8Q, Level 2	Art workshops	Free
10am – 7pm	SAM at 8Q, Plaza	Activities for all ages: - Instagram and polaroid photoboosts - F&B pop-up stalls - Face painting and caricature stations - Pop-up haiku booth	Free
10am – 7pm	SAM at 8Q	Community group workshops	Free
Wednesday, 24 January 2018			
7.30pm – 8pm	SAM at 8Q	Curator tour of <i>Cinerama</i>	Ticketed
Saturday, 27 January 2018			
10am – 7pm	SAM at 8Q	Exhibition <i>Cinerama: Art and the Moving Image in Southeast Asia</i>	Free for SG/PRs, ticketed for non-SG/PRs
2pm – 5pm	SAM at 8Q	Cinerama artist workshop Staging Silence by Sarah Choo	Ticketed
7.30pm – 10.30pm	SAM Front Lawn	Outdoor movie screening: <i>It's a Great, Great World</i> by Kelvin Tong Snacks giveaway (while stocks last)	Free
Sunday, 28 January 2018			
10am – 7pm	SAM at 8Q	Exhibition <i>Cinerama: Art and the Moving Image in Southeast Asia</i>	Free for SG/PRs, ticketed for non-SG/PRs
11am – 7pm	SAM Courtyards & SAM at 8Q	SAM x The Local People Art Market	Free admission

ANNEX B

ABOUT GERALD LEOW'S HARVEST (2018), SINGAPORE ART MUSEUM'S FRONT LAWN COMMISSION AS PART OF SINGAPORE ART WEEK 2018



Gerald Leow (Singapore)

Harvest

2018

Recycled pine and birch wood

300 x 300 x 470 cm

Collection of the Artist

Singapore Art Museum commission

With the support of National Arts Council

The area of Bras Basah has lived many lives, and its current name comes from *beras basah* – Malay for “wet rice” – so named for the stench of decaying rice transported by ships to the harbour in the past. ***Harvest*** is a rice granary that harks to the history of the neighbourhood, even as it draws upon the graphic imagery of more modern times.

A kind of vernacular architecture, the *lumbung* – as the rice granary is known in Malay – once dotted the region’s landscapes with its distinctive high pointed roof. The *lumbung* would also have certain design features specific to its purpose as a storehouse, such as the circular disc at each leg that was a guard against rats.

Occupying the front lawn of Singapore Art Museum (SAM), this *lumbung* is sited within the curved embrace of the colonial architecture of the SAM building, which is the former St. Joseph’s Institution. In contrast to SAM’s stone and brickwork, ***Harvest*** echoes its forebears and is constructed from wood. Indeed, the material used here is recycled pine and birch wood, the same kind used for the crates that freight artworks for museum exhibitions.

Closer examination also reveals that the sculpture is assembled from the modular unit of a more recent, if unexpected, origin – an abstracted form of the letters used in the logo of the 1980s’ heavy metal band, Judas Priest. Notions of font and ‘fount of knowledge’ come together as ***Harvest*** now sits on the premises of the once-school and now-museum – spaces of learning and discovering the world.

Gerald Leow (b. 1984, Singapore) is an artist who creates works across varied media. He lives and works in Singapore.

ANNEX C

ABOUT CINERAMA: ART AND THE MOVING IMAGE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA



VENUE: Singapore Art Museum (SAM at 8Q), 8 Queen Street, Singapore 188535

EXHIBITION DATES: 17 November 2017– 25 March 2018

OPENING HOURS: 10am to 7pm (Saturdays to Thursdays), 10am to 9pm (Fridays)

ADMISSION CHARGES:

STANDARD (Free admission to SAM every Friday from 6.00 pm to 9.00 pm and on Open House days)	
Adults	\$6
Students and seniors (with valid ID)	\$3
Children under six	Free
Groups of 20 or more	20% off standard adult admission charges
SINGAPOREANS AND PERMANENT RESIDENTS	Free

From hand-drawn animation to films and immersive installations, Singapore Art Museum’s latest exhibition, *Cinerama: Art and the Moving Image in Southeast Asia*, delves into individual and collective memory, identity and politics through the medium of the moving image. *Cinerama* presents the works of 10 contemporary artists and art collectives from the region, featuring artist loans, specially-commissioned artworks and a selection from the Singapore Art Museum collection.

Artists whose works feature in the exhibition are: Amy Lee Sanford (USA/ Cambodia), Hayati Mokhtar (Malaysia), Jeremy Sharma (Singapore), Korakrit Arunanondchai (Thailand) and Alex Gvojjic (USA), Ming Wong (Singapore), Narpati Awangga a.k.a oomleo (Indonesia), Sarah Choo Jing (Singapore), The Propeller Group (USA/ Vietnam), Tromarama (Indonesia) and Victor Balanon (Philippines).

The intertwining themes and narratives explored by the *Cinerama* artworks relate to the history of the moving image, filmic constructions, evolving responses to mass media and popular culture, and contemplations of personal and collective histories. A series of artist workshops and curator tours will be held over the course of the exhibition period, to expand on the artwork themes and artistic process behind the works. **#cineramaSG**

Images and more information for media available at www.bit.ly/CineramaSG

Cinerama Curator Tour

Date: Wednesday, 24 January 2018

Time: 7.30pm – 8pm

Venue: SAM at 8Q

Price: \$15 (tickets available at SAM at 8Q and www.apactix.com)

Join SAM curator John Tung in this exclusive after-hours tour of *Cinerama: Art and the Moving Image in Southeast Asia*, and learn more about the artworks and curatorial processes behind such exhibitions.

Cinerama Artist Workshop by Sarah Choo Jing

Date: Saturday, 27 January 2018

Time: 2pm – 5pm

Venue: SAM at 8Q

Price: \$59 (tickets available at SAM at 8Q and www.apactix.com)

Join *Cinerama* artist Sarah Choo, in this workshop as she shares cinematography tips and post-production techniques alongside hands-on learning of staging and recording that were used in her artworks.

SAM Late Nights

Date: Every second Friday of the month (12th January, 9th February, 9th March)

Time: 6pm – 10:30pm

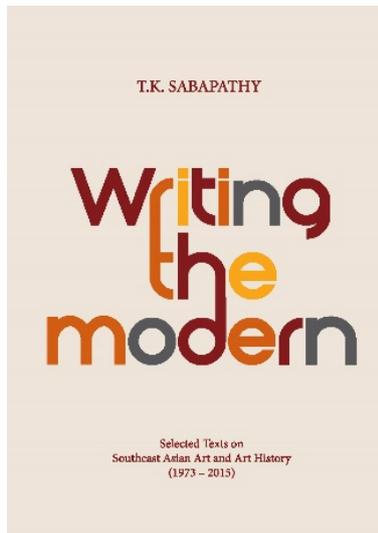
Venue: SAM at 8Q

Price: Free admission for all

The second Friday of every month from January to March is extra special with #SAMLateNights, featuring immersive film installation and artworks at the Cinerama exhibition, meet-the-curator sessions, live visual and music performances, and al fresco food and drink under the museum canopy.

ANNEX D

ABOUT *WRITING THE MODERN: SELECTED TEXTS ON ART & ART HISTORY IN SINGAPORE, MALAYSIA & SOUTHEAST ASIA, 1973-2015*, AN ANTHOLOGY OF T. K. SABAPATHY'S WRITINGS



Selected from over four decades of critical and historical scholarship, *Writing the Modern: Selected Texts on Art & Art History in Singapore, Malaysia & Southeast Asia, 1973-2015* brings together T.K. Sabapathy's most significant and influential writings for the first time. With its detailed explication of artworks and critical reflections on art historical developments in Singapore, Malaysia and Southeast Asia, the anthology will serve as maps for an exploration of visual art development and art histories of the region.

From the early 1970s, through SAM's founding in 1996, and till today, T.K. Sabapathy has contributed significantly to Singapore's and the regional art scene in various capacities – as historian and educator, critic, advisor and advocate of the visual arts and culture. His dedication to the documentation and development of the region's art scene has been instrumental in the building of the modern and contemporary art history of Singapore and Southeast Asia, and in the establishment of SAM.

Author: T.K. Sabapathy

Title: *Writing the Modern: Selected Texts on Art & Art History in Singapore, Malaysia & Southeast Asia, 1973-2015*

Editors: Ahmad Mashadi, Susie Lingham, Peter Schoppert and Joyce Toh

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A total of 57 texts in *Writing the Modern* are chronologically organised within four thematic sections, preceded by editorial overviews:

Section 1: 'The Southeast Asian Artist in Relation to Art History', edited with overview by Joyce Toh

Section 2: 'A Mind for Method, and an Eye for Medium, Material and Form', edited with overview by Susie Lingham

Section 3: 'Art Institutions and the Exhibition', edited with overview by Peter Schoppert

Section 4: 'Regional Perspectives on Southeast Asian Art', edited with overview by Ahmad Mashadi