

FACT SHEET

**PRESCHOOL CHILDREN CREATE NATURE-INSPIRED ARTWORKS
AS PART OF SINGAPORE ART MUSEUM'S THINK! CONTEMPORARY PROGRAMME**



*Preschoolers from Nobleland Arts N Learning Place @ Punggol (Preschool) working on their art piece;
image courtesy of Nobleland Arts N Learning Place @ Punggol (Preschool)*

Singapore, 3 March 2021 – Singapore Art Museum (SAM) presents *Hello Future: Connecting People and Nature*, the second edition of SAM's Think! Contemporary Preschool Exhibition, from 6 March to 4 April 2021 at Singapore Botanic Gardens. It is the culmination of the Think! Contemporary Preschool Programme, a structured art programme initiated by SAM which aims to encourage learning through contemporary art and inspire creativity among younger audiences. The exhibition showcases works by preschool children that highlight harmonious connections between people and nature, envisioning a future where Singapore's garden city continues to inspire the imaginations of young and old alike.

SAM's signature Think! Contemporary Preschool Programme engages preschool children in lively discussions on contemporary art and issues through works in the museum's collection or exhibitions. During the programme, the children take part in art-making and create their own works around the themes of each edition of Think! Contemporary. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, interactive talks and tours of The Learning Gallery by SAM, which showcases contemporary artworks from the museum's collection and special commissions that explore ideas of home, community, identity and memory, were conducted virtually.

For the Preschool Programme's second edition, the children's works are inspired by themes of communities in Singapore, nature and climate change, and also respond to works by contemporary artists such as Jing Quek, Nguan and Vicente Delgado in The Learning Gallery. Speaking about the programme, Pauline Cheong, Senior Manager of Education and Programmes at SAM, says, "Think! Contemporary is a platform for children to learn about the world around them through art as well as develop creative and collaborative skills. It is part of SAM's commitment to nurture an appreciation of contemporary art from a young age by offering engaging educational programmes and bringing art to the classrooms. SAM is pleased to partner with Singapore Botanic Gardens for this edition, which encourages children to be more attuned to the natural environment and create their own interpretations of contemporary ecological issues in Singapore."

SAM partnered with six preschools for this edition, including Arts Kidz International, MOE Kindergarten @ Oasis, Nobleland Arts N Learning Place @ Bishan, Clementi, Punggol and Waterway (Preschool).

Krystle Choo, Visual Arts Teacher from Arts Kidz International says, "Through the programme, the children are able to express themselves and rely on the freedom of their imagination to create unique works of art. In doing so, they learn something very valuable about art – to create extraordinary works, sometimes all you need are ordinary things used in unusual ways. This programme was also an opportunity for the children to appreciate the creations by their fellow classmates, nurturing respect, empathy, and a strong sense of school community."

The exhibition is on from 6 March to 4 April 2021 at the People's Gallery at Botany Centre (Tanglin Gate), Nassim Gate Visitor Centre, and Botanic Gardens MRT Exit A (Bukit Timah Gate), Singapore Botanic Gardens.

For more details, please visit: bit.ly/TCpreschool21

Images, captions and credits are available at: bit.ly/Images-TCpreschool21

For further information, please contact:

Gwyneth Liew

Singapore Art Museum

DID: +65 6697 9753

Email: gwyneth.liew@singaporeartmuseum.sg

About the Singapore Art Museum

Singapore Art Museum 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 School. The museum buildings are currently closed for a major building redevelopment, with museum programming continuing at partner venues until the buildings re-open.

SAM is the organiser of the Singapore Biennale in 2011, 2013, 2016 and 2019. 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