



**Immediate Release**

**25 May 2009**

## **Call for submissions for Singapore Art Show 2009**

**Closing Date: 30 June 2009**

(26 May 2009) The National Arts Council (NAC) and Singapore Art Museum (SAM) are pleased to invite visual arts submissions from Singapore and Singapore-based artists for the *Singapore Art Exhibition 2009*, co-presented by both organisations.

The *Singapore Art Exhibition 2009* is the main feature of the Singapore Art Show (SAS), organised by the National Arts Council. The SAS is a national platform celebrating distinctive and outstanding art created by local and Singapore-based artists. This biennial festival showcases the diversity of visual arts practices in Singapore, presents new artistic contents and further develops the capabilities of artists and curators. It also aims to encourage public appreciation of and engagement in visual arts in Singapore.

Now in its 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, the SAS2009 is spread over six weeks over 40 different venues. In addition to the *Singapore Art Exhibition 2009*, the SAS2009 will also present multiple niche platforms and satellite events, including the popular *Curating Labs* series. This year, the SAS2009 will have several components such as a Traditional Art, *Re-engaging Traditions*, which showcases and promotes traditional and ethnic art forms, a downloadable podcast show and an outdoor art fair. Together, these present unique curatorial visions and art forms, accessible and fun outreach activities and public art components to engage people in a myriad of visual and interactive offerings.

Says Mr Lim Chwee Seng, Director of Visual Arts and Resource Development, National Arts Council, "The Singapore Art Show is a showcase of national art talents and a springboard for artists like Jane Lee who won the inaugural Singapore Art Prize in 2007. Jane has since gone on to exhibit at the Singapore Biennale 2008 and in Vilnius, Lithuania last year. For Singapore Art Show 2009, we want to continue to engage visual artists, arts groups, arts businesses and institutions, and the Singapore community in the creation and appreciation of quality artworks. Do look out for an exciting programme line-up that will activate the creative expressions of everyone."

The *Singapore Art Exhibition 2009* offers artists from all disciplines a national platform to participate via an open call for submissions. The best submission will be awarded the Singapore Art Exhibition Prize - a \$50,000 grant which can be used for professional or capability development through residencies, further studies or training, and for the creation and/or presentation of bold, new projects and works.

"The Voters' Prize", comprising \$5,000 cash, will be awarded to the participating artist whose artwork gets the most number of nominations from visitors to the exhibition. For the young audiences, there will also be art competitions for primary and secondary students. Registration details will be announced at a later date.

The theme of this year's Singapore Art Exhibition is ART BUFFET SINGAPORE! The 'buffet' concept was adopted as a mode of display and cultural consumption. Artists are empowered to select from a buffet spread of twelve themes to respond to. The buffet concept also offers a visual feast for audiences to attune themselves to the creative production of Singapore artists. Suggested themes include Food, Material, Ritual, Spectrum, Signs, Gesture, Craft, Body, Time, Space, Order and Humour.

Says Director of Singapore Art Museum, Mr Kwok Kian Chow, "Singapore Art Museum is pleased to be the co-organiser for the Singapore Art Exhibition. The Singapore Art Exhibition

platform showcases the works of a vast range of talented Singapore artists in celebration of their personal perspectives and expressions. The exhibition further helps to broaden the avenues for the development of the visual arts in Singapore with the objective to contribute to an increased interest and appreciation of the art practices in Singapore."

Annex A        **About National Arts Council, Singapore Art Museum and 8Q sam**

Annex B        **Submission information for Singapore Art Exhibition**

**For enquiries and further information, please contact:**

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**From Singapore Art Museum:**

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Singapore Art Museum is located at 71 Bras Basah Road, Singapore 189555.

8Q sam is located at 8 Queen Street, Singapore 188535.

For general enquiries, please contact Front desk at 6332 3222.

For more information, visit [www.singart.com](http://www.singart.com)

Monday to Sunday : 10am to 7pm, with extended hours and FREE  
Admission on Friday from 6pm to 9pm

## **Annex A**

### **About the National Arts Council (Singapore)**

The National Arts Council (NAC) was established in September 1991 to spearhead the development of the arts in Singapore. To realise its vision of developing Singapore into a distinctive global city for the arts, NAC provides total support to nurture artistic talent, promotes the practice and appreciation of the arts among Singaporeans, builds up capabilities and resources, facilitates internationalisation and advocates the value of the arts. Through its holistic range of programmes and initiatives to develop the entire arts value chain, the Council champions the growth of a vibrant arts sector where the arts is accessible to all, and the community of artists, arts groups and arts businesses can innovate, excel and achieve sustainability in the long term.

[www.nac.gov.sg](http://www.nac.gov.sg)

### **About Singapore Art Museum**

Opened in January 1996, the mission of the Singapore Art Museum (SAM) is to preserve and present the art histories and contemporary art practices of Singapore and the Southeast Asian region. To date, SAM has amassed the world's largest public collection of modern and contemporary Southeast Asian artworks with a growing component in international contemporary art. The museum has presented shows covering both local and international art practices, traditional and cutting edge art expressions. Through strategic alliances with international arts and cultural institutions, SAM has been facilitating visual arts education, exchange, research and development within the region and internationally. Through forging collaborative partnerships and staging innovative programmes to engage different audiences, SAM aims to contribute to an enlarged role in the regional visual arts community and Asian art museology, as well as facilitating developments in art as well as the art sector in Singapore.

**About 8Q sam**

8Q sam is a contemporary art space with fresh, multi-disciplinary, interactive and community-oriented programming; a place where the public can directly experience the work and ideas of living artists in relation to its aesthetic and social context. It will be a venue for contemplation, stimulation, and discussion about contemporary art and culture and serves as a forum for discussion of these issues. Dubbed as “The Museum of Tomorrow”, 8Q sam will showcase a diversity of cutting-edge experimental contemporary shows that focuses on art practice in the here and now from painting and sculpture, to installation, film and video, photography, new media, performance art and sound art by present and upcoming artists. Nationally, Singapore has not had an art space that would support such artistic diversity; 8Q sam will be the first. As well, the space offers special focus for children, including daily children’s workshops, and a children’s gallery. We work closely with educators to make contemporary art accessible to children from as young as 3 years of age.

**Annex B**

**Singapore Art Exhibition 2009: Open Call**

**Application Form**

**Name (in English):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name (in Chinese, if applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_

**NRIC No./ Other relevant identification number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gender: Male/ Female (please delete accordingly)**

**Postal address:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Tel. no. :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email address :** \_\_\_\_\_

**No. of works submitted for consideration: \_\_\_\_\_ (up to a maximum of three works is allowed)**

**Selected Theme (Up to 3 themes. Please refer to Appendix)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**I wish to be considered for (please tick accordingly):**

**Singapore Art Exhibition Prize**

**Voters' Prize**

**I do not wish to be considered for any prizes (please tick accordingly):**

**I confirm that I have read, understood and hereby agree to the terms and conditions of participation stated below.**

**Signature:**

**Date:**

**Please submit completed application forms with relevant images and documents to:**

Singapore Art Exhibition Submission

c/o Miss Stella Lim

Singapore Art Museum

71 Bras Basah Road, Singapore 189555

**Enclosures:**

Details of artworks

Terms and conditions of participation

## DETAILS OF ARTWORK

<b>Artwork Title:</b>	Please also include a photographs / images of the artwork (multiple images of the same work may be included)
<b>Artist:</b>	
<b>Year of Execution:</b>	
<b>Dimensions (cm, height following by width):</b>	
<b>Media:</b>	
<b>Statement/ information about artwork (300 words per artwork):</b>	
<b>Artist's resume:</b>	

Please include additional documents if there is insufficient space in the application form to contain all necessary information. For instance, descriptions of installation works should include floor plans, perspective drawings, etc.

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION**

### **Singapore Art Exhibition: Open Call**

The National Arts Council (NAC) and National Heritage Board (Singapore Art Museum "SAM") will present the Singapore Art Exhibition at Singapore Art Museum (SAM) as part of the Singapore Art Show 2009. To be held at SAM from 21 August to 18 October 2009, the Singapore Art Exhibition aims to provide an open platform to showcase and celebrate the creative talents of visual artists based in Singapore.

Artists are free to submit all forms of visual artworks. Themes for the exhibition will be based on selected submissions. This is to ensure the wide-ranging and inclusive nature of Open Calls. All works will be assessed and selected for exhibition by the following members of the selection panel:

- |    |                  |                                             |
|----|------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 1. | Low Sze Wee      | Deputy Director, SAM (Chair)                |
| 2. | Choy Weng Yang   | Curator                                     |
| 3. | Chua Soo Bin     | Photographer                                |
| 4. | Khiew Huey Chian | Faculty of Visual Arts, SOTA,<br>Singapore  |
| 5. | Low Kee Hong     | General Manager, Singapore<br>Biennale, NAC |
| 6. | Seng Yu Jin      | Assistant Curator, SAM                      |
| 7. | Teo Han Wue      | Executive Director, Art Retreat<br>Museum   |

SAE will award two prizes: the Singapore Art Exhibition Prize, and the Voters' Prize. The Singapore Art Exhibition Prize will be awarded a \$50,000 grant for career development to be administered by NAC. The winner of the Voters' Prize will receive prize money of \$5,000 for the favourite artwork based on visitor's choice.

## **Rules and Regulations**

### **Eligibility**

Singaporean citizens, permanent residents and all persons who have resided in Singapore on or before 1 Jan 2008 are eligible to participate in the exhibition. There is no age limit for participants. Students and non-professionals are also welcome to take part.

### **Types of works and media**

Artworks in *all visual arts media* shall be considered for participation. Some more common media include, but are not limited to painting, calligraphy, sculpture, ceramics, batik, photography, printmaking, mixed media, installation and new media art.

### **Submission of works for consideration**

Interested artists may send in a maximum of images of 3 original artworks to be considered for inclusion in the Singapore Art Exhibition.

Please note that all accepted works should be suitably framed and must not contain highly biodegradable material. As there is limited technical support for new media and installation work, artists shall be responsible to provide the necessary equipment and ensure the proper installation and dismantling of their work.

The artwork must have been completed in the last two years and not been exhibited in the current or previous edition(s) of the Singapore Art Show.

Participants are not required to submit actual art works for consideration. Photographic documentation of the art works should be submitted in a standardised A4 size (in both hard and soft copy format). The organisers may request to view actual art works before selection. The organizers are not responsible for the materials/photographic documentation submitted. Participants are required to notify the organizers in advance should they wish to collect the

materials/photographic documentation. The materials/photographic documentation will be disposed after the exhibition if not collected.

To enable the Selection Panel to better understand the submissions, participants are encouraged to enclose a short write-up and/or any relevant documents of themselves and the artworks (in both hard and soft copy format).

Application forms will be made available at NAC and SAM. The submission period is from **1 – 30 Jun 2009 (9am to 5pm)**. Late submissions will not be considered. Please deliver all entries to the following address:

**Singapore Art Exhibition Submission**

c/o

Miss Stella Lim

Singapore Art Museum

71 Bras Basah Road, Singapore 189555

**Selection of works**

All participants will be notified by post or email of the selection results and details of submission of the actual works.

The Organisers reserve the right not to respond to any request for explanations on the non-selection of specific artworks. Please note that SAM reserves the right to present the artwork in any of the 12 themes.

**Publicity & Prizes**

The Organizers reserve the right to reproduce the submitted images and documentation of the artworks for the catalogue and/or publicity purposes without the payment of any fee. This

right shall be in force for one year after the exhibition, for any post-exhibition publicity purposes.

### **Sales of works**

SAE is not intended to be a commercial event. Works shall not be sold during the period of the exhibition.

### **Collection of works**

Participants shall collect their artworks between 19 to 22 October 2009, after the show ends. The Organizers will not entertain requests for any exhibit to be removed or exchanged during the entire exhibition period.

The Organizers reserve the right to dispose of any uncollected works after the specified collection dates.

### **General**

Reasonable precautions will be undertaken to protect all artworks. The Organizers however, shall not be liable for any loss or damage done before, during and after the exhibition. Participants are advised to arrange for their own insurance coverage of art works, if necessary.

For further queries, please contact Miss Stella Lim at email address: [stella\\_lim@nhb.gov.sg](mailto:stella_lim@nhb.gov.sg) or tel. no. 63347919.

### **Background to the Singapore Art Exhibition 2009**

In its third edition, the *Singapore Art Exhibition 2009 (SAE2009)* is the main feature of the *Singapore Art Show*. While the Singapore Art Show is an umbrella platform dedicated to celebrating and presenting local visual arts and artists across diverse curatorial and artistic practices, the *SAE2009* offers a broad survey of Singapore art through the open section. The

Open section of SAE2007 featured about 60 Singapore-based artists from 749 entries selected by a Selection Panel.

### **SAE2009 Open Section**

#### **Working Title – ART BUFFET SINGAPORE!**

The buffet is a popular system of consuming food in Singapore as a city known for its love for food. The most common type is the 'all you can eat' buffet where customers help themselves to a spread of food at a fixed price. The buffet offers the advantage of choice to the consumer who is treated to a wide selection of dishes. Agency lies with consumers who serve themselves, determining what they want to eat.

The *Singapore Art Exhibition 2009* adopts the buffet as a mode of display and cultural consumption. Artists are empowered to select from a buffet spread of twenty themes to respond to. The economy of a buffet also offers a visual feast for audiences to attune themselves to the creative production of Singapore artists!

#### List of Possible Themes

1. Food
2. Material
3. Ritual
4. Spectrum
5. Signs
6. Gesture
7. Craft
8. Body
9. Time
10. Space
11. Order
12. Humour