

MEDIA RELEASE

NATIONAL GALLERY SINGAPORE DELIVERS ART EDUCATION BEYOND WALLS WITH NEW ROVING ART TRUCK

Singapore's first community art space on wheels travels to schools, spurring students to engage in imaginative storytelling and participatory activities with their peers



SINGAPORE, 14 June 2022 – National Gallery Singapore takes art education on the road to bring a fun and immersive learning experience to students. From July 2022, the Gallery's new *Roving Art Truck* will travel to Primary and Secondary schools across the country, inviting students to participate in hands-on interactive activities centred around artworks from the National Collection. Launched with support from Applied Materials, this new initiative builds on the Gallery's continued efforts to make art more accessible to the public through encounters beyond the museum's walls.

This unique art programme on wheels brings art encounters out of the museum and into familiar everyday spaces, inviting students to learn through play as they participate in activities with their peers and allow art educators to provide authentic art encounters for their students. The Art Truck encourages students to interact with the artworks and observe them up-close with a **Look, Imagine and Tell Stories!** feature wall, where they will be able to learn about artistic techniques and materials through 10 artworks from the National Collection by prominent Singaporean and Southeast Asian artists, including Georgette Chen, Jaafar Latiff and Raden Saleh. They will also be able to share their observations and thoughts, and co-create with their schoolmates via a collaborative **Inspiration Wall** and **Co-Creation Wall** – fostering curiosity, imagination and visual inquiry among students with community learning. Each school will receive the collaborative work by its students at the end of the Art Truck's visit.

Beyond the activities, artworks from the National Collection have also inspired the colours and patterns of the Truck's design. The colourful camouflage façade of the Truck offers students a vibrant environment to discover artworks beyond the conventional classroom and museum settings. Feedback from teachers and art educators were also taken into consideration when designing the Truck and its activities to best support a variety of students' development and learning outcomes. These include modular and portable props, making it easy to configure into different variations to suit the needs of different schools, education levels, locations and spaces.



Ms Suenne Megan Tan, Senior Director, Museum Planning and Audience Engagement, National Gallery Singapore says, “The Roving Art Truck is another signal of our commitment to offer accessible and inclusive art experiences for all audiences in fresh and novel ways. It is important to provide accessible resources and opportunities for audiences to engage with art, especially from a young age, to encourage play as a creative process and to allow for interdisciplinary learning and exploration of topics beyond their school syllabus. We are grateful to find a like-minded partner in Applied Materials who shares our vision to take art out into the community.”

As a major programme partner, Applied Materials will support the Roving Art Truck education programme over a period of three years – from 2022 to 2024.

Mr. Brian Tan, Vice President, Applied Global Services and Regional President, Applied Materials South East Asia Pte. Ltd. says, “As a company built on innovation, we understand the power of focusing creative minds on solving complex challenges and developing new

breakthroughs. We believe that art plays a vital role in inspiring a creative spirit and a vibrant community, thus we are proud to support National Gallery Singapore's Roving Art Truck programme to enhance art learning in Singapore and nurture intuition, creativity and learning agility amongst our younger generation."



The Roving Art Truck will premiere at Children's Festival 2022 at Gardens by the Bay on 18 and 19 June. Members of the public are invited to be one of the first to experience the Roving Art Truck at Supertree Grove and participate in various art-making activities under the magnificent Supertrees. As the school semester begins in July, the truck will begin its journey to seven schools, including Bedok Green Primary School, Park View Primary School, Saint Anthony's Canossian Secondary School and Xinmin Secondary School.

AN ARRAY OF ART EDUCATION RESOURCES

The Roving Art Truck adds to a range of free educational resources the Gallery has developed to enhance art learning and foster appreciation for art amongst students. Schools and educators have access to a range of onsite and online programmes to tailor to their students and carry out deeper discussions about the works beyond the walls of the museum.

Available for loans to schools, the Gallery's *Travelling Art Carts!* introduce children to the basics of lacquer and batik painting, as well as offer a glimpse of yesteryear with dioramas and paintings by prominent regional artists. These mobile museum art education stations encourage role-playing and imaginative conversations on art, history and social studies, providing a dynamic learning experience for students.

The Gallery also offers an e-learning programme, the *Virtual Assembly Programme*, for Primary and Secondary School students. Featuring a series of videos, quizzes and drawing

activities, teachers can complement classroom learning with online lessons for a blended learning experience.

Within the museum, the Gallery has also developed a range of education programmes, focusing on interaction and co-creation to encourage younger audiences to learn about art through play. This includes the beloved children's festival *Gallery Children's Biennale* which feature immersive installations that foster curiosity and encourage art making. Visitors will also be able to visit the Gallery's Keppel Centre for Art Education – a dynamic space dedicated to offering workshops, immersive experiences and activities centred around art for youth, children and families.

Media assets are accessible via [this link](#). Information on referenced artworks in Roving Art Truck is in [Annex A](#) and information on activities that students can engage with in the Roving Art Truck is in [Annex B](#). More information on the Gallery's other art education outreach resources and programmes for schools can be found in [Annex C](#).

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About National Gallery Singapore

National Gallery Singapore is a leading visual arts institution which oversees the world's largest public collection of Singapore and Southeast Asian modern art. Situated at the birthplace of modern Singapore, in the heart of the Civic District, the Gallery is housed in two national monuments - City Hall and former Supreme Court - that have been beautifully restored and transformed into this exciting 64,000 square metre venue. Reflecting Singapore's unique heritage and geographical location, the Gallery aims to be a progressive museum that creates dialogues between the art of Singapore, Southeast Asia and the world to foster and inspire a creative and inclusive society. This is reflected in our collaborative research, education, long-term and special exhibitions, and innovative programming. The Gallery also works with international museums such as Centre Pompidou, Musée d'Orsay, Tate Britain, National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (MOMAT) and National Museum of Modern and





Contemporary Art, Korea (MMCA), to jointly present Southeast Asian art in the global context, positioning Singapore as a key node in the global visual arts scene.

In 2020, the Gallery was the only museum in Southeast Asia that received a ranking in The Art Newspaper's annual global survey of attendance at art museums, taking 20th place. It was the first museum in Asia to receive the Children in Museums Award by the European Museum Academy and Hands On! International Association of Children in Museums in 2018. The Gallery also won the awards for "Best Theme Attraction" at TTG Travel Awards 2017, "Best Attraction Experience", "Breakthrough Contribution to Tourism" and "Best Customer Service (Attractions)" at the prestigious Singapore Tourism Awards in 2016 for its role in adding to the vibrancy of Singapore's tourism landscapes.

About Applied Materials




Applied Materials, Inc. (Nasdaq: AMAT) is the leader in materials engineering solutions used to produce virtually every new chip and advanced display in the world. Our expertise in modifying materials at atomic levels and on an industrial scale enables customers to transform possibilities into reality. At Applied Materials, our innovations make possible a better future. Learn more at www.appliedmaterials.com.

ANNEX A: LIST OF 10 ARTWORKS REFERENCED IN ROVING ART TRUCK

Singapore Collection	
	<p>Liu Kang <i>Life by the River</i> 1975 Oil on canvas 126 x 203 cm Gift of the artist Collection of National Gallery Singapore</p>
	<p>Chua Mia Tee <i>Portable Cinema</i> 1977 Oil on canvas 76.9 x 78.2 cm Gift of Times Publishing Limited Collection of National Gallery Singapore</p>
	<p>Georgette Chen <i>Singapore Waterfront</i> c. 1963 Oil on canvas 50 x 61 cm Gift of Lee Foundation Collection of National Gallery Singapore</p>
	<p>Suzann Victor <i>Yellow Ochre Digits</i> c. 1988–1989 Oil on canvas, 93.8 x 167 cm Gift of Yeap Lam Yang Collection of National Gallery Singapore</p>
	<p>Jaafar Latiff <i>Wandering Series 19/76</i> 1976 Batik 100 x 100 cm Gift of the artist Collection of National Gallery Singapore Image courtesy of Jaafar Latiff's family</p>
Southeast Asia Collection	
	<p>Raden Saleh <i>Boschbrand (Forest Fire)</i> 1849 Oil on canvas 300 x 396 cm Collection of National Gallery Singapore This work has been adopted by Yong Hon Kong Foundation</p>
	<p>Galo B. Ocampo <i>Moro Dance</i> 1946 Oil on canvas, 94.4 x 74 cm Collection of National Gallery Singapore</p>

	<p>Hernando R. Ocampo <i>Dancing Mutants</i> 1965 Oil on canvas 101.8 x 76 cm Collection of National Gallery Singapore</p>
	<p>Lê Phổ <i>Harmony in Green: The Two Sisters</i> c. 1938 Gouache on silk 54 x 45 cm Collection of National Gallery Singapore</p>
	<p>Ahmad Sadali <i>Skyline of New York</i> 1957 Oil on canvas 47 x 75 cm Collection of National Gallery Singapore</p>

ANNEX B: ACTIVITIES IN ART ROVING TRUCK

 <p>The poster for the Inspiration Wall features a vibrant, abstract background of overlapping colorful shapes in shades of pink, blue, green, and yellow. At the top, the text reads "INSPIRATION WALL" and "How have the artworks inspired you?"</p>	<p>Inspiration Wall</p> <p>Students can write about their favourite artwork or draw them on post-it notes to add to the Inspiration Wall.</p> <p>Encourages students to articulate meaning and discuss their favourite artwork with their peers.</p>
 <p>The poster titled "LOOK, IMAGINE AND TELL THE STORIES!" has a colorful abstract background. It displays several small framed images of artworks arranged in a grid. Below the images are three speech bubbles containing questions: "What emotions do you feel when you look at this artwork?", "What do you think the artist was trying to say?", and "How do you think the artist felt when they created this artwork?"</p>	<p>Look, Imagine and Tell Stories!</p> <p>Students can closely observe artworks and identify visual qualities to nurture their visual literacy. They can ask questions and gather information to make meaning of what they see.</p>
 <p>The poster for the Co-Creation Wall features a white background with a large central grey square. It is surrounded by a decorative border of colorful abstract shapes. The text includes "CO-CREATION WALL", "Artists portray what is meaningful to them in their artworks. What is something meaningful about your life in school that you'd like to explore?", "LEAVE YOUR NAME!", and "ADD A SPLASH OF COLOUR!". There are also small icons of people and a list of names.</p>	<p>Co-Creation Wall</p> <p>The Art Roving Truck features a 30ft wall at the end of the truck, where students are encouraged to participate in a collaborative artwork using stickers from the truck's motifs.</p> <p>Students can express their creativity and share thoughts and feelings through art making.</p>

ANNEX C: NATIONAL GALLERY SINGAPORE'S ART EDUCATION OUTREACH PROGRAMMES FOR SCHOOLS

Travelling Art Carts!

Available all year round to schools

Learn about artworks from the National Collection at the Gallery's Traveling Art Carts! Featuring four different themes, these mobile museum art education stations introduce children to the basics of lacquer and batik painting, as well as offer a glimpse of yesteryear with dioramas.

Here They Come!



Here They Come! was painted by Koeh Sia Yong in 1965. The gestures and expressions of the street peddlers depicted, combined with the artwork's title, suggest that it captures the moment when they have spotted the authorities and are packing up their wares to escape trouble.

Life by the River



Life by the River portrays a typical scene of local village life in the 1970s near Pasir Panjang, located in the western part of Singapore. It was painted by Liu Kang, one of the most important pioneer artists in Singapore. Liu Kang was also one of the key figures in the development of Nanyang style of painting.

Batik Making



Batik painting is the process in which patterns or images are dyed onto fabric, usually using a wax-resist technique followed by the application of the dye.

The stations introduce audiences to two batik artworks by Southeast Asian artists Sarkasi Said and Jaafar Latif.

Viewers are encouraged to observe the colours and patterns, and share what the batik artworks remind them of.

Lacquer Making



Lacquer is a material that has been used for centuries throughout Asia. It is traditionally used to create paintings, as well as to embellish furniture or objects. There are many types of lacquer, which can be derived from sources ranging from plants to insects and resin. The material is extremely durable, and tends to be dry, hard and shiny. Coating objects with it gives them a glossy finish, but also makes them resistant to natural elements such as heat and water.

Virtual Assembly Programme (Online e-learning resource)

Since March 2021, the Gallery has offered Virtual Assembly Programme to schools to enhance art learning among students in Singapore.

Students of all levels are introduced to museum learning and the artwork collection with videos developed by the Gallery Education team.

During the Virtual Assembly Programme, students also get to participate in quick drawing and quizzes as they connect with the artwork collection.

Art Learning for Primary students during Virtual Assembly

Theme: Colours and Shapes

Featuring 2 artworks from the National Collection – *Horizontal I* by Choy Weng Yang and *Mergastua* by S.Mohdir, students learn about how artists use different shapes and colours to express their feelings and thoughts. They are then inspired to create their own abstract artwork by using different geometric or organic shapes.

Art Learning for Secondary students during Virtual Assembly

Theme: Community and Us

How do works of art reflect different communities? Featuring 2 artworks from the National Collection – *Forest Fire* by Raden Saleh and *War and Peace* by Hendra Gunawan, students learn about the artists' concerns and expressions about their communities. Students then reflect and create expressions of how they would depict the community that live in.