

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

What it is about when it is about nothing

25 SEPTEMBER – 25 OCTOBER 2015

Adeline Kueh, Ho Rui An, Homa Shojaie, Jennis Li Cheng Tien, Michael Lee, Perception3 (Regina De Rozario & Seah Sze Yunn), Robert Zhao.

Curated by Michael Lee

What it is about when it is about nothing is a group exhibition of works by 7 sets of artists curated by Michael Lee, which aims to broaden the discussions about Singapore art beyond the ongoing surge of thematic shows about Singapore identity, quirks and repressed histories. It aims firstly to explore the aesthetics of “nothing” in the context of an art scene anxious to assign something meaningful to artworks, and secondly to expand definitions of the “Singapore artist” beyond country of birth, nationality and base.

In this show, we present to you the work of 1 duo and 6 individual artists—Perception3 (Regina De Rozario & Seah Sze Yunn), Ho Rui An, Robert Zhao, Jennis Li Cheng Tien, Homa Shojaie, Adeline Kueh and Michael Lee—all exploring various issues pertaining to Singapore as a suggestion.

Ho Rui An, an artist and writer working in the intersections of contemporary art, cinema, performance and theory, will be exploring images that investigate their sites of emergence, transmission and disappearance. Through photographic portraits inspired by mentions of Singapore in world fiction, he examines the notion of Singapore as a cameo guest appearance. On the other hand, Robert Zhao's work, which addresses human's relationship with nature, pays close attention to a form of 'controlled coexistence'. Tainan-born, Berlin-based Singaporean Jennis Li Cheng Tien, who investigates values that humans place on ideas and things, will be showing sculptures including one consisting of almost identical keys. American Homa Shojaie, born in Iran, explores abstract paintings as 'veils'. Adeline Kueh—born in Sarawak, Malaysia, and is a Singapore permanent resident—makes installations that reconsider the relationship we have with objects and rituals. For this exhibition, she will explore the concept of vacancy as a sign of welcome and longing. Perception3 (Regina de Rozario & Seah Sze Yunn), devoted to exploring the themes of memory and loss in the city, will be showing a video that investigates the beauty of an empty void deck. Last but not least, Michael Lee, an artist and guest curator of the show, researches urban memory and fiction, as a way to review utopian ideals. He will be exhibiting a selection of photographs of shop interiors as spaces-in-transition.

In this eclectic exhibition, viewers are asked to question the essence of nothingness and Singapore as a suggestion.

Opening Reception

Friday, 25 September 2015, 6-9PM

The curator and the artists will be present.

Public Talk

"Nuance in the Age of Global Citizenship"

Saturday, 26 September 2015, 3-4PM

Speakers: Michael Lee, Adeline Kueh, Ho Rui An, Jennis Li Cheng Tien, Homa Shojaie

Moderator: Amelia Abdullahsani-Gerick

Free entrance, RSVP at info@mizuma.sg

Gallery Profile

Mizuma Gallery was established in Singapore's new art cluster Gillman Barracks in September 2012 by director Suelo Mizuma. The gallery was established in 1994 in Tokyo, and since its opening in Singapore aims for the promotion of Japanese artists in the region as well as the introduction of new and promising young talents from South East Asia to the international art scene. The gallery creates a new vector of dialogue within Asia, by exchanging art projects between East Asia and South East Asia.

Mizuma Gallery has featured the works of Japanese artists including Aida Makoto, Amano Yoshitaka, Tenmyouya Hisashi, and Yamaguchi Akira. Moreover it has showcased the work of renowned East Asian artists such as Jun Nguyen-Hatsushiba, Ai Weiwei, He Yunchang, Li Mingzhu, Xia Xing, and Zhao Zhao. The gallery also organises exhibitions featuring the creations of Indonesia's forerunner artists including Heri Dono, Nasirun, Made Wianta, Indieguerillas, Albert Yonathan Setyawan, and Angki Purbandono. Mizuma Gallery also participates yearly in Art Stage Singapore and Art Basel Hong Kong.

About Gillman Barracks

Gillman Barracks (GB) is Asia's up-and-coming destination for contemporary art. It is distinguished as a vibrant centre in Asia for the creation, exhibition and discussion of contemporary art. Named after the late British general Sir Webb Gillman, GB is now home to 11 international art galleries, three restaurants, as well as the NTU Centre for Contemporary Art (CCA) Singapore. For more information, please visit www.gillmanbarracks.com

Contact

For further inquiries and high resolution images, please contact the following:

Jane Koh: janekoh@mizuma.sg

Theresia Irma: theresia@mizuma.sg

Mizuma Gallery

22 Lock Road #01-34

Gillman Barracks

Singapore 108939, Singapore

T. +65 6570 2505

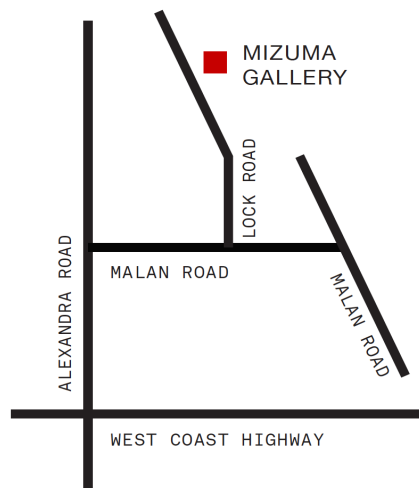
F. +65 6570 2506

www.mizuma.sg

info@mizuma.sg

Hours: Tue-Sat 11-7 Sun 11-6

Closed on Mondays & Public Holidays



Ho Rui An



Specialist

2015

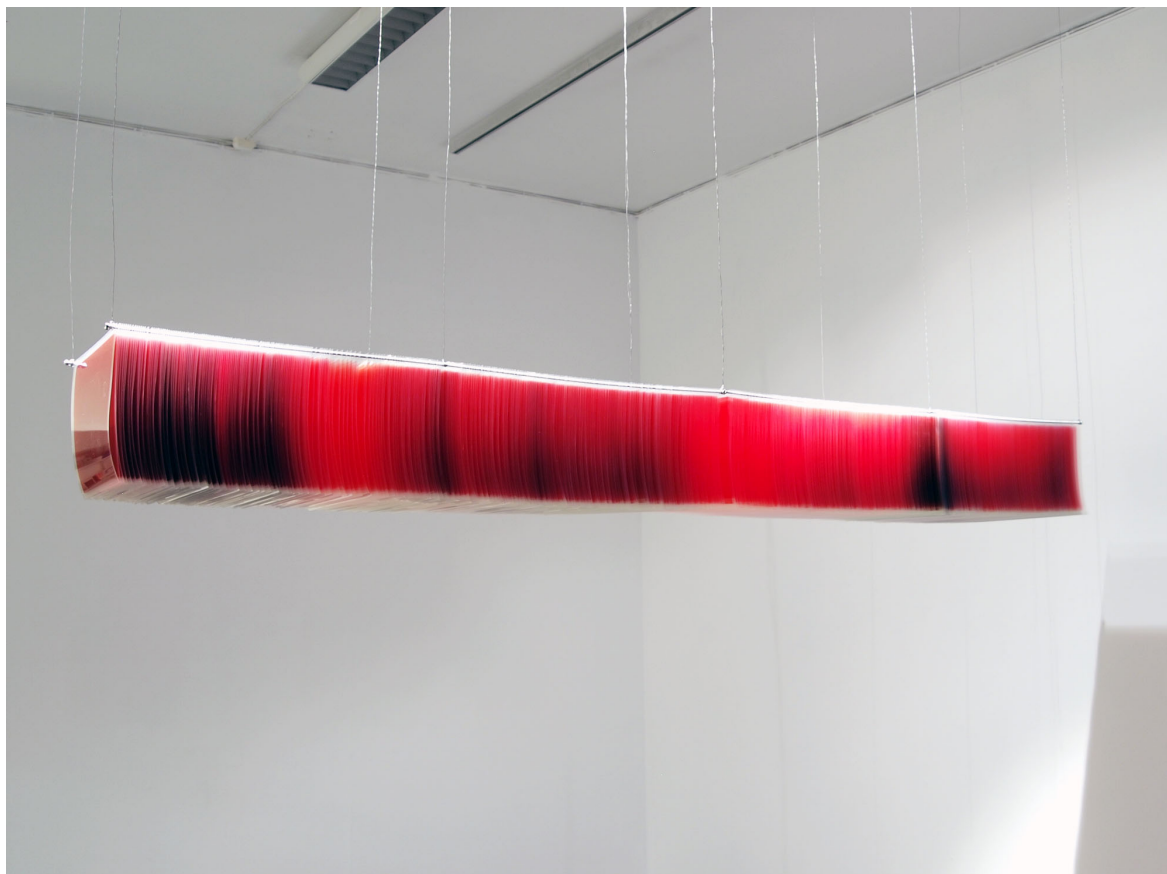
digital print on paper with aluminium mount

101.6 x 68.6 cm

© Ho Rui An,

Courtesy of Mizuma Gallery

Jennis Li Cheng Tien



The Specific Value ()

2013

832 OHP slides, inkjet ink, metal, wood, lights

200 x 29.7 x 21 cm

© Jennis Li Cheng Tien,
Courtesy of Mizuma Gallery

Perception3



Distances unfold at the speed of time (detail)

2015

digital print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag Satin paper (set of 3 prints per edition)

80 x 120 cm

© Perception3,
Courtesy of Mizuma Gallery