



SINGAPORE ART MUSEUM


YEAR IN REVIEW
23 / 24

SAM Curator Selene Yap with artist Simryn Gill behind the scenes
at *Simryn Gill & Charles Lim Yi Yong: The Sea is a Field.*



Looking back on 2023, we want to extend our heartfelt appreciation to the artists, donors, partners, and visitors who have played a crucial role in supporting and collaborating with us at Singapore Art Museum. Your generous contributions have enabled us to curate a diverse array of compelling art experiences, extending beyond Tanjong Pagar Distripark and enriching the local neighbourhood and surrounding region.

The theme of this year's Annual Report, "The SAM Connection", is a dedication to SAM's continuous efforts to spotlight local artists in Singapore and present them on local, regional and international scales. Moving forward, we aim to continue offering vibrant and thought-provoking encounters through contemporary art, while fostering connections with an ever-expanding audience and communities to create a brighter future through art.



Singapore Art Museum, also known as SAM, presents contemporary art from a Southeast Asian perspective in multiple venues across the island, including the historic port area of Tanjong Pagar, for artists, art lovers, and the art curious.

ABOUT SAM

SAM will present contemporary art from a Southeast Asian perspective in active dialogue, discovery and collaboration with our constituents; through our collection, research, exhibitions and programmes.

MISSION

VISION

SAM will inspire humane and sustainable futures through transformative, thought-provoking and meaningful everyday encounters with art of our times.

JOINT MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER & DIRECTOR



SAM is steadfast in its mission to present contemporary art from a Southeast Asian perspective, fostering innovative dialogue and active collaboration with our communities to elevate society through art. As Singapore's first contemporary art museum, SAM is dedicated to expanding its influence, spotlighting local artists, and partnering with various communities to present Singaporean contemporary art on both local and international stages. Our annual report, titled "The SAM Connection", encapsulates our continuous engagement, showcasing a diverse range of contemporary art from Singapore and highlighting SAM's global presence through exhibitions and collaborations.

Over the years, SAM has consistently spotlighted contemporary art by Singaporean artists, hosting solo and group exhibitions across the island and beyond. Exhibitions like *Lila: by Jane Lee* has introduced local and international audiences to new ways of experiencing art that goes beyond traditional presentations, featuring a mix of acquired and newly commissioned works. Furthermore, the celebrated Singaporean artist Ho Tzu Nyen's first solo mid-career exhibition at SAM, *Ho Tzu Nyen: Time & The Tiger*, has garnered critical acclaim, showcasing his varied works and extensive research and underscoring SAM's commitment



to addressing contemporary global issues while elevating local talent. Beyond partnerships with other global arts institutions to co-commission works, the show will continue to travel to Seoul, New York, and Luxembourg, exemplifying SAM's efforts to broaden and globalise the production and curatorial support given to contemporary artists from Singapore and the region.

This year, SAM has endeavoured to enhance its relationships with our artists, constituents, community, and global art institutions around the world. Through close collaborative efforts with our artists to present the art of our times, the inaugural edition of SAM Contemporaries featured artists working alongside SAM curators to co-develop



“At SAM, we strive to push the boundaries of what a contemporary art museum should be in today’s world. We accomplish this by showcasing Singapore and Southeast Asian contemporary art and practices while creating impactful and meaningful art experiences that resonate with our audiences. Flourishing beyond Tanjong Pagar Distripark and the region, we strive to establish and maintain strong connections with our supporters and bring the best of our local and regional contemporary artists and works to a global audience.”

programmes and presentations that spotlight emerging practices and generative trends in contemporary art. The inner workings of SAM’s Fellowship Programme were shared with our audiences in *Simryn Gill & Charles Lim Yi Yong: The Sea is a Field*, as SAM upholds its support of deep, open-ended inquiry through long-term investment in artistic processes. We have also reached across international waters to forge new connections with institutions such as the Han Nefkens Foundation, Mori Art Museum, and M+, Hong Kong, coming together to present *47-days, Soundless* as part of the biennial Moving Image Commission grant. Through diverse research and exhibition offerings, SAM has solidified its position as a museum of international significance through forward-looking partnerships with the Seoul Museum of Art and the Queensland Art Gallery—Gallery of Modern Art in collaborative commissions, research, publishing, and programming, which culminated in its first iterative project, *The Part In The Story Where Our Accumulating Dust Becomes A Mountain*, presented in Seoul this year. By building close ties with our international partners, SAM maintains strong relationships, fostering connections and delving into the diverse perspectives and future possibilities that the contemporary art industry offers.

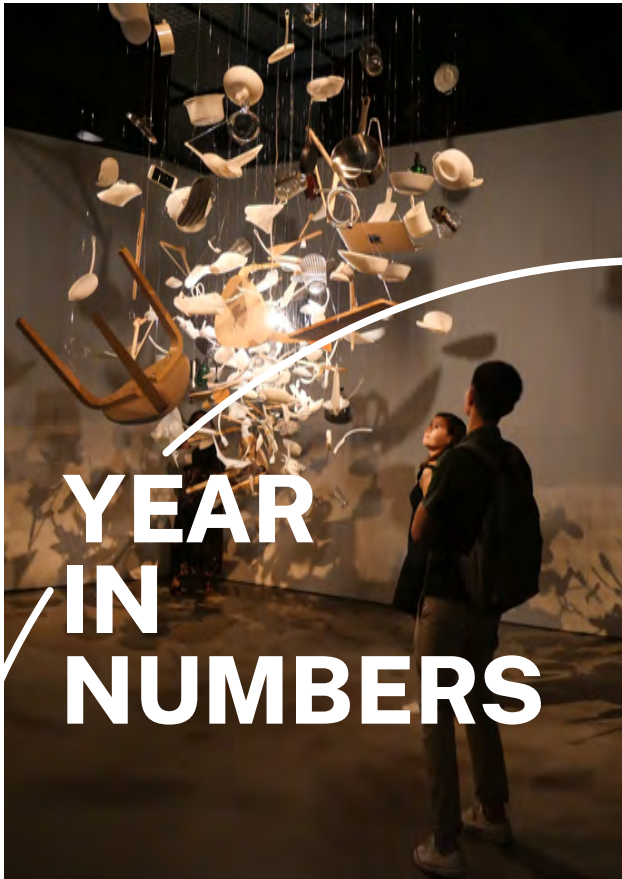
Expanding its presence from Tanjong Pagar Distripark, SAM grows outwards as a vibrant arts destination and is broadening its array of offerings across everyday spaces and across the region and beyond. At Tanjong Pagar Distripark, SAM opened its third gallery space, which was inaugurated with *Proof of Personhood*, an experimental presentation of works through diverse digital mediums exploring present-day dialogues on digitalisation and identity. By connecting audiences with versatile, experimental art of the present, innovative programmes and discursive spaces

for conversations to occur, SAM’s commitment to driving criticality on new modes of art and exhibition-making reflects its vision for curatorial programming that inspires audiences and redefines the boundaries of contemporary art. In addition to its museum space, SAM has also launched two public art trails, *Port/raits of Tanjong Pagar* and *Singapore Deviation*, as part of The Everyday Museum initiative. Through the creation of new commissions in nine different locations within the historic Tanjong Pagar neighbourhood and the iconic Rail Corridor, The Everyday Museum embodies SAM’s vision of making contemporary art more accessible. By integrating meaningful art encounters into the island’s urban landscape, SAM intends to spark interest and curiosity in art among diverse audiences from all walks of life.

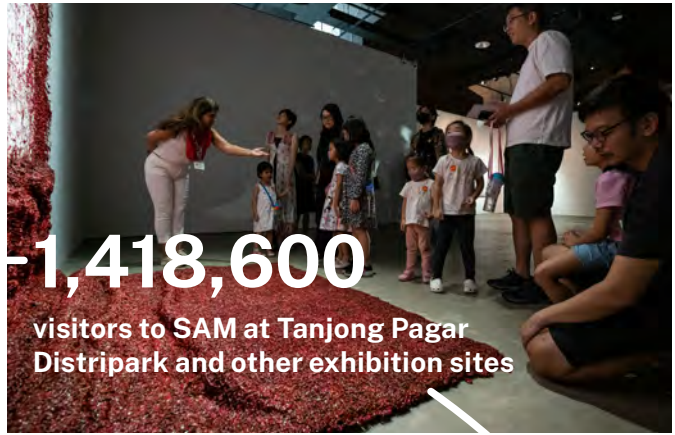
As a pioneering and inclusive institution, SAM’s ultimate aim is to transform barriers into opportunities for meaningful engagement with the public and our constituents, connecting communities through contemporary art and collectively envisioning a brighter future.

Edmund Cheng
Chairman

Eugene Tan
Chief Executive Officer and Director

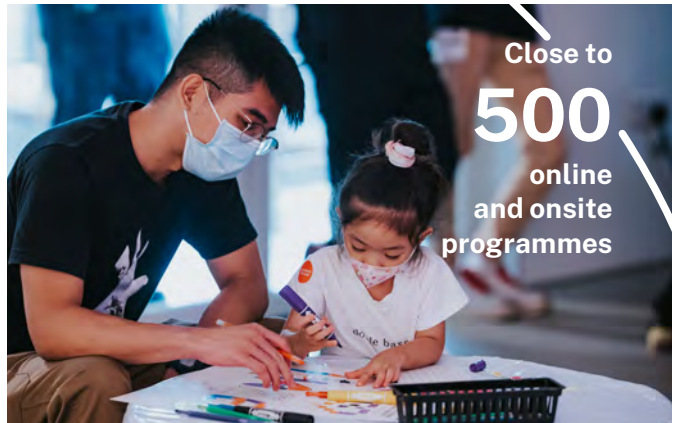


YEAR IN NUMBERS



1,418,600

visitors to SAM at Tanjong Pagar
Distripark and other exhibition sites



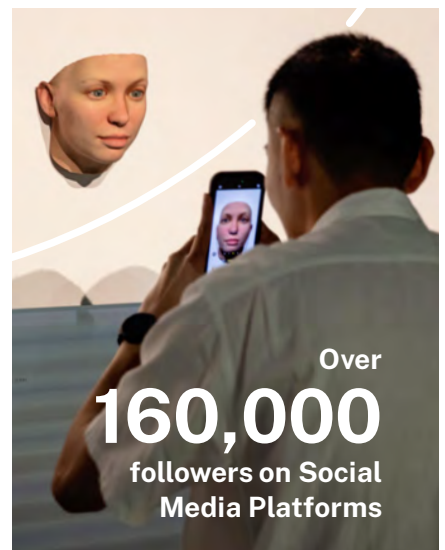
Close to
500
online
and onsite
programmes



Collaborated
with over
200
artists, partners,
residents, collaborators
and collectives



Presented art
in **20**
locations across
Singapore



Over
160,000
followers on Social
Media Platforms

* These figures above cover the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 and are rounded off to the nearest hundred. Social media platforms include Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, TikTok, and LinkedIn.

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23/24

PAIRING ART AND AUDIENCES



Artist Anthony Chin giving visitors a tour of *From Silver to Steel*
at SAM Contemporaries: Residues & Remixes.



In line with our commitment to uplift society through art, SAM has expanded its footprint within Tanjong Pagar Distripark and beyond to share a broader range of contemporary art exhibitions with our audiences and constituents. From spotlighting local artists to striking new digital offerings and versatile exhibitions, SAM remains dedicated to presenting innovative, forward-looking art experiences and inspiring imaginings of a better future.

Visitor at *im here to learn so :))))* (2018) by Zach Bias and Jemima Wyman, as part of *Proof of Personhood: Identity and Authenticity in the Face of Artificial Intelligence*.

EXHIBITIONS AT TANJONG PAGAR DISTRIPARK



Visitors at *Lila: Unending Play* by Jane Lee.

Lila: Unending Play **by Jane Lee**

Lila: Unending Play by Jane Lee is the solo exhibition of Singapore artist Jane Lee. It encapsulates her search for the nature of painting: as surface, object, body, and interplay of spaces and sensations. The exhibition expands the possibility of what an exhibition of painting could be and embodies playfulness, not just in the works themselves but in the spatial relationship between the viewer and the works.

SAM Contemporaries: Residues & Remixes

SAM Contemporaries is a biennial project that serves as a platform for experimentation through close collaboration between artists and curators. In the inaugural edition, *Residues & Remixes*, the exhibition explores the intersections of history narrative and contemporary experience. Featuring six Singapore-based artists, Yeyonn Ann Avis, Anthony Chin, Priyageetha Dia, Fyerool Darma, Khairulddin Wahab, and Moses Tan, their works highlight the impact of historical remnants on the present as well as the influence of new technologies on how we see, experience, and understand the world.



Installation view of Fyerool Darma's *Total Output* featuring Aleezon, berukera, billyX, Jasim, Lee Khee San, Lé Luhur and rawanXberdenyut (2023), as part of SAM Contemporaries: *Residues & Remixes*.



In this exhibition, artists adopt new methods and approaches rooted in de- and post-colonial perspectives to engage with residues of time and place, excavate hidden histories and uncover forgotten stories. With an eye on the impact of digital technologies on contemporary experiences, the artists unveil intersections between the past and the present.”

— SAM Contemporaries:
Residues & Remixes



Installation view of Hito Steyerl's *Factory of the Sun* (2015).

Hito Steyerl: Factory of the Sun

Presented for the first time in Southeast Asia, *Hito Steyerl: Factory of the Sun* is a video installation investigating the endless circulation of information (and misinformation) in our digital landscape today. Through the installation, an alternate reality of YouTube dance videos, drone surveillance footage, video games and fictitious news segments extends beyond the screen, immersing and connecting viewers to the physical gallery through the virtual world of the film.

Proof of Personhood: Identity and Authenticity in the Face of Artificial Intelligence

In an era dominated by social media and digital tools for self-presentation, authenticity is a valuable commodity. *Proof of Personhood: Identity and Authenticity in the Face of Artificial Intelligence* explores the unstable relationship between identity, agency and authenticity in popular culture and emerging technology, probing the nature of personhood in the 21st century.



Installation view of Christopher Kulendran Thomas & Annika Kuhlmann's *Being Human* (2019/2022), as part of *Proof of Personhood: Identity and Authenticity in the Face of Artificial Intelligence*.



Installation view of Ho Tzu Nyen's *One or Several Tigers* (2017), as part of *Ho Tzu Nyen: Time & the Tiger*.

Ho Tzu Nyen: Time & the Tiger

Ho Tzu Nyen: Time & the Tiger is a mid-career survey exhibition of the artist's practice that spans two decades worth of paintings, films, theatrical performances, and video installations. Featuring Ho's expansive body of works, the exhibition investigates the construction of history, the narrative of myths and the plurality of identities across embodied experiences of time.

Ho Tzu Nyen: Time & the Tiger is co-organised between Singapore Art Museum and Art Sonje Center (ASJC). Following the presentation at SAM, the exhibition travels to ASJC in Seoul from 4 June to 4 August 2024, and Hessel Museum of Art in New York from 22 June to 1 December 2024.

“The question is, can all these scales of time co-exist and thrive simultaneously? It is this possibility that fascinates me.”

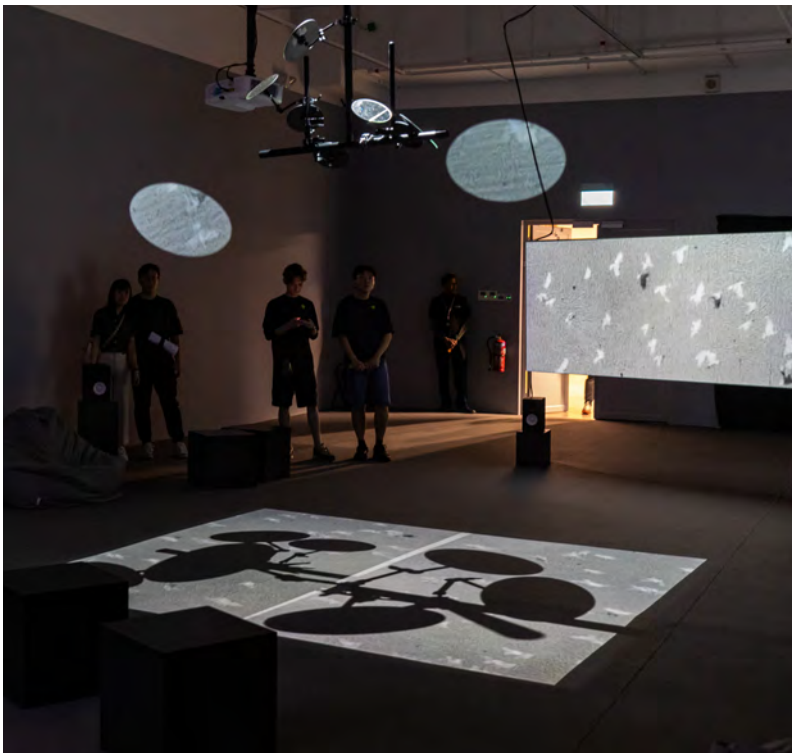
— Ho Tzu Nyen



Installation view of Simryn Gill's *Untitled* (2014), as part of *Simryn Gill & Charles Lim Yi Yong: The Sea is a Field*.

Simryn Gill & Charles Lim Yi Yong: *The Sea is a Field*

Simryn Gill & Charles Lim Yi Yong: The Sea is a Field showcases the inner workings of the SAM Fellowship Programme — an initiative through which the museum and curators support the research and interests of our artists. Centered on cross-border movements, this presentation reflects on the journeys undertaken by local artists Simryn Gill and Charles Lim Yi Yong between Port Dickson, Malaysia, and Singapore. Their installation at Blk 37's portside warehouse reminds us of how the region's culture and climate shape the way we navigate the world.



Installation view of Nguyễn Trinh Thi's *47 Days, Sound-less* (2024).

Nguyễn Trinh Thi: *47 Days, Sound-less*

47 Days, Sound-less by Vietnamese artist Nguyễn Trinh Thi is a film that explores the relationships between sound and silence, vision, language, colours and their absence. Exploring new ways of looking and listening, the film engages an array of soundtracks and natural landscapes to reflect on the relationships between places and their inhabitants.

47 Days, Sound-less by Nguyễn Trinh Thi is commissioned by the Han Nefkens Foundation, Mori Art Museum, M+, Hong Kong and Singapore Art Museum — Moving Image Commission 2021.

EXHIBITIONS BEYOND TANJONG PAGAR DISTRI PARK

HzHz

In reference to the unit of measurement for frequency, hertz (Hz), which describes the electrical current passing through the polymer-dispersed liquid crystal (PDLC) to generate images, *HzHz* by Chok Si Xuan invites viewers to experience the unseen pulses of screens and contemplate the relationship between humans and machines.

In partnership with the National Library Board Singapore, the exhibition was showcased across regional libraries (Tampines, Woodlands, Jurong, and Punggol) in Singapore.



Installation view of Chok Si Xuan's *HzHz* (2023) at Tampines Regional Library.



Bahar Noorizadeh with Rudá Babau, and *Waste Paper Opera* (Klara Kofen, James Oldham, Gary Zhexi Zhang, Anna Palmer), *Free to Choose* (2023), as part of *Open Systems 1: Open Worlds* under SAM's virtual initiative.

Open Systems 1.0: Open Worlds

As part of SAM's new digital initiative, *Open Systems (OS) 1.0: Open Worlds* explores the impacts of digital culture on creative expression by exploring video games as sites of production and intervention across real and virtual worlds. The browser-based platform hosts and documents online interventions and virtual programmes that unfold across six thematic chapters, opening possibilities for reimagining our shared virtual spaces and their reflections upon physical realities.



Exhibition view of *The Part In The Story Where Our Accumulating Dust Becomes A Mountain*, Seoul Museum of Art. Image courtesy of Seoul Museum of Art. Photo: Cocoa Pictures.

The Part In The Story Where Our Accumulating Dust Becomes A Mountain

The Part In The Story Where Our Accumulating Dust Becomes A Mountain is a collaboration between the Queensland Art Gallery—Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA) in Brisbane and Seoul Museum of Art (SeMA) in Seoul. Exploring contemporary art museums' role in 'sharing,' challenging ideas and practices, this exhibition serves as a place to encounter, gather and take part in a journey to produce collective values and shared experiences amidst misunderstandings, differences and surprises with the unexpected.



BRINGING THE INDOORS OUT

Visitors during a curator tour of *Portraits of Tanjong Pagar:*
Encounters with Art in the Neighbourhood.

Dedicated to supporting artistic practice in public spaces, The Everyday Museum, a public art initiative of SAM, is a platform for artists to engage in creative production and experimentation, aiming to transform everyday experiences into meaningful encounters. This year, SAM continues to infuse art into the fabric of everyday spaces around Singapore with the launch of two new public art trails, extending our artwork commissions beyond Tanjong Pagar Distripark. Through site-responsive installations and projects, and place-based programmes, The Everyday Museum fosters dialogue and social connections through art, offering renewed perspectives on daily life and routine.



Visitors at a curator tour of *Port/raits of Tanjong Pagar: Encounters with Art in the Neighbourhood*.



Installation view of Divaagar's *Everfowl Estate* (2023), as part of *Port/raits of Tanjong Pagar: Encounters with Art in the Neighbourhood*.

Port/raits of Tanjong Pagar: Encounters with Art in the Neighbourhood

Commissioned by The Everyday Museum, *Port/raits of Tanjong Pagar* is a series of public artworks by six locally-based artists and collective: Aki Hassan, Divaagar, Space Objekt, Grace Tan, Zen Teh and Isabelle Teng, across public spaces between Outram Park MRT and SAM at Tanjong Pagar Distripark. Responding to the dramatic transformations of the district over the decades, artworks in this public art trail draw attention to multifaceted urban life. Against the district's rich history as a hub of industrial and economic growth, *Port/raits of Tanjong Pagar* offers an invitation to slow down and take in alternative perspectives of the well-known neighbourhood.

Port/raits of Tanjong Pagar is made possible through venue partnerships with Mapletree Investment Pte Ltd, National Parks Board, and Tanjong Pagar Town Council, with support from the HDB Lively Places Programme.



Singapore Deviation: Wander with Art Through the Rail Corridor

Off the beaten track of the Singapore Rail Corridor, *Singapore Deviation* is a series of site-specific public art commissions by local artists Sookoon Ang, Hilmi Johandi, and Tan Pin Pin. Each installation offers a unique entry point to the evolving public uses of the site, from its history as a colonial railway to a wildlife corridor and its continued presence as a recreational trail. Beyond just a space of transit, the trail sets up encounters with a range of figures, messages and sensations to enable varied experiences of the Rail Corridor, both of its histories and current use.

Singapore Deviation is made possible with the generous support of Sun Venture and in venue partnership with JTC, SBS Transit, and Land Transport Authority.

Installation view of Hilmi Johandi's *Stagecraft: Landscaped Grounds* (2023), as part of *Singapore Deviation: Wander with Art through the Rail Corridor*.



Installation view of Genevieve Chua's *Prove You Are Human* (2023), as part of *The Everyday Museum*.

Prove You Are Human

In an increasingly algorithmically motivated and automated world, how does one identify a real user among automated users? In *Prove You Are Human*, Singaporean artist Genevieve Chua employs a method of working that unfurls and reveals the painter's process through diagram, palimpsest, syntax, and the glitch. Presented on the building facade of Blk 39 Tanjong Pagar Distripark where SAM is located, the CAPTCHA codes seen in the artwork verbalise and ring alongside the humdrum of the Distripark's surrounding traffic and movement.



Visitors at public art programmes as part of *The Everyday Museum*.

Public Art Programmes

Drawing on subjects arising from the public art commissions on view, *A Weekend with The Everyday Museum* is a series of programmes spanning participatory, multidisciplinary and intersectoral formats that aim to engage with our everyday sights, sounds and uses of various places. The bi-monthly series *Look Up, Slow Down, and Pause Here* explores the intersections between public art and other fields of interest including environmentalism, urban anthropology and design, bridging connections and opening up different ways of understanding our world through slow and mindful looking.

COLLECTING FROM THE WORLD



Installation view of Moses Tan's *a caveat, a score* (2023),
as part of *SAM Contemporaries: Residues & Remixes*.



This FY2023, SAM's collection has grown by 14 acquisitions from local and international artists across multiple disciplines. This year, we remain committed to focusing on the art of the present through growing a distinct and diverse collection with significant works on local, regional, and international scales. From captivating mixed-media artworks, striking filmic presentations, and immersive audio-visual installations, these artworks highlight contemporary issues and shine a spotlight on the connectedness of local art and artists with our globalised world.

Visitors at Moses Tan's *a caveat, a score* (2023), as part of SAM *Contemporaries: Residues & Remixes*.



Installation view of Ong Kian Peng's *The Viscous Sea* (2022), as part of Singapore Biennale 2022.

The Viscous Sea

2022
6-channel film, 5.1 channel sound
Collection of Singapore Art Museum

The Viscous Sea is an immersive audio-visual installation that explores the environmental impacts arising from the continual destruction of the Dead Sea. Drawing inspiration from Timothy Morton's notion of the viscous hyper object, the installation contemplates how ecological consequences enmesh us all, binding us within the metaphorical yet sticky reality of climate change.



Installation view of Jane Lee's *Hollow and Empty* (2023) as part of *Lila: Unending Play* by Jane Lee.

Hollow and Empty

2023

Mirror-finish stainless steel, polyurethane paint, wood, acrylic

Collection of Singapore Art Museum

In *Hollow and Empty*, Lee searches for the essence of life and of “life in painting”, testing the limits of what is considered painting and where it may exist. Here, space, light, reflection and shadows are the mediums, and their appearance shifts with the viewers’ moving bodies and wandering gaze.

a caveat, a score

2023

Polymer clay, powder-coated mild steel, print on paper, video, found objects

Collection of Singapore Art Museum

a caveat, a score comprises found objects and furniture, photographic prints, drawings, video and polymer clay sculptures fashioned after botanical and zoological forms, which come together as an installation reminiscent of a set design. Here, Moses Tan explores the concepts of duality and fluidity by employing words and ideas with multiple meanings as analogies for queerness, failure and affect.



Installation view of Moses Tan's *a caveat, a score* (2023), as part of *SAM Contemporaries: Residues & Remixes*.



Installation view of Ho Tzu Nyen's *CDOSEA* (2017—Ongoing), as part of *Ho Tzu Nyen: Time & The Tiger*.

CDOSEA

2017—Ongoing

Single-channel projection, 16:9, colour, 5-channel sound, infinite duration

Collection of Singapore Art Museum

CDOSEA was born from Ho's longest-running project, *The Critical Dictionary of Southeast Asia* (2012—). It centres on the question: “What makes Southeast Asia a unified region when it has never been bound by a single religion, language, or political system?” Using an algorithmic editing system that generates randomised sequences from a database of clips, sounds, and subtitles, *CDOSEA* offers a glimpse into Southeast Asia's diverse and dynamic histories.

BRIDGING IDEAS



Ritual to Books, a performance as part of *Heterotopia Library* with collaborators Ng Chor Guan, Neil Chua and Zhao Zihao. Conceived by Winnie Li and Chong Lingying in conjunction with *Critical Alliances | In Conversation With*. Image courtesy of Joseph Nair.



SAM's curatorial projects play a pivotal role in connecting the public with contemporary art practices by engaging artists, collaborators, and the community. Through collaborative efforts and meaningful art encounters, we continue to nurture relationships, support artists, and enhance their understanding and experiences in contemporary art.

Heterotopia Library by Winnie Li and Chong Lingying in conjunction with *Critical Alliances | In Conversation With*, by SAM Residencies.

Curatorial Programmes

SAM's curatorial programmes facilitated deeper engagement with exhibition themes through artist talks, scholarly dialogues, and participatory initiatives. SAM's *Skill Futures* series explored the screen as a speculative medium of the future through performances, workshops, and lectures. Events such as *Hari Ini: A Gathering for 'Time & the Tiger'* and *Proof of Personhood: In the Shadow of the Cosmic*, alongside academic discussions such as *Asia's Carbon Territories: Infrastructure, Environment & Society from the Age of Imperialism to the Climate Crisis*, offered diverse explorations of contemporary issues.



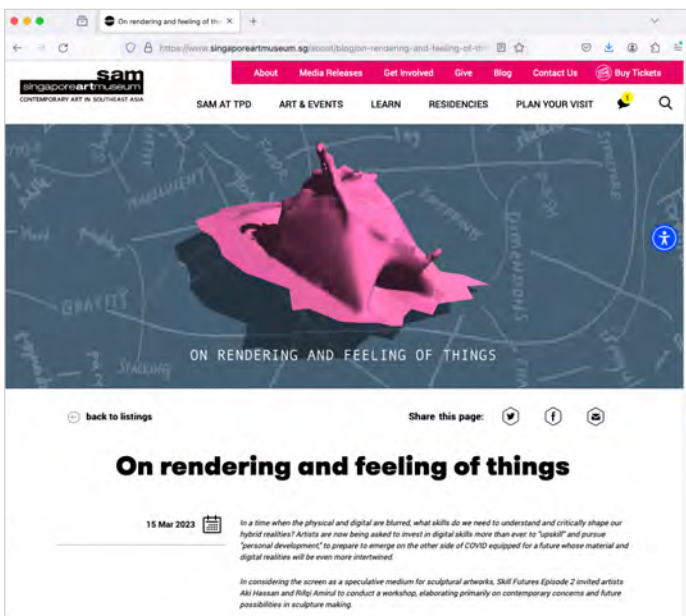
Performance still of *in the shadow of the cosmic*, presented as part of *Proof of Personhood: Identity & Authenticity in the Face of AI*.



PG Lee's performance, *The Spin (Nothing to See Here)*, as part of *Critical Alliances | In Conversations With* by SAM Residencies.

SAM Residencies

This year saw the beginning of *SAM Residencies Cycle 2*, which commenced in July 2023 and comprised 16 individuals from 14 countries so far. This year saw 37 public programmes and 7 closed-door programmes, and SAM Residencies' first large-scale presentation, *Critical Alliances*, saw the presentation of 9 work-in-progress pieces from 10 residents, all developed while in residence in Singapore.



Publications & Collabs

In tandem with the exhibitions, SAM produces online blog posts to enhance reader engagement and understanding. These posts showcase SAM's permanent collection, feature interviews with collaborating artists, and offer insights into the art industry, presenting learning opportunities for the public to explore the art scene.

An interview with Kapilan Naidu for *Art in the Commons: Data Visualising Jurong*.

LEARNING TOGETHER



Participants of *Hello Future: Let's Go Hand in Hand*, as part of Think! Contemporary Preschool's 2023 exhibition.

SAM remains dedicated to fostering the education and appreciation of contemporary art among younger generations. Through a wide array of programmes and initiatives, we cultivate opportunities for students of all ages and levels to actively participate in contemporary art, nurturing a deeper understanding of the world around us.



Visitors at SAMily Funday at SAM at Tanjong Pagar Distripark.



Installation view of Kapilan Naidu's *Synthetic Visions for a Future Past (Jurong Dreaming)* (2023), as part of *Art in the Commons: Data Visualising Jurong*.

***Art in the Commons:
Data Visualising Jurong:
Synthetic Visions for a Future Past
(Jurong Dreaming)***

Synthetic Visions for a Future Past (Jurong Dreaming) is the third and final cycle of *Art in the Commons: Data Visualising Jurong*, presenting artist Kapilan Naidu's exploration into the history of industrial and environmental developments in Jurong. Through an artificial steel mangrove swamp, the work collects stories from commuters and residents of the neighbourhood, reproduced into collective "synthetic visions" of the neighbourhood presented on several screens in the installation for audiences to browse, sort and contribute to.

This presentation is supported by the Tote Board with Science Centre Singapore as a venue partner.



Visitors of *Hello Future: Let's Go Hand in Hand*, as part of Think! Contemporary Preschool's 2023 exhibition in partnership with six Singapore preschools – Arts Kidz International, MOE Kindergarten @ Temasek, Nobleland Arts N Learning Place @ Bishan, Clementi, Punggol, and Waterway.



The partnership with Singapore Art Museum has been impactful. Through the program, children were given a wonderful opportunity to showcase their creativity and were encouraged to advocate for sustainability through their art.”

— Quote from **Mrs Doris Lai**, Centre Head
| MOE Kindergarten @ Temasek

Hello Future: Let's Go Hand in Hand

Hello Future: Let's Go Hand in Hand is part of the Think! Contemporary preschool programme, presented in partnership with six Singapore preschools. This edition features a series of works adapted from the children's experience with the SAM Touch Collection, teaching students to experience art through their various senses and envision a future in which everyone plays hand in hand, regardless of one's differences.

Whirlwind of Wonders: A Think! Contemporary Primary School Exhibition

Whirlwind of Wonders marks the 11th edition of the Think! Contemporary primary school programme. In this edition, we delve into the world through the artworks of young students, reflecting their insightful observations and untold stories derived from their experiences and encounters. Presented by SAM in partnership with CHIJ Our Lady Queen of Peace, Geylang Methodist School (Primary), Haig Girls' School, Mayflower Primary School, St. Anthony's Primary School and Xinghua Primary School. The exhibition was created as part of a special programme with ideas from Junyuan Secondary School students.



Installation view of *Whirlwind of Wonders: A Think! Contemporary Primary School Exhibition*.



Visitors participating in *Sea Glass Jam*, an on-site programme as part of *Make with SAM*.

Art-Making Programmes

Through educational and introspective programming at the heart of connecting our publics to contemporary art, we continue to actively engage with audiences from all ages and backgrounds through art-making programmes. Workshops such as *Make with SAM*, which took digital and on-site forms through *Sea Glass Jam*, while drop-in activities such as drawing cards at The Engine Room inspired by SAM's exhibitions created spaces for visitors to experiment with illustration, craft, and other art-making skills.

CREATING AN INCLUSIVE EXPERIENCE



SAM Curator Kenneth Tay with a SgSL Sign Language Interpreter,
as part of a tour for *Ho Tzu Nyen: Time & The Tiger*.



In its efforts to open new entryways into art through meaningful offerings and active engagement with audiences and community, SAM has continued collaborating and conversing closely with our constituents and partners to offer diverse art experiences. Alongside our signature lifestyle and arts programming suite like *SAMily Funday* and *SAM Late Nights*, SAM's access and outreach programming were designed to open new entryways for audiences from all walks of life to understand, experience, and be inspired by contemporary art.

Participants of *SAM Late Night's Make a Badge Programme* at SAM at Tanjong Pagar Distripark.



I liked learning about leaf and flower pressing, and the random fun facts shared by the facilitators! Working alongside people I've never met and seeing how they express themselves creatively through their zines was also really fun. It was interesting how we worked within the exhibition space too."

— Quote from Participant of *Sprout Your Creativity: Grow a Garden Zine Workshop*



Sprout Your Creativity: Grow a Garden Zine, a programme by DECK, held in conjunction with *Simryn Gill* and *Charles Lim Yi Yong: The Sea is a Field*.

SAMily Funday* and *SAM Late Nights

Through our collaborative efforts with partners such as Balestier Market Collective, BARC Labs, and MAGES Institute, SAM has introduced a variety of programmes catering to visitors of all ages. *SAMily Funday* and *SAM Late Nights* have provided a platform for our artists, performers, poets, and collaborators to showcase their talents. These events, which seamlessly blend art and lifestyle, have provided unique opportunities for everyone to engage with contemporary art, regardless of their art or background.



Participants of *The Wind Came Home*, a performance in collaboration with Drama Box as part of *Art in the Commons: Dakota-Cassia*.

Art in the Commons: Dakota Cassia

Art in the Commons: Dakota-Cassia, a collaboration between SAM and Drama Box, delved into community building through the arts in the Cassia area. Key events and activations this year include *Boleh Bank*, a resident resource hub in Cassia, and *This is the Place Where*, which maps residents' relationships with local spaces and social interactions to identify habits and behaviours, fostering a deeper connection within the community.



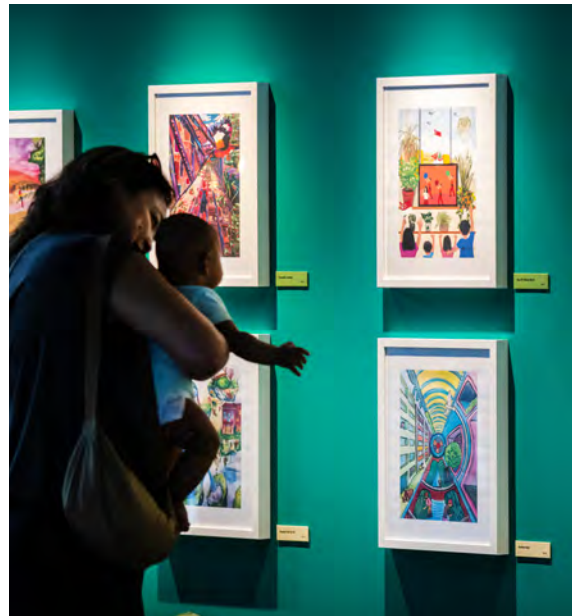
Participants from SAM's Touch Collection Workshop with David Chan's *Utama's Kitty*.

This Little Red Dot...

In conjunction with National Day and celebrating 60 years of greening and conservation efforts in Singapore, this year's edition of *This Little Red Dot...* saw over 450 online and on-site submissions. Centred around environmentalism, its pop-up at VivoCity welcomed participants from all backgrounds to share illustrated stories and aspirations for a clean and green Singapore.

60 selected works were showcased at the Singapore Botanic Gardens.

This programme was held in partnership with Mapletree and the Singapore Botanic Gardens.



Visitors at *This Little Red Dot...*, the 2023 edition of *Little Red Dot* showcase at Singapore Botanic Gardens

SAM Touch Collection

This year, SAM presented over 30 touch collection programmes, focusing on Singaporean artists within SAM's collection for neurodiverse and visually impaired communities. Working closely with partner institutions and associations, programmes such as SAM's Touch Collection Workshop with David Chan's *Utama's Kitty* welcomed *D/deaf*, hard-of-hearing, and hearing participants to learn about contemporary art through artwork adaptations and print-making practices while facilitating spaces for meaningful dialogues about art experiences to occur.



The Body mapping activity really helped me sit with my feelings and reflect, and this was an opportunity to connect with my body, and to also be part of a community that is willing to share and be part of a wellness program.”

— Quote from Participant of SAM Art Dose’s Body Mapping Workshop



Participants of Drawing for your wellbeing: Body Mapping, as part of SAM Art Dose.

Access Programmes

As part of our continuous efforts to increase SAM’s accessibility efforts, our suite of access programmes comprised talks, tours, performances and workshops with a focus on connecting with communities and creating new ways for audiences to experience contemporary art. Programmes such as SgSL access tours of SAM exhibitions, SAM Art Dose—drop-in workshops focusing on mindfulness and mental health, and *desert of the ocean (doldrums)*—a performance focused on accessibility featuring performers with disabilities, SgSL interpretation and audio descriptions, fostered inclusive environments for audiences from all walks of life to experience contemporary art.



Sonic LIVE: Session #2 Bani Haykal as part of Singapore Art Week.

Singapore Art Week: Sonic Sessions and Sonic LIVE

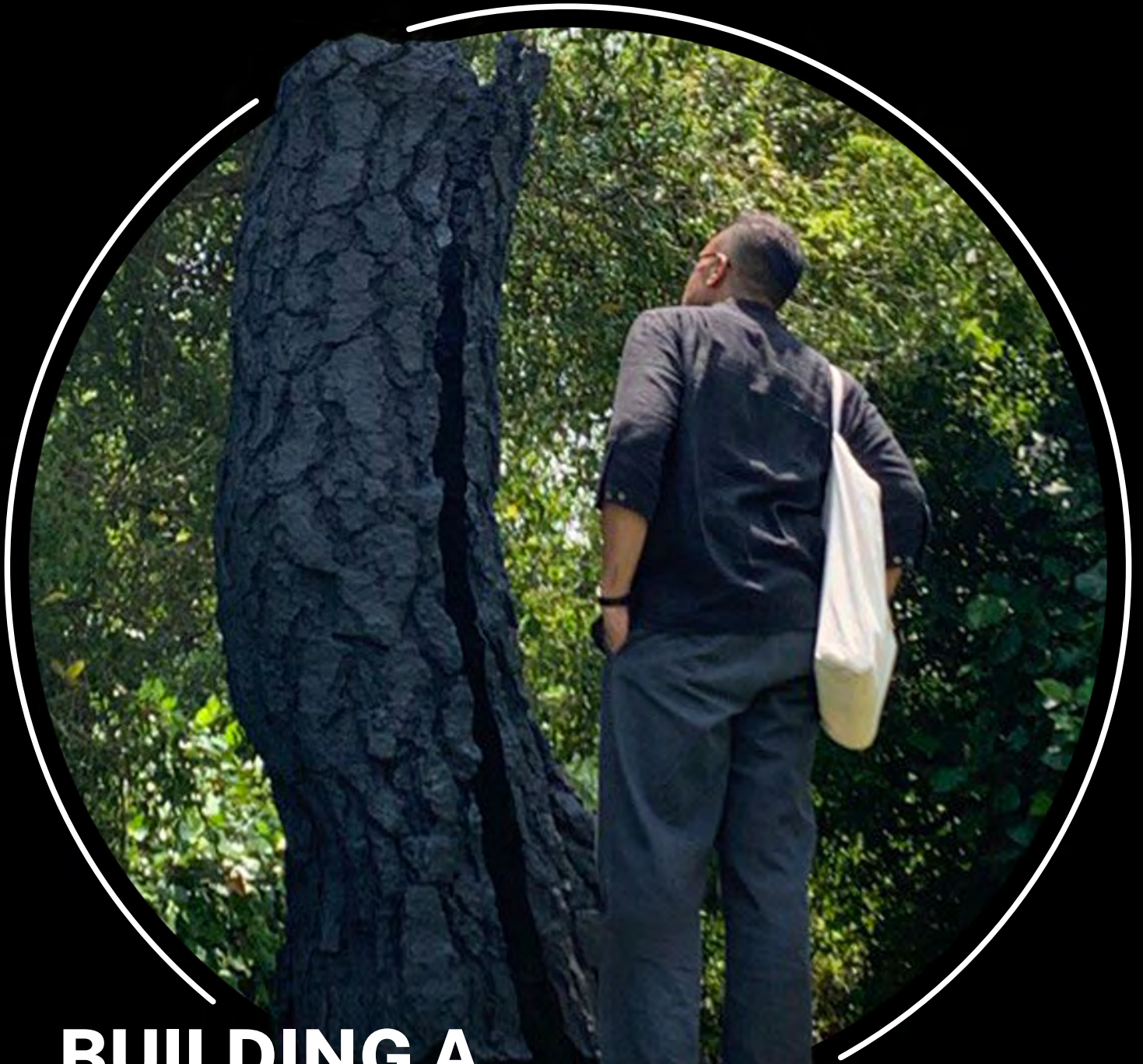
In collaboration with Singapore Art Week 2024, SAM was pleased to present programmes such as *Sonic LIVE* and *Sonic Sessions* at Tanjong Pagar Distripark, held across two weekends to bring together performances from musicians, sound artists, composers and music art groups. Featuring aural works planned in conjunction with Ho Tzu Nyen: *Time & the Tiger* and a lineup spotlighting the works of local and regional sound artists, introducing our audiences and constituents to emerging practices and experiments in sound.



Tea with Nguyễn Trinh Thi, as part of SAMily Funday.

Talks and Dialogues

SAM collaborated with artists and partners to host various engaging dialogues. By themeing artist-partner talks around our exhibitions, including *Hito Steyerl: Mean Image*, Ho Tzu Nyen’s keynote lecture *Images and Times: Some Notes on the Retro/Prospective*, and *Tea with Nguyễn Trinh Thi*, SAM continues to make art more accessible, fuel discussion, and foster a closer-knit art community.



BUILDING A RELATIONSHIP WITH NATURE

Visitor at Sookoon Ang's *Moonlight* (2023), as part of
Singapore Deviation: Wander with Art through the Rail Corridor

This year, SAM remains ceaseless in its dedication towards fostering sustainability and generating positive environmental and social impact within our community. In our work to inspire a better future through art, our sustainability goals persist through initiatives in our exhibitions, programming and daily operations. Through sparking meaningful conversations and maintaining sustainable practices, the museum's accolades underscore our commitment to building a greener, more sustainable future for our community and constituents.



Installation view of Space Objekt's *{still} life* (2023), as part of *Port/raits of Tanjong Pagar: Encounters with Art in the Neighbourhood*.

Sustainability Governance Structure

SAM's Sustainability Committee is made up of staff members from all the different departments who work together to achieve effective integration of our sustainability policies. Helming this committee is the Head of Sustainability, who reports to the Director of Facilities Management & Operations.

Proposals from the committee are discussed and brought to the Gallery's Management Committee for their input and approval.

SAM had identified 7 out of 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as our primary goals.

They are:

- SDG 3 Good Health and Well Being
- SDG 4 Quality Education
- SDG 5 Gender Equality
- SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities
- SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production
- SDG 13 Climate Action
- SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Proposals and targets are consolidated from departments and presented to management for approval before the start of each FY. Once approval is obtained, departments

will proceed to implement the proposals. Besides SAM's internal initiatives, we are also committed to the implementation of initiatives proposed by the MCCY Green Gov SG Steering Committee.

The Head of Sustainability is responsible for monitoring the implementation throughout the year and will conclude with a report to management at the end of the FY.

Charting Our Green Future: Goals and Foundation

After moving to Tanjong Pagar Distripark in 2021, SAM started tracking our electricity, water, and waste consumption. This was achieved using the Carbon & Emissions Recording Tool (CERT) from the Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition Singapore (CPLC), which SAM joined in April 2022.

SAM also received Eco-Office Elite certification in August 2022, which was awarded by the Singapore Environment Council (SEC). We were able to receive the Elite certification due to our thoughtful implementation of sustainability initiatives for our office and facilities operations and our regular communications and updates to all SAM staff. SAM will be applying for Eco-Office audit and re-certification in FY24.

SAM aims to achieve the following targets for FY24:

- Reduction of consumption of electricity consumption and water usage by $\geq 2\%$ respectively (from CY 2023 baseline).
- Reduction of waste generation by $\geq 2\%$ for office operations (for CY 2023 baseline).

Green Metrics

GHG Emissions

	FY2022	FY2023
Scope 1:		
Direct emissions from source owned/controlled by company	0.0 tonnes CO2e	0.0 tonnes CO2e
Transportation with Company Owned Vehicles (Mobile Combustion)	0.0	0.0
Non-transport Energy (Stationary Combustion)	0.0	0.0
Scope 2:		
Indirect emissions from the generation of purchased energy	198.5 tonnes CO2e	309.8 tonnes CO2e
Electricity from national grid	198.5	309.8 ¹
Electricity from solar / Carbon neutral sources	0.0	0.0
Purchased steam/cooling	0.0	0.0
Renewable energy certificates (RECs)	0.0	0.0
Scope 3:		
Indirect emissions (not included in Scope 2) from the value chain of the company	31.0 tonnes CO2e	53.2 tonnes CO2e
Transportation not owned by company		
Air transport	23.2	40.0
Land transport	6.7	12.4
Water Consumption	0.1	0.1
Waste Disposal	1.0	0.7
Other Non-REC Offsets		
Other Carbon Offsets	0.0	0.0
Total	229.5 tonnes CO2e	363.0 tonnes CO2e

GHG emissions were calculated using the UN Global Compact Network Singapore's Carbon and Emissions Recording Tool (CERT).

Electricity Consumption

Performance	FY2022	FY2023
Electricity consumption	485,959 kWh	758,491 kWh
EUI	142.5 kWh/m ²	222.35 kWh/m ²

EUI based on 3,411.3 sqm (#01-02/03/04 and #03-07)

Assessment

Electrical consumption increased due to lifting of Covid-19 measures, allowing more in-person exhibitions and programmes for FY23, as well as increased physical visitorship.

Water Consumption

Performance	FY2022	FY2023
Water consumption	108 m ³	96 m ³

Assessment

11% reduction in water consumption (for office) from FY22.

Waste Generation

Performance	FY2022	FY2023
Waste disposed	1,864 kg	1,181 kg

Assessment

36.6% reduction in waste disposal (for office) from FY22.

Recognition and Achievements for FY23

- SAM participated in the working group launched by the Bizot Group to refresh the Bizot Green Protocol. The sub-group studies shared methodology to measure the impact of various key components of exhibition making, including artwork movement and couriers.

The refreshed 2023 version of the Bizot Green Protocol was updated in September 2023 and comprises science-based guiding principles, climate control guidelines, and a set of handbooks to accompany the protocol, offering scientific evidence, museum testimonials, and practical tools to facilitate its seamless adoption and implementation.

- SAM's emissions tracking and submissions were audited by CPLC in February 2024, and SAM was successful in achieving the LowCarbonSG Logo 2023. This recognises that SAM has been diligent and conscientious in continuing to track and record our carbon emissions for 2023.

Our Sustainability Endeavours

SAM's Sustainability Strategy Statement:

SAM aims to commit to sustainability:

- by being inclusive,
- through our actions within our organisation, with our partners and constituents, and
- through regular reviews of our policies, processes, and practices.

Social Sustainability Initiatives



1. Initiatives by the SAM Staff Welfare & Recreation Committee (SWRC) to promote and ensure staff cohesion and inclusivity.
2. Initiatives by Public Programmes and Access teams to promote physical and mental well-being for our visitors to SAM's programmes.



3. Comprehensive quality education programmes from Public Programmes and Learning teams encompassing content that promotes lifelong learning.
4. Internal briefing to new joiners by the HR team on SAM's sustainability approach and initiatives.
5. At least 2 SAM publications to be identified by the Contents Publishing team per year to be published in digital libraries or related online platforms.



6. Provide a Recruitment Guidebook to Hiring Managers which details objective and fair selection criteria and practices by HR.
7. Inclusivity & Diversity policy formulation and implementation by the Curatorial & Collections team.

Environmental Sustainability Initiatives



8. To enhance workplace safety and health measures for SAM's work-related activities by the Estates team.



9. To ensure vendors engaged by Estates and Production Management teams possess relevant sustainability certifications.
10. To encourage the usage of sustainable products by SAM's appointed vendors and partners, as well as SAM's internal procurement (for office products and publications).
11. To minimise waste materials disposed to landfills after exhibition deinstallations.
12. To establish Sustainability Guidelines and track carbon emissions for all SAM publications.



13. To reduce SAM's consumption of electricity and water, as well as waste production for SAM's activities.
14. Responsible and sustainable dispose of IT equipment or accessories.

Governance-related Sustainability Initiatives



15. Ensure minimal findings for SAM audits and sharing of good practices by the SAM Finance team.

WITH GRATITUDE

SAM expresses profound gratitude for your unwavering support. Your invaluable contributions have played a pivotal role in realising our vision of fostering a creative, thoughtful, and inclusive community. We appreciate your generosity and dedication to promoting the local arts scene.

Utama's Kitty, an artwork adaptation of David Chan's *Utama's Cat* (2015) as part of a SAM Touch Collection Programme.



EXHIBITIONS & SPECIAL PROJECTS

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Taran Khara
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Chen Yannan

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Hallam Chow
Haryanto Adikoesoemo and Sintawati Ongkowitzo

With special thanks to the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and to all donors who wish to remain anonymous.

SAM AND ITS PEOPLE



SAMily

The SAM team, comprising individuals with diverse expertise and a shared commitment to art, collaborates to craft an array of enriching art experiences. From our curators' conceptualisation of exhibitions to the warm hospitality extended by our front-of-house team, every member contributes uniquely to fostering an inclusive environment where creativity thrives. Their collective passion, expertise, and unwavering dedication serve as the driving force behind SAM's ability to captivate and inspire our valued visitors.

SAM'S SENIOR MANAGEMENT

Eugene Tan
Chief Executive Officer
and Director

Michelle Goh
Chief People Officer
and Director
(Strategy & International
Partnerships)

Elvin Wong
Director
(Finance and
Administration)

Esther Conyard
Director
(Marketing
Communications,
Visitor Experience &
Business Development)

Ho Kee Sin
Director
(Facilities Management
& Operations)

June Yap
Director
(Curatorial & Collections)

Kevin Lim
Director
(Innovation
& Technology)

Ong Zhen Min
Director
(Content Publishing)

Terence Chong
Director
(Finance)

Mark Chee
Deputy Director
(Estates, Project
& Sustainability)

**Mohammad
Suhirman Bin
Sulaiman**
Deputy Director
(Production
Management)

Ong Puay Khim
Deputy Director
(Collections
and Public Art)

Tamares Goh
Deputy Director
(Biennale and
Programmes)

Susan Goh
Deputy Director
(Human Resource)

Tan Shir Ee
Head
(Partnerships
& Patronage)