

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SINGAPORE ART MUSEUM WELCOMES NEW CHAIR TO  
MUSEUM'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Edmund Cheng to head the SAM Board from April 2018 onwards*

SINGAPORE, 5 April 2018 – Ms Jane Ittogi is succeeded as Chair of the Singapore Art Museum by Mr Edmund Cheng, who leads the Board of Directors from 1 April 2018 onwards. As the Chair of its Advisory Board when SAM was a museum under the National Heritage Board, Ms Ittogi guided SAM through its corporatisation in 2013 and has since served as its Chair until the end of March 2018.

Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, Ms Grace Fu said, “I would like to thank Jane for her dedicated leadership. Under her stewardship, the Singapore Art Museum has established our voice in the Southeast Asian and global contemporary art scene, and made the visual arts accessible to more Singaporeans. We welcome Edmund as he takes over the helm, and look forward to SAM’s continued engagement with local, regional and international art audiences.”

An advocate of the transformative power of art, Ms Ittogi has been instrumental in defining SAM’s focus on contemporary art practices from Singapore and Southeast Asia. She has championed deeper public engagement with contemporary art through talks, workshops, events, pop-up exhibitions, and collaborations with various communities. One such example is her active support for the long-term partnership between SAM and the Yellow Ribbon Project, which culminated in an annual presentation of inmates’ artworks at the museum.

Ms Ittogi said, “It’s been a wonderful journey with the team at the Singapore Art Museum, working together to put a global focus on contemporary art practices in Singapore and Southeast Asia, while continuously engaging with artists, audiences and underserved communities in the region. I look forward to what SAM will offer under the capable leadership of Edmund Cheng, who comes with a wealth of experience and dedication to the arts and is exceptionally placed to lead the major renovations to SAM.”

Currently the Deputy Chairman of Wing Tai Holdings Limited, Mr Cheng assumed the chair of SAM from 1 April 2018. He is actively engaged in the arts community, and was Chairman of the

National Arts Council (2005 –2013), The Esplanade Co Ltd (2003 – 2005), the DesignSingapore Council (2003 – 2008), as well as the Singapore Tourism Board (1993 – 2001).

“I appreciate the opportunity to work with the team to achieve SAM’s vision towards the development and appreciation of contemporary art at home and in the region. This shall support SAM’s growth as a distinctive arts venue dedicated to outstanding contemporary art of Singapore, Southeast Asia and the wider Asia region, in continuation of Jane Ittogi’s leadership and efforts,” said Mr Cheng.

For more information on SAM’s upcoming exhibitions and programmes, please visit [www.singaporeartmuseum.sg](http://www.singaporeartmuseum.sg)

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## **About the Singapore Art Museum**

The Singapore Art Museum (SAM) 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.

In 2011, SAM was the venue organiser of the Singapore Biennale, becoming the main organiser in 2013 and 2016. 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](http://www.singaporeartmuseum.sg)

## About Jane Ittogi



Jane Ittogi serves actively in the arts and the community. As the Chair of its Advisory Board when SAM was a museum under the National Heritage Board, she has since served as its Chair until the end of March 2018.

Jane Ittogi is also a member of various boards – raising funds for needy Singapore students as Chair of the Singapore LSE Trust; working with others to help prison inmates and ex-inmates rebuild their lives; and is actively involved with youth volunteers in community work, as trustee of Beacon of Life and also Patron, Gift of Reading. She is on long leave from legal practice, as partner at Shook Lin & Bok LLP. She had all her schooling in Singapore, and obtained her LLB and LLM at the London School of Economics, and lectured in law at undergraduate and post-graduate levels in the UK. She was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple.

## About Edmund Cheng



Edmund Cheng is Deputy Chairman of Wing Tai Holdings Limited which is listed on the Singapore Exchange. He is also the Managing Director of Wing Tai Land Pte. Ltd., Chairman of Mapletree Investments Pte Ltd and Deputy Chairman of Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore. He also serves as a member of The Esplanade Co Ltd.

He chaired the National Arts Council from 2005 to 2013, and was its Deputy Chairman from 2003 to 2005, during which he was keenly involved in efforts at the national level to promote and develop an arts landscape to enhance vibrancy and creativity in our economy and society. He also chaired the Singapore Tourism Board (1993 – 2001), The Old Parliament House Limited (2002 – 2006), The Esplanade Co Ltd (2003 – 2005) where he is now a member, as well as SATS Ltd. (2003 – 2016) and DesignSingapore Council (2003 – 2008). He was Executive Director of Wing Tai Malaysia Berhad (now known as Wing Tai Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.) (1984 – 2017) and held directorships in public listed companies and statutory boards like Singapore Airlines Limited (1996 – 2004) and the Urban Redevelopment Authority (1991 – 1994).

Mr Cheng was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal in 2015, Public Service Star (Bar) in 2010 and Public Service Star (BBM) in 1999 by the Singapore Government for his significant contributions to the nation, including his appointments to boards of government statutory bodies and public institutions. He also received the Outstanding Contribution to Tourism Award from the Singapore Government in 2002. In March 2009, he was conferred “Officier de l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres” by the Government of the Republic of France.

Mr Cheng graduated from Northwestern University and Carnegie Mellon University in USA, with a Bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering and a Master’s in Architecture, respectively.

**Current Board Members of Singapore Art Museum (as of 1 April 2018)**

Mr Edmund Cheng, Chair, Singapore Art Museum

Ms Chong Siak Ching, Chief Executive Officer, National Gallery of Singapore

Mr Zulkifli Bin Baharudin, Executive Chairman, Indo Trans Logistics Corporation

Prof Brian McAdoo, College Rector and Professor of Science, Yale-NUS College

Mr Collin Tseng-Liu, COO (Southeast Asia), Baker & McKenzie LLP

Ms Claire Chiang, Senior Vice President, Banyan Tree Holdings Ltd

Prof Lily Kong, Provost and Lee Kong Chian Chair Professor of Social Science, Singapore Management University

Dr Imran Bin Tajudeen, Assistant Professor, Dept of Architecture, School of Design and Environment, National University of Singapore

**Ex-Officio**

Mr Low Eng Teong, Assistant Chief Executive (Sector Development), National Arts Council

Mr Timothy Chin Jun Wun, Director (Arts and Heritage), Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth