



**Sculpture Society (Singapore)**

Raffles City Post Office, PO Box 651, S(911722)

<http://sculpturesociety.org.sg/>

[sculpturesocietysingapore@gmail.com](mailto:sculpturesocietysingapore@gmail.com)

## **Sculpture Society (Singapore) 20th Anniversary Show "re-THINGing — Sculpture in Singapore 2021"**

### **INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS**

#### **Curatorial Brief**

Sculpture Society Singapore's (SSS) 20th Anniversary Show, titled *ReTHINGing: Sculpture in Singapore 2021*, plans to be one of the society's most important shows in two decades. It will showcase a series of exhibitions at various venues and will feature the artworks of SSS members, non-members, and invited artists. With the grand theme *ReTHINGing*, a broad range of artworks will be presented at the different locations to explore the current state of sculptural and three-dimensional practice in Singapore.

#### **The Grand Theme: reTHINGing — Sculpture in Singapore 2021**

Taking the 1991 "Sculpture in Singapore" curated by TK Sabapathy as a historical point for reflection, the exhibition aims to be a major showcase of current local sculptural and 3D works. As a way of establishing dialogue between then and now, the exhibition will feature mainly recent works by artists who took part in the 1991 show, key practitioners currently active in the field, and emerging artists, both from and outside of SSS. By asking participating artists to rethink or "reTHING" their work, the exhibition seeks to examine critical questions such as: is there still a clear demarcation between the "handmade thing" and the "conceptual thing" after 30 years? In an increasingly digitized world of social media, to what extent have sculptural objects "dematerialized" or "rematerialized"? In the contemporary context, what engenders, energizes, complicates, and necessitates ideas and questions surrounding sculpture and 3-dimensional practice? What changes or challenges does the pandemic bring?

## **Venues and Sub-themes**

The series of exhibitions will roll out within the third quarter of the year 2021 at four different locations:

### **Venue 1:**

#### **NAFA Lim Hak Tai Gallery: reTHINGing Materiality — Contemporary Sculpture 2021**

For more than half a century, the prevalence of conceptualism in the contemporary art world seems to have placed "sculpture" in an awkward position – while the practice of this art in the traditional sense is deemed obsolete, the embrace of objects made beyond formal concerns or the direct appropriation of the "ready-mades", however, have rendered anything 3-dimensional "sculpture", so that we may even say that "sculpture" is everywhere in the art world today. On top of this is a common denigration of the artist's hand – or the so-called craft element. In recent decades, however, there have been increasing discussions on the "material turn" and growing trend of craft making in contemporary practice.

### **Open for Submission**

This exhibition is a collaboration with NAFA. As the venue sponsor, NAFA requires that exhibits are majority from NAFA alumnus and NAFA staff/students, (including members and non-members of SSS), non NAFA-affiliated members are still welcome to submit proposals, subject to a selection process. It will showcase sculptural or 3D artworks that are interested in the questions of materiality and examine the subject within the context of the local and regional (Southeast Asia) art scene.

Interested members will propose sculptural or 3D works produced within the past 2 years, the proposed artworks should be of any size no larger than 60 cm (L) x 60cm (W) x 60cm (D). Proposal for installation work larger than the above size is subjected to space availability and gallery requirements. NAFA alumni/staff (members and non-members of SSS) are invited to propose site-specific work for 3 nos. of window spaces along Ngee Ann Kongsi Gallery 1 & 2.

### **Exhibition Details**

Installation	07 - 12 Jul 2021, 13 - 15 Jul 2021 ( <i>for adjusting lighting; no admission to gallery</i> )
Exhibition	16 Jul - 01 Aug 2021
Tear down	02 - 03 Aug 2021

**Venue 2:**

**Chapel Gallery, Objectifs: reTHINGing — Materiality in Sculpture and Photographic Image**

Sculpture and photography has an interesting relationship. Since the emergence of photography, sculpture not only appeared within photographs but was also deeply impacted by it in terms of its design, reception, interpretation, and manner of display. Photography was also widely integrated within other forms and mediums including sculpture in the works of the Western avant garde artists. In recent years, however, photographers had in turn begun to take an interest in “materiality” - possibly spurred by the waning of analogue photography and the proliferation of digital image-making. In a world that is increasingly digitized in a broad spectrum, the artists’ tactile relationship to the making process has either dwindled or altered. In addition, for your further contemplation, *Objectifs* - formerly the *Sculpture Square*, was where the SSS was founded, it is also the venue for our inaugural exhibition *The Round Show* in 2002.

**Open for Submission**

The exhibition at the Objectifs will focus on artworks that investigates the status of the art object, sculptural materiality, relation of sculpture and photography, or the physicality of photography, etc, within the seemingly ephemeral, digitized world. It will include art forms that are sculptural, 3 dimensional, or is a photographic, video, or digital work that addresses the theme.

Interested members will propose sculptural, 3D works, or photographic/video installations produced within the past 2 years. The proposed sculptural and 3D works should be of any size no larger than 60 cm (L) x 60cm (W) x 60cm (D). Proposal for photographic/video installations larger than the above size is subjected to space availability and gallery requirements.

**Exhibition Details**

Installation	31 Aug and 1 Sep 2021
Exhibition	02 - 12 Sep 2021
Tear down	13 Sep 2021

### **Venue 3:**

#### **SCCC: reTHINGing the Site - Sculpture and its Environment 2021**

The quality most intrinsic to sculpture is probably its three-dimensionality. Unlike painting that projects a sort of a virtual space, “[sculpture] takes up space, moves and occupies a site, obtruding on it or changing it” (WJT Mitchell, 2007). While what is today known as “site-specific art” emerged in the 1960s as a reaction to modern art objects as transportable and bound to the museum and commodification, it could be said that sculpture has always had a site-specificity with its implementation in both private and public spaces. “reTHINGing the Site” will explore how sculptures or 3D works intervene with their material form in the space that they occupy. It will feature public sculptures, indoor works, as well as site-specific installations that investigate the relation of material, form, and space. It will also include a special selection of artworks from important pioneer sculptors such as the late Mr Ng Eng Teng, Ms Han Sai Por, and Mr Cheong Fah Cheong, from The Teng Collection under a courtesy loan from local collectors Teng Jee Hum and June Ong.

#### **Open for Submission**

The exhibition will be carried out in several locations in the SCCC premises and will include the following:

**1. One-Year Public Sculpture (indoor and outdoor)**

Exhibition Period: 01 Jul 2021 - Jun 2022

Locations: Level 1 Concourse, Level 7 Foyer, Level 8 Connecting Space, Level 9/10 Auditorium.

**2. Interior Sculpture and Site-specific Installation**

Exhibition Period: 02 -15 Aug (including 3-day set up and 2-day tear down).

Location: Creative Box

Site Recce will be arranged on 20 Feb and 21 Feb to facilitate the process of creative planning. Details for the Recce session will be emailed to members later. A copy of images of the spaces in SCCC is also available [here](#).

#### **Requirements for One-year Public Sculpture (Indoor and Outdoor) @ SCCC**

1. The proposed artwork should pose no risk of injury to the public (i.e. sharp edges, slip hazards, flammable materials) and is safe, stable and durable;
2. Outdoor Works:
  - a. must be able to withstand all weather conditions, high temperatures, direct sunlight, humidity, and rain;
  - b. ideally, equal to or larger than 1.0 metres.
  - c. installation of work: artists should provide clear instructions on the installation procedure to facilitate the professional art mover engaged by SCCC, who will collect the artwork from the artist's studio, handle the on-site installation, and return the artwork to the artists at the end of the one year period.

## **Requirement for Interior Sculptures and Site-specific Installation Art @ Creative Box**

**Interior Sculpture:** The proposal should be an original artwork intended for interior display and is produced within the past 2 years. It should be of any size no larger than 60 cm (L) x 60cm (W) x 60cm (D). It is not limited to any specific material or medium and may explore a broad range of themes that could be interpreted as creative, imaginative, expressive, commemorative, or decorative, etc.

### **Site-specific Installation:**

1. The proposal should be new, original artwork with strong concept that respond to the space within the Creative Box only, a second draft of proposal may be required depending on clarity of the first submission.
2. The proposed installation should be based on materials that pose no risk of injury to the public (i.e. sharp edges, slip hazards, flammable materials) and is safe, stable, and durable.
3. The installation should be removable, have no negative impact on the surfaces and the structures of the site, and requires minimum maintenance during the exhibition period.
4. The proposal should include clear technical illustrations and the artist/s will be responsible for the setting up and removal of the installation.
5. A preliminary material and production cost should be included in the proposal. A maximum sum of SGD\$500 will be subsidized to approved proposals.
6. A total number of 8 proposals will be accepted for the site. Both individual and group proposals are welcomed.

### **Exhibition Details**

	<b>One Year Public Sculptures</b>	<b>Site-specific Installation @ Creative Box</b>
<b>Installation</b>	15 - 30 Jun 2021 (to be confirmed)	02 - 04 Aug 2021
<b>Exhibition</b>	01 Jul 2021 to 30 Jun 2022	05 - 13 Aug 2021
<b>Teardown</b>	31 Jun 2022 (to be confirmed)	14 - 15 Aug 2021

#### **Venue 4:**

#### **Jendela Gallery, Esplanade: ReTHINGing Gesture in Contemporary Sculptural Practice**

As a co-curation project between SSS and the Esplanade curatorial team, ***Re-THINGing Gesture in Contemporary Sculptural Practice*** will present new and recent sculptural works by invited Singaporean artists which culminate from explorations of gesture—either in the process of creating or as subject matter. By including a variety of artworks of various mediums and techniques, the exhibition investigates the ways performative gestures could be embodied or manifested in material forms. The main interest is in exploring how the medium of sculpture, and its ever-evolving strategies, could express the body's capacity to communicate complex ideas and states of interiority.

Submission: by invitation from Esplanade only

Exhibition date: July to early October 2021

#### **Selection Criteria**

Artists will be able to submit a maximum of 2 proposals per location for the 3 open-call locations (NAFA, Objectifs, SCCC). Artworks selection will involve the reTHINGing curatorial team, SSS senior members, and panels from the venue sponsors, and will be based on: suitability of the theme, artistic achievements, executional and technical feasibility.

Proposals should be submitted to the stated email by 15 Mar 2021. Members will be notified by the end of Mar 2021.

After the selection, the curatorial team will work closely with the participating artists to ensure cohesion and best result of the exhibition. This process may include negotiation of proposed locations and necessary adjustment of proposals, etc.

#### **Selection Panel**

1. ReTHINGing Curatorial Team:  
Curator: Tan Yen peng  
Supporting members: Yeo Chee Kiong, Xin Xiaochang, Joyce Loo, Cassandra Lim
2. SSS Senior Members: Ms Han Sai Por, Mr Sun Yuli, and Mr Chua Boon Kee, etc.
3. Selection panel from venue sponsors.

### **Participation Fees**

As SSS no longer collects membership fees, A participation fee for taking part in the exhibition is required for maintaining the society's basic funding for events and administration. Your contribution is much appreciated and the sum may be reimbursed partially upon the successful application of grants by the society.

SSS Members: SGD100

SSS Student Members: SGD50

Non SSS Member: SGD150

Students/Fresh graduates from Art Schools: SGD 75

### **Important Dates**

**Open call period: 17 Feb - 15 Mar 2021**

**Confirmation of participation: 31 Mar 2021**

### **Summary of Exhibition Dates**

<b>SCCC, ReTHINGing the Site - One Year Public Sculptures:</b>	<b>01 Jul 2021- 30 Jun 2022</b>
<b>SCCC, ReTHINGing the Site - Site-specific Installations @ Creative Box:</b>	<b>05 - 13 Aug 2021</b>
<b>Jendela, Esplanade - ReTHINGing Gesture:</b>	<b>Jul - Oct 2021</b>
<b>Lim Hak Tai Gallery, NAFA - ReTHINGing Materiality: — Contemporary Sculpture 2021</b>	<b>16 Jul - 01 Aug 2021</b>
<b>Chapel Gallery, Objectifs: reTHINGing - Materiality in Sculpture and Photographic Image</b>	<b>02 - 12 Sep 2021</b>

### **Anniversary Events**

Related artists' talks and events will be carried out through the 3-month period.

SSS is deeply grateful to members and friends whose ardent involvement and generous support help keep our events and activities possible. With our mission to promote the practice and appreciation of sculpture and 3D Art, the 20th Anniversary is an important milestone that seeks to bring the society and the art to new levels. Your continuous support is therefore most important to us and we look forward to your participation.

For further enquiries, please email to [sculpturesocietysingapore@gmail.com](mailto:sculpturesocietysingapore@gmail.com)

**Sculpture Society (Singapore) 20th Anniversary Show  
"re-THINGing — Sculpture in Singapore 2021"**

**APPLICATION FORM**

<b>Artist Name</b>		<b>SSS Member:</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
		<b>Non Member:</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Date of Birth</b>		<b>Nationality</b>	
<b>Mailing Address</b>			
<b>E-mail Address</b>		<b>Contact Number</b>	

<b>Details of Proposed Artwork</b>			
<b>Title of Artwork 1*</b>	*please use a new form if submitting more than 1 proposal.		
<b>Year Produced</b>		<b>Medium/ Material</b>	
<b>Size of Artwork</b>		<b>Insured Value</b>	
<b>Proposed Venue/Theme</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> NAFA, reTHINGing Materiality Please indicate course attended and graduation/completion year or position at NAFA: (put NIL if not NAFA-affiliated)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Objectifs, Materiality in Sculpture and Photographic Image		
	<input type="checkbox"/> SCCC, please specify location:		
<b>Description of Artwork</b>			

<p><b>Image of Artwork or Illustration</b></p>	<p>Please attach high resolution Jpeg images of minimum 300 dpi. You may also submit image or video links if necessary.</p>
<p><b>Installation Details and Special Requirements</b></p>	<p>* E.g. Floor or wall space required for site-specific installation. Lighting or power supply requirements. Size of pedestal(s) required. Etc.  * Pedestals are subjected to availability based on the Selection Panel's decision. For custom-made pedestal dimensions, artists are encouraged to fabricate their own.</p>

All application forms must reach [sculpturesocietysingapore@gmail.com](mailto:sculpturesocietysingapore@gmail.com) by **15 Mar 2021, 2pm.**

Applicant's Signature:

Date: