

TWO EXHIBITIONS IN MAC^{LYON} => 17.04--12.07.15
 OPENING: THURSDAY, APRIL 16TH, 2015

OPEN SEA

ARTISTS FROM SINGAPORE
 AND SOUTH EAST ASIA



Nge Lay, *The Sick Classroom*, 2013
 Mixed media, video, photographs
 Installation view Singapore Biennale 2013 at Singapore Art Museum
 Variable dimensions
 Artist's Collection, photo: courtesy of the artist

ANTOINE CATALA

JARDIN SYNTHÉTIQUE À L'ISOLEMENT*

*SYNTHETIC GARDEN TO ISOLATION



Antoine Catala, *Jardin synthétique à l'isolement*, 2014-2015
 Preliminary model
 Courtesy of the artist and mac^{LYON}

After China (*Le Moine et le Démon* in 2004), India (*Indian Highway* in 2011) and Brazil (*Imagine Brazil* in 2014), comes *Open Sea*, an exhibition from 17th April to 12th July 2015 exploring the contemporary art scene of South East Asia. With a major focus on Singapore—the veritable economic and cultural hub of the archipelago—*Open Sea* also showcases artists from countries such as Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia and the Philippines.

An exhibition organized in collaboration with the National Heritage Board of Singapore and the Musée d'art contemporain de Lyon

Co-curators:

Thierry Raspail, Director of the mac^{LYON}

Khairuddin Hori, guest curator, National Heritage Board



Charles Lim, *All Lines Flow Out* (2011)
Video, duration 21:43 mins
Production Singapore Biennale 2011
Collection Singapore Art Museum, image courtesy of the artist

OPEN SEA

Open Sea presents over 30 artists from ten countries in South East Asia.

Historically known for its sea routes, an alternative to the Silk Road, South East Asia has now opened up on a large scale to global trade, tourism and migration, to the extent that the specific cultures within this region have, for a long time, been shaped by a multitude of international influences and the forces of evolving modernity.

For the past three decades, this extraordinary 'continent'—little known in Europe—has been increasingly receptive to contemporary art: installation and video art, photography, painting, drawing, etc. Over 2,000 m² and two floors of the mac^{LYON} are dedicated to *Open Sea*, an exhibition that invites visitors to discover the works of over 30 artists from South East Asia. The mac^{LYON} and the Lyon Biennale have long-standing ties with the Singapore Biennale, the Singapore Art Museum and the National Heritage Board. The choice of artists was influenced by the programming of these three cultural bodies.

The artists:

Lina ADAM (Singapore), Anida Yoeu ALI (Cambodia), Apotik Komik (Indonesia), BOO Junfeng (Singapore), CHANG Yoong Chia (Malaysia), Chris CHONG Chan Fui (Malaysia), CHONG Kim Chiew (Malaysia), Louie CORDERO (Philippines), Marisa DARASAVATH (Laos), Heri DONO (Indonesia), Jeremy HIAH (Singapore), Yee I-Lann (Malaysia), Muhammad IZDIHARUDDIN (Singapore), Sutee KUNAVICHAYANONT (Thailand), Charles LIM (Singapore), Nasirun (Indonesia), Dawn NG (Singapore), NGE Lay (Myanmar), Uudam Tran NGUYEN (Vietnam), Jun NGUYEN-HATSUSHIBA (Vietnam), Sherman ONG (Singapore), Akshay Raj Singh RATHORE (India), Navin RAWANCHAIKUL (Thailand), Pinaree SANPITAK (Thailand), Angie SEAH (Singapore), SHEN Shaomin (China), Yudi SULISTIYO (Indonesia), Vertical Submarine (Singapore), Entang WIHARSO (Indonesia), Ming WONG (Singapore), Muhammad 'Ucup' YUSUF (Indonesia)

Open Sea is part of the event, *Singapour en France - le festival*, which celebrates 50 years of Singapore - France diplomatic relations and Singapore's Golden Jubilee.

Singapour en France - le festival is presented by Institut Français, the National Heritage Board and the National Arts Council (Singapore), and is supported in France by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development, the Ministry of Culture and Communication, and in Singapore by the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

As part of *Singapour en France - le festival*, the Palais de Tokyo will present the exhibition *Secret Archipelago* from 27 March to 17 May 2015, and Lille3000 will present *art garden* at the Gare Saint-Sauveur from 15 April to 23 August 2015.

The Musée d'art contemporain de Lyon presents from 17th April to 12th July 2015 the first solo exhibition, in France, of Antoine Catala.

Born in Toulouse (France) in 1975, Antoine Catala lives and works in New York, where he is part of a young generation of artists connected with Margaret Lee and her boundary-pushing gallery (at once an artist-run space, studio and commercial gallery), 47 Canal. His works were on view in the recent exhibition *Puddle, pothole, portal* at SculptureCenter, New York (curators: Ruba Katrib and Camille Henrot), and will be seen in New Museum Triennial in New York (curator: Ryan Trecartin). He's also preparing a solo show for Carnegie Museum of Art (Pittsburgh).

Whether it's through his video-sculptures or his semantic shorthands, Antoine Catala plays with the language and the images. His uses illusions via technology such as holograms, creating for exemple breathing images.

In keeping with the founding spirit of the mac^{LYON}, Antoine Catala was invited to present an exhibition / work, to become part of the museum's collection. For this, he has been given 500 m² for his creation.



Antoine Catala,
Il était une fois..., 2015
© photo : Blaise Adilon
Courtesy Biennale de Lyon
Collection FRAC
Champagne-Ardenne, Reims

Catala's works may be said to compare or establish a connection between all kinds of images, analogies, words, signs, logos and atmospheres. Television and Internet are the primary sources of inspiration of Antoine Catala's work, which reproduces the mechanisms of the two aforementioned media by transforming them for poetic purposes. In them, the artist intentionally finds new opportunities of linking reality, the image and language.

'TODAY, ANY WORD, THANKS TO A WEB SEARCH CAN DISPLAY MILLIONS OF IMAGES. THEN, THROUGH THE USE OF 3D PRINTERS, A WORD MAY ALLOW ONE TO ACCESS FILES, WHICH IN TURN ALLOWS ONE TO PRINT THE OBJECTS ASSOCIATED OR CONNECTED WITH THAT SAME WORD. THUS, WITH THE HELP OF MACHINES, A NEW PHYSICAL EQUIVALENCY IS ESTABLISHED: OBJECT = IMAGE = WORD.'

ANTOINE CATALA

His aim is to use the flux that is produced or generated at that very moment, in such a way that his works are always up to date. This intention or desire is based on the belief that we are no longer dealing with iconic pop culture, but rather with other uses of images. The images used by Catala, are subliminal, transient ones, in continuous circulation.

Here, Antoine Catala continues his exploration of visual signs and transforms an entire floor of the museum with his installation, *Jardin synthétique à l'isolement* [*Synthetic Garden to Isolation*] (2014-2015), produced and acquired by the mac^{LYON}.

Antoine Catala's *Jardin synthétique à l'isolement* is a kind of island, made up of artificial plants, screens, signs and sounds, and was created in collaboration with people working with non-verbal persons, and non-verbal themselves. The signs of communication used are presented as sculptures, pronounced or uttered by the digital voice of a machine. This work illustrates the joy of communicating via a machine, while evoking the communications problems, but also the sense of connection to the world through this particular language.

ANTOINE CATALA JARDIN SYNTHÉTIQUE À L'ISOLEMENT