

Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Art from the Streets tags ArtScience Museum

*10 on-site interventions unveiled ahead of exhibition's
public opening*

SINGAPORE (11 January 2018) – ArtScience Museum will be unveiling a different side of the museum with one of its most adventurous exhibitions yet – *Art from the Streets*. Opening on 13 January, as part of Singapore Art Week 2018, the five-month long exhibition features bold works of some of the world's most renowned street artists.

Art from the Streets celebrates 40 years of Street Art, charting its countercultural beginnings to its extraordinary rise in the contemporary art world. Visitors to the exhibition will be amongst the first in Singapore and Southeast Asia to have the opportunity to view works from some of the most renowned artists in the field, including **Banksy, Shepard Fairey, Futura, Invader, JR, Blek le Rat** and **Vhils**.

Curated by Street Art expert and gallerist Magda Danysz, *Art from the Streets* comprises over 200 large-scale mural paintings, installations, videos, prints, archival material, drawings and sketches, which showcase the vitality and diversity of the urban art movement.

In an unprecedented move, ArtScience Museum has also invited 10 prominent street artists to take over the museum's galleries, to create new site-specific artworks for the exhibition. The ten new commissions are by up-and-coming Argentinian-Spanish artist, **Felipe Pantone**; Paris-based Moroccan artist, **Tarek Benaoum**; Polish graphic designer and illustrator, **M-City**; French street artists, **Ludo, YZ** and **Zevs**; one of UK's leading post-graffiti artists, **Remi Rough**; Yogyakarta-based artist, **Eko Nugroho** and Singaporean urban artists, **Speak Cryptic** and **Sheryo & Yok**. These artists have adopted different techniques and mediums to create their artworks, from stenciling, calligraffiti, painting, spraying to "upcycling" materials. The artworks are inspired by the ArtScience Museum galleries, and address a range of local and global issues. (*See Appendix I for description of the live commissions*).

"Visitors are going to see a very different side of ArtScience Museum with *Art from the Streets*, one of our boldest and most provocative shows to date. We have brought work by some of the biggest names in Street Art – Banksy, Shepard Fairey, Futura, JR and countless others – to Singapore for the first time, in a show that charts the extraordinary evolution of Street Art from a daring and rebellious urban scene, to a major international art movement. To really make the walls speak, we have also invited 10 of the top artists in the field to take over the museum and produce new works directly onto the walls of our galleries. And to top it off, we are doing more than showing *art from the streets* within our spaces – we also have a programme of *art on the streets*, with new works by local and international artists being created for public spaces in the streets of Singapore. This landmark show will reframe the public's

Press Release



perception of Street Art, revealing a dynamic and energetic art movement in a constant state of flux,” said Honor Harger, Executive Director of ArtScience Museum, Marina Bay Sands.

“Street Art is definitely the most important art movement that has emerged in the 21st century, and this show celebrates the vitality of this movement. It is also very important at this stage to be explicit about the history of Street Art. Now, with 40 years of history, the movement can be really be put into artistic perspective,” added Magda Danysz, guest curator of *Art from the Streets*.

Art on the Streets

Beyond the galleries of ArtScience Museum, several artists will be taking their works to the streets. Local artist, Speak Cryptic, has created a stunning moving mural on one of the public buses in Singapore. His artwork, painted directly onto bus SBS 502 will be on the roads till February, travelling between Soon Lee Depot and Downtown Station.



Speak Cryptic working on the exterior of SBS bus 502

Internationally renowned artist, Remi Rough, is producing a dramatic Street Art intervention for ARTWALK Little India as part of Singapore Art Week 2018. Additionally, one of the hottest emerging talents in the field, Felipe Pantone, is crafting a striking new mural for the D/SINI festival, organised by Chan + Hori at Gillman Barracks.

Exhibition Overview

Art from the Streets charts the development of street art from its origins forty years ago, to its most recent manifestations. Nurtured by the urban rhythms of the world's great cities, street artists have developed a dynamic visual culture that has been adapted and reinvented many times.

Organised into six themed sections, the show begins by paying homage to **The Pioneers and the Masters**. Street Art started to gain prominence in early 1970s when stylised initials and signatures, known as ‘tags’, began appearing on the trains in New York. Artists such as Blade

Press Release



and Seen were considered to be the early masters of the urban art form. These artists developed unique styles and techniques which set the foundations of a new art form.

The second gallery, **The Advent of Message**, showcases the turning point of Street Art in the 1990s. Tags made of letters gradually gave way to more conceptual designs of icons, logos and well-known faces. Street artists began to diversify their techniques and drew inspiration from other communities. Their messages in their works began to reveal greater reflection and thought on social issues.

Stencil World, explores the form of the urban signature and its history. With many public bodies cracking down on graffiti, stenciling became prevalent as it was a significantly quicker method to be used on the streets, marking a new chapter in the Street Art history.

The fourth section, **New Writings**, shows how emerging artists at the turn of the millennium began to create their own systems of writing and novel new kinds of typography. While the Street Art continued to evolve, new generations of artists still followed the principle of defining and refining their individual styles, whilst maintaining a collective culture.

The fifth section, **Art of the Context**, focuses on the reinvention of Street Art with the presence of urban environment in the genre. With public and institutional recognition rising, many street artists were able to make the streets their exhibition space. To stand out, artists relied on constantly renewing their practices while giving ever more attention to their surroundings. Each artist drew on timeless aesthetics and strong messages to make the walls speak. These pieces invite the passerby to reflect on the impact of the image, as well as sharing it with many others through social media.

Art from the Streets ends with **Getting Up**. In this final section, attention is drawn to the diverse and monumental works on repurposed surfaces. Drawing inspiration primarily from cities, street artists are producing imposing and unmissable art on public facades by meticulously cutting, pasting, weaving and stenciling. This renewed approach to the art form was a response to those skeptical about the future of Street Art.

Programmes

To launch and contextualise *Art from the Streets*, ArtScience Museum has developed a bold programme of discussions, film screenings, performances and workshops, starting from the weekend of 13 January.

Event:	Date/ Time:	Description:	Remarks:
Conversations: If Walls Could Talk	13 Jan, 2pm	What is behind one of the most vibrant, vital contemporary art currents that is sweeping through our time? This special edition of Conversations explores Street Art and its evolution over the last four decades, and looks at how it is transforming the way that the city is perceived and lived. Featuring leading international and local speakers, <i>If Walls Could Talk</i> showcases a multiplicity of artistic responses to our	Level 4, Expression Gallery <i>Free on a first-come-first-served basis, subject to capacity. Register in the lobby.</i>

Press Release

		<p>changing urban environment, and addresses some of the complex challenges inherent in facilitating and supporting new forms of cultural expression</p> <p>Speakers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magda Danysz (gallerist and guest curator of <i>Art from the Streets</i>) • Remi Rough (artist, founding member of Agents of Change, member of Graffuturism) • Zul Othman a.k.a. ZERO (artist, founder of <u>Rscs</u> and THE SOLIDARITY MOVEMENT) • Laurie Maravilla a.k.a. SPAZ (artist, founder of Rebel Daughters and THE SOLIDARITY MOVEMENT, member of RSCLS), • Priyageetha Dia (the artist who created the iconic "Golden Staircase" in Singapore) • Natalie Tan (Senior Manager of Placemaking at Aliwal Arts Centre) • Mark Wong (founder of Ujikaji Records) • Alvin Tan (founder and artistic director of The Necessary Stage). • Cherian George (Professor of Media Studies at Department of Journalism of Hong Kong Baptist University). 	
ArtScience Late: The Anatomy of a Heartbreak	18 Jan, 7.30pm	<p>The Tribe wants to take you on a journey of catharsis.</p> <p>Singaporean artist, Speak Cryptic, is producing a special performance featuring "The Tribe" - characters he has created within his visual artworks. Inspired by the visual language prevalent within the cultures of comics and underground music, Speak Cryptic's work explores the human condition. Utilising personal iconographies and a cast of characters that he has developed over the years, he applies them to various narratives inspired by his observations on current affairs and his immediate environment.</p> <p>In this performative live art installation, visitors can experience anger, frustration and despair through The Tribe.</p> <p>Held in conjunction with D/SINI.</p>	<p>Level 3, exhibition space & Level 4, ArtScience Galleries</p> <p><i>Free on a first-come-first-served basis. Limited capacity.</i></p>
Curator's tour	13 and 14 Jan,	How have street artists changed the face of our urban environment globally? What is the	Level 3, Exhibition Entrance

Press Release



	11.30am and 5pm	creative sphere of this distinct drive? Be guided on a reflective journey into this artistic movement's history and development from the 1970s to date.	<p><i>Complimentary to ticket-holders of Art from the Streets</i></p> <p><i>Limited to a maximum of 25 pax.</i></p> <p><i>Stickers will be distributed five minutes before the tour and at the entrance of the exhibition.</i></p>
Public Guided Tour (45mins)	<p>Family</p> <p>Fridays: 19 Jan, 2 and 16 Feb, 3.00pm to 3.45pm</p> <p>Sundays: 21, 28 Jan 4, 11, 18, 25 Feb 5.00pm to 5.45pm</p>		
Mandarin Guided Tour	<p>Sundays: 21, 28 Jan 4, 25 Feb 4.00pm to 4.45pm</p>		
Express Yourself Workshop	<p>Family</p> <p>Fridays: 19, 26 Jan 4.30pm – 5.30pm</p>	Express yourself by experimenting with your artistic side and tap on your inner creativity to find out where you could take yourself! Using techniques such as drawing, collaging, word association and mixed media, this workshop aims to promote dialogue and open discussion about issues that can be addressed through art. At the end, you will create your own artwork to help you get started on your personal creative path!	Basement 1, Education Classroom
ArtScience on Screen: Beat of the Street	From 12 Jan onwards	<i>Beat of the Street</i> is a screening programme showcasing documentaries about Street Art. Documentary film-makers have captured the heartbeat of Street Art since its inception. Capturing every new style, following every new crew, documentaries have created a legacy for an art form which is otherwise ephemeral, and over time charted the changing attitudes towards urban art.	<p>Level 4, Expression Gallery</p> <p><i>Free admission.</i></p> <p><i>Check ArtScience Museum's Facebook page for more details.</i></p>

HP is the Innovation Sponsor and Moove Media is the official out-of-home media of *Art from the Streets*.

Art from the Streets will run from 13 January to 3 June 2018.

Tickets are available at all Marina Bay Sands box offices and website. Terms and Conditions apply. Tickets prices as follows:

Press Release



	STANDARD TICKET (SGD)	SINGAPORE RESIDENT (SGD)
Adult	\$17	\$14
Senior (65 years and above)/ Student/ Child (2-12 years)	\$12	\$10
Family package (2 kids & 2 adults)	\$46	\$37

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About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants, a theatre and an outdoor event plaza. Completing the line-up of attractions is ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com

About ArtScience Museum

ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands is Southeast Asia's leading cultural institution that explores the interrelationship between art, science, technology and culture. Featuring 21 galleries totalling 50,000 square feet, the iconic lotus-inspired building has staged major exhibitions by some of the 20th century's key artists, including Leonardo Da Vinci, Salvador Dalí, Andy Warhol and Vincent Van Gogh, as well as major exhibitions which explore aspects of scientific history.

About Magda Danysz Gallery

The Magda Danysz Gallery represents many street artists of her generation and by doing so Danysz has developed, over a long period of time, strong relationships and expertise. Danysz was the first to introduce in Paris, and later in Shanghai, the works of Shepard Fairey (Obey), Mark Ryden, JR, VHILS or Prune Nourry. The gallery supports their artists' work through exhibition and participation in ambitious production projects. Over 20 years the gallery has expanded from its original urban art specialism into mainstream fine art, including painting, Chinese contemporary art, photography, video, sculpture, and many others.

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For hi-res images:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=15shee-43w_W38Tqfx-Hy4qggJhhKlI0a (Credit to Marina Bay Sands)

Press Release

Appendix I

Image of artwork	Information:
	<p>Felipe Pantone (b.1986) <i>Chromodynamica</i></p> <p>The core of <i>Chromodynamica</i> is a testimonial to the current digital age where everything happens instantaneously.</p>
	<p>Tarek Benaoum (b.1978) <i>Gilgamesh: The Quest for Immortality</i></p> <p>Combining graffiti with calligraphy (calligraffiti), Benaoum drew inspiration from the book, <i>Gilgamesh: The Quest for Immortality</i>.</p> <p><i>Gilgamesh</i> presents a blend of techniques used in Benaoum's recent works.</p>

Press Release



Ludo (b.1975)
Nymphs

Ludo was inspired by Monet's *Nymphs* and his reinterpretation relates to the current world we are living in. The artwork also highlights the contrast between nature and technology.



Nymphs aims to show where we are heading and how the best lies ahead in the future.



M-City (b.1978)
M-City 1011 (Shipyard)

1011 (Shipyard) draws parallels between the shipyards in M-City's hometown of Gdańsk with the Port of Singapore.

Press Release

	<p>Remi Rough (b.1971) <i>Concise</i></p> <p><i>Concise</i> is a condensed construction of Rough's signature geometric works. This is also an abstract and contemporary continuation of the Rough's previous graffiti works.</p>
	<p>Sheryo & Yok (b.1984 and 1978 respectively) <i>Outlaws of Style</i></p> <p>Lighthearted and fun, <i>Outlaws of Style</i> imagines a post-apocalyptic Singapore where animals have taken over the city.</p>

Press Release



Speak Cryptic (b. 1980)
A State of Decline

As part of an ongoing series, *A State of Decline* follows Speak Cryptic's 'The Tribe' going through a catharsis of getting over a heartbreak. The Substation, a significant landmark to Speak Cryptic, is featured as the backdrop.

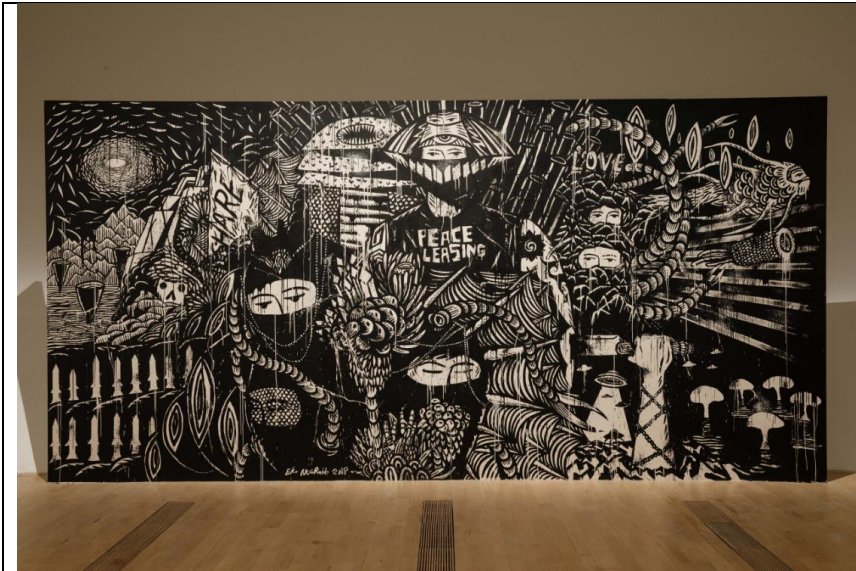


YZ (b.1975)
Empress Ngatini

YZ expands her *Empress* series with a new work at ArtScience Museum. YZ presents women who have powerful ideas for the world and society. Focusing on the headgears of women of different ethnicities, the *Empress* series highlights how women have different views of the world.

Recycled materials are used in the *Empress* series to explore how we can reuse what we have created and serves as a reminder to be conscious of the environment that we live in.

Press Release



Eko Nugroho (b.1977)
Garden Full of Blooming Democracy

Depicting a garden blooming with love and peace, Eko's *Garden Full of Blooming Democracy* highlights the presence of positivity in the current chaotic world.