

A HISTORY OF ARTS AND CULTURAL POLICIES IN SINGAPORE

SYNOPSIS

Arts and cultural policies have had an underwritten history in the Singapore story. This is not surprising given the top-down emphasis on material success and economic development in the national narrative. However, every material achievement in Singapore has been ideologically underpinned by the idea of an ethnically and religiously diverse society coming together in cultural-political coherence and harmony. It is an idea, which could not have been successfully articulated ideologically without the state's harnessing of the arts and culture.

Despite the ideological relevance of the arts and culture to Singapore's nation-building project, the arts and culture have been studied in ad hoc manner by local scholars. The numerous pieces of excellent scholarship, though well focussed, have been issue and period specific.

The Institute of Policy Studies is putting together an edited volume that will provide a comprehensive overview of the trajectory of arts and cultural policies in Singapore. It will identify, contextualise and assess key arts and cultural policies from the late 1950s to the present. Expert scholars and relevant specialists have been asked to produce analytical essays on specific arts and cultural policies, periods or programmes.

To generate feedback and discussion on the volume, this Conference will bring together academics, thought leaders from the arts community, and representatives of public and social organisations interested in issues related to arts and cultural policy development in Singapore. This Conference also aims to foster understanding of the policy choices and challenges the arts and culture face in Singapore.

**Conference on
A History of Arts and Cultural Policies in Singapore**

Monday, 27 October 2014

Ballroom 3 (Level 3)

Orchard Hotel Singapore

PROGRAMME

(As at 23 October 2014)

8.30 am – 9.00 am	Registration
9.00 am – 9.10 am	Opening Remarks Mr Janadas Devan Director Institute of Policy Studies
9.10 am – 9.15 am	Overview of Project Dr Terence Chong Senior Fellow and Co-ordinator Institute of Southeast Asian Studies
9.15 am – 10.25 am	SESSION ONE Arts and Culture from the 1950s to 1980s Chairperson Mr Tan Tarn How Senior Research Fellow Institute of Policy Studies The Anti-Yellow Culture Movement Mr Lim Cheng Tju Vice Principal Orchid Park Secondary School Culture, Heritage and Tourism: The Promotion of Singapore in the 1970s Associate Professor Joan Henderson Division of Marketing and International Business Nanyang Business School Nanyang Technological University
	Question and Answer Session
10.25 am – 10.55 am	Tea Break

10.55 am – 12.40 pm

SESSION TWO
Arts and Culture from the 1980s to 2000

Chairperson

Mr Arun Mahizhnan
Special Research Adviser
Institute of Policy Studies

The Advisory Council for Arts and Culture

Ms Audrey Wong
Programme Leader
MA Arts & Cultural Management
LASALLE College of the Arts

The Singapore Writers' Festival

Associate Professor Angelia Poon
Deputy Head
Programmes & Teaching
English Language & Literature
National Institute of Education

The Substation

Mr Lee Weng Choy
President
Singapore Section
International Association of Art Critics

Question and Answer Session

12.40 pm – 1.40 pm

Lunch

1.40 pm – 3.45 pm

SESSION THREE
Arts and Culture from the 2000s to Present

Chairperson

Dr Terence Chong

A History of the Censorship Review Committee

Mr Tan Tarn How

Housing the Arts in Singapore

Associate Professor T C Chang
Department of Geography
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
National University of Singapore

Arts Schools

Mr Shaun Oon
Senior Assistant Director
Enterprise Development
Research and Enterprise Division
Ministry of Trade and Industry

The Arts and Culture Strategic Review

Dr Hoe Su Fern
Research Fellow
Institute of Policy Studies

Question and Answer Session

3.45 pm – 4.00 pm

Closing Remarks

Mr Arun Mahizhnan

4.00 pm

End of Conference and Tea Reception

