

# Spotlight on Cultural Policy Series: Roundtable on the Development of Community Arts in Singapore

Wednesday, 15 March 2017  
The Glass Hall, Singapore Art Museum

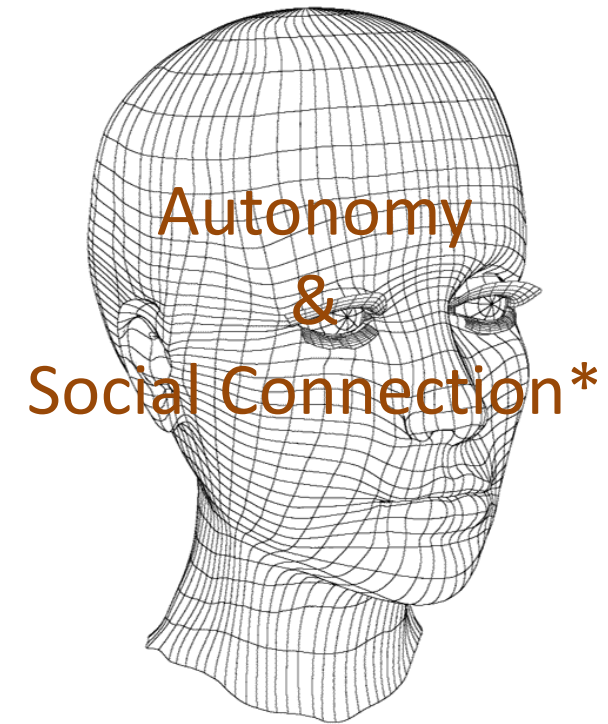
PANEL II  
Response to Community Arts Policies and Implementation

**RESPONDENT 4**

**Dr Jay Koh**

**Founder and Director**  
international Forum for InterMedia Art (iFIMA)

# Responding as an evaluator



- Best practices
- People-centred processes +
- local values (distant & personal subjectivities)
  
- Acknowledgement of complexity
  
- Durational accumulation of knowledge & experience
  
- **Mikhail Bakhtin's relationship of the self, others & society – centripetal & centrifugal forces, time & space**

**Policies should engender  
governance, critical knowledge & professionalism**

## **Governance (spaces, duration, research)**

Open, conducive and nurturing safe spaces

Artists/cultural workers in transitional progressive roles

Acknowledgement of complexity & cultivation of complex knowledge.

# Critical language

Support critical inner & outer dialogue.

‘Top-down projects’

‘drop-in facilitators’

‘domesticated participation’

‘standardised creativity’

Focus away from celebratory

Discuss embedded anxieties, contemporary uncertainties and power relationships

Develop competent in understanding and negotiating social relationships (of ego with different others)

# Professionalism

**Move away from cultivating consumption**

Be inclusive of everyday experience & uncertainties.

Respect differences & dissent

**Constructive intention & passion (ego-led) are necessary BUT not enough.**

**Acknowledge shortfalls, to relearn and acquire critical framework (concept-led, evaluative).**

Be critical of bias & education.

*Thank you*

*IPS*

Development of Community Arts in Singapore

Koh, Jay (2015) *Art-Led Participative Processes: Dialogue and Subjectivity within Performances in the Everyday*, University of the Arts Helsinki

2<sup>nd</sup> edition, (2016) SIRD/Gerakbudaya, Kuala Lumpur

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international Forum  
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国际混合媒体艺术论坛

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