

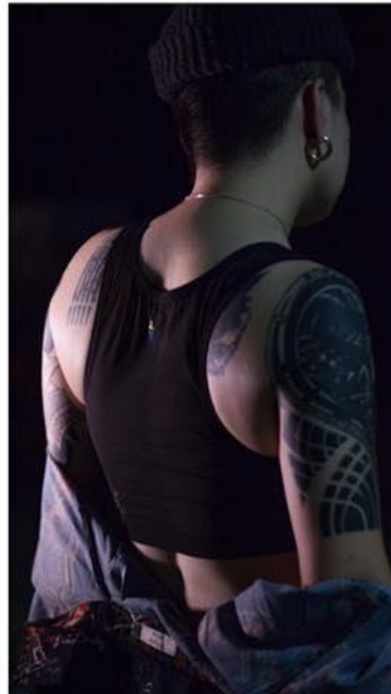
IPS-SAM Spotlight on Cultural Policy Series:
Roundtable on Our SG Arts Plan (2018-2022)

Speaker 6

Ms Charmaine Poh

MA Candidate
Visual and Media Anthropology
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Charmaine Poh (b.1990) is a Chinese-Singaporean artist. Her practice combines photography with research, text, video, and installation, focusing on issues of memory, gender, youth, and solitude in the Asian context. Often working with the form of narrative portraiture, she considers the performance of self and the layers of identity we build. She works with communities in a collaborative process that holds space for introspection, intimacy, and sharing. She is interested in the stories that make us who we are.

She has showcased her work through platforms such as M1 Singapore Fringe Festival, the Singapore International Photography Festival, Objectifs Centre for Photography and Filmmaking, The Taipei Arts Festival, The International Center of Photography, Photoville, WeTransfer, Channel News Asia, and The New York Times. Her work has been supported by institutions such as the National Arts Council (Singapore), Exactly Foundation, and the Global Gender Parity Initiative. She graduated from Tufts University with an B.A. in International Relations, and is currently pursuing an M.A. in Visual and Media Anthropology at the Freie Universität Berlin.

Content

- The intersections of art, journalism, and anthropology
- Asia
- Communities

Form

- The fluidity of the photographic medium:
editorial, commercial, art-making
- International support

Re-iterating

- The effect of a lack of space (darkroom facilities, studios)
- Lack of collectors
- The importance of making work international

Policy Suggestion

“Reaching under-reached segments of audiences”, such as seniors and those who are married with kids, through expanding programming.

Response

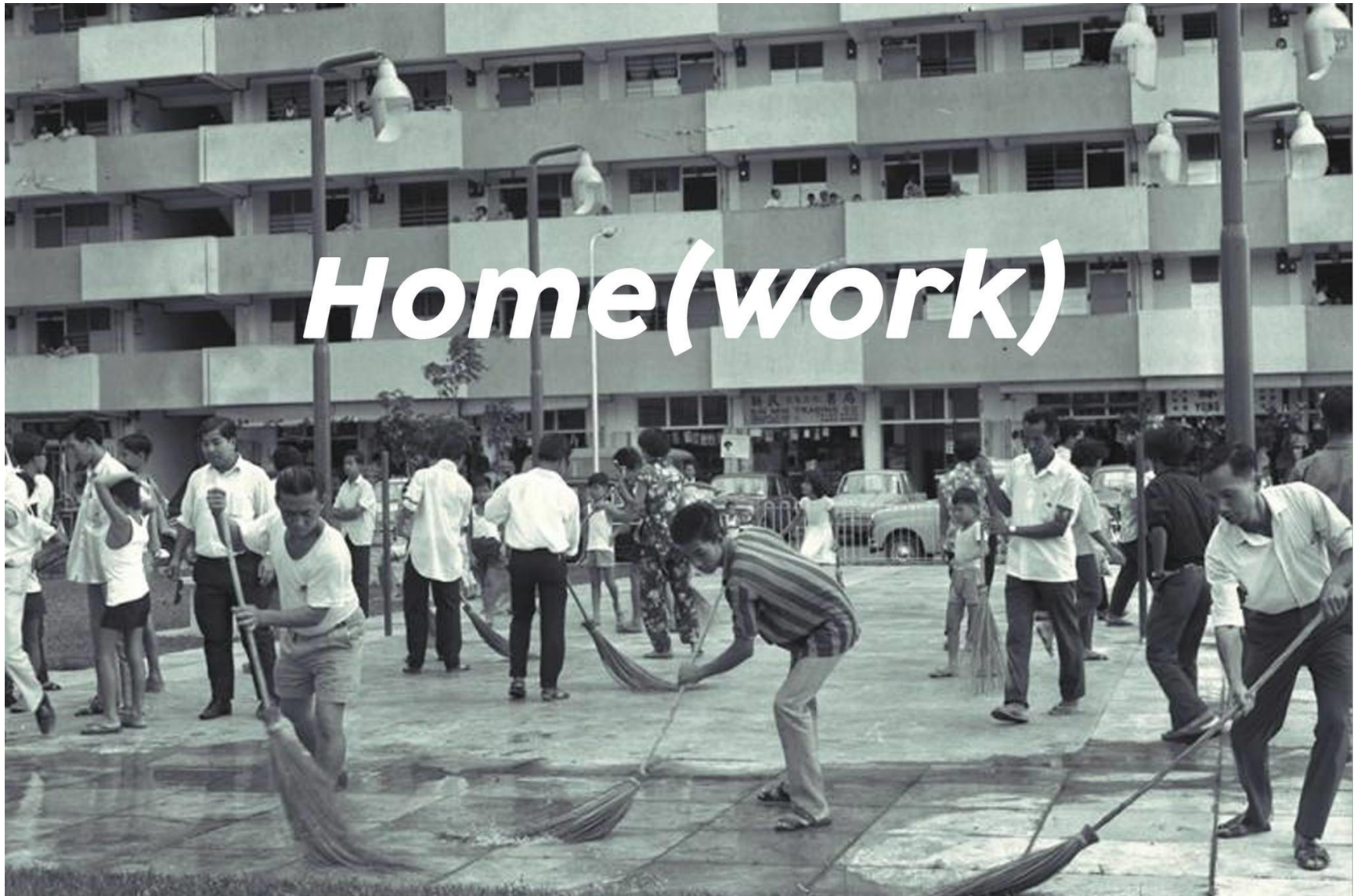
Is the art reflective of their realities?



To Make Our House Like A Castle | Global Gender Parity Initiative | 2018



Ma Jie | Pop-up Noise: Soul Searching | 2016



Home(work)

Policy Suggestion

Heightening awareness of Singapore art in schools

Response

Image literacy: visual anthropology, art is not taught in isolation

Photography education at the tertiary level or continued education



Clicking Together | 2013-Present

Policy Suggestion

“Forge new partnerships” internationally to grow Singapore as a centre for visual arts discourse

Response

What kind of discourse?
E.g. Magnum Foundation, Open Society Foundations, International Center of Photography. The role of Deck and Objectifs.

Unmentioned in the SG Arts Plan

- Censorship: the environment in which one creates or discourses
- The role of the artist: to convey complexity, challenge, to entertain?



How She Loves | Exactly Foundation | 2018



All In Her Day's Work | M1 Singapore Fringe Festival | 2017-2018