



and *Femmes @ Pompidou* (Pompidou Centre, 2009-10). 14 artists from Japan and abroad include Fumiko Kobayashi, Nobuko Tsuchiya, Laura Belém, Su-Mei Tse, Ranjani Shetter, and Tatiana Trouvé, with works 'based on the perception of sound and ambience, gesture, memory, passage of time, the laws of the world and the social mechanisms that go unnoticed in our daily life'. At Art Tower Mito (Ibaraki, Japan) until 8 May. [www.arttowermito.or.jp](http://www.arttowermito.or.jp) **NC**

## Japan reaches out

Fukuoka Asian Art Museum (FAAM) has announced its recipients for their 2011 Residence Program which professionals for 4 months to present various interactive programs, workshops and exhibitions. This year artists Chris Chong Chan Fui (Malaysia) will take residence from May to July; followed by Lu Yang (China) and Nguyen Phuong Linh (Vietnam) Sept. to Nov., and curator Suebsang Sangwachirapiban (Thailand) from Feb. to March 2012. **GF**

## Size matters

2 years after his much-celebrated *Panorama* series, which saw Ivan Lam's paintings going up on a billboard in the city, Hong Kong's Weiling Gallery presents 5 huge diptychs each measuring near 4 metres for the exhibition *Together Alone*. Scale has clearly been a preoccupation for Lam, an obsessive perfectionist always technically pushing the boundaries. In these works he combines industrial house paints with resin. Showing 8 to 28 March. [www.weiling-gallery.com](http://www.weiling-gallery.com) **GF**

## Mobile Library

Coinciding with its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Hong Kong's Asian Art Archive launches Open Edit: Mobile Library, a pilot project that brings a selection of material from AAA's collection to different cities in Asia, inviting people to read and interact with it in unconventional ways. It kicks off at Sà'n Art, in Ho Chi Minh, where Australian Zoe Butt is Co-Director and Curator. The project is a collaboration with Hong Kong artist Jaffa Lam, who encourages visitors to 'edit' the 180 titles by writing, drawing, highlighting them, and even tearing out pages. Until 9 April. **GF**

## Travelling Light

Sydney-based Javanese artist Jumaadi has been in Bali and Kuala Lumpur on extended residencies where he has created a new body of drawing, painted panels and a site-responsive installation for TAKSU Kuala Lumpur. Showing to 5 March the exhibition is titled *Travelling Light* and captures both the physical and metaphorical landscapes Jumaadi has journeyed over the past decade – works made in Hill End, Adelaide, Bali, Sydney, Java and Kuala Lumpur. [www.taksu.com](http://www.taksu.com) **GF**

## Irreverent passion

Filipino painter Argie Bandy is in residence at TARP, TAKSU Kuala Lumpur's sensational program that reaches out internationally to engage with Malaysia's growing contemporary art scene. Concluding with a solo exhibition 17 March to 2 April, Bandy's abstractions dissect painting's formal principles with a good dose of irreverence. [www.taksu.com](http://www.taksu.com) **GF**

## Asia

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## That's perfect

*Sone Yutaka: Perfect Moment* at Tokyo City Art Gallery weighs in on the sculpture of LA-based Yutaka; the work was produced in China with marble sourced from the town of Ching Wo with its long history of stonemasonry. Sone redirects the material to the contemporary realm, often walking a fine line between beauty for beauty's sake, and social realities. Until 27 March. [www.operacity.jp/en/ag](http://www.operacity.jp/en/ag) **NC**

## Thanks MAM

Mori Art Museum (MAM), Tokyo started the year on a lively note – *Odani Motohiko: Phantom Limb* traversed the cross-media work of this young (b.1972) Tokyo University of the Arts graduate who in 2003 represented Japan at the Venice Biennale, while the Feb. symposium 'How is the World Engaging with Contemporary Asian Art?' (with presentations by curatorial luminaries including Glenn D. Lowry, Alfred Pacquement, Sir Nicholas Serota, Fan Di'an, Shuji Takashina, & MAM's Fumio Nanjo) dealt in part with the relationship between supporting localised vernacular Asian artistic voices and the uniformity to be found in globalised art-museum culture. *French Window: Looking at Contemporary Art through the Marcel Duchamp Prize* celebrates the Prize's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, highlighting work by 28 artists (winners and runners-up) over the decade. From 18 March to 3 July, with curatorial and artist talks on 18 and 19 March. [www.mori.art.museum/eng](http://www.mori.art.museum/eng) **NC**

## Deities

Japan's Shizuoka prefecture, known for its hot spring resorts, now has Izu Photo Museum, which opened 2009. The currently touring *Maternal Deities: Yasuo Higa Exhibition* (organised by the Okinawa Prefectural Museum and Art Museum) provides a unique glimpse of the work of this well-known, late Japanese photographer. This collection of fine black-and-white photographs centres on Higa's documentation around Japan's Ryukyu Islands, including Kudakajima Island (the 'Island of Deities'). Until 8 May. [www.izuphoto-museum.jp/e](http://www.izuphoto-museum.jp/e) **NC**

## Linking & thinking

Asialink's arm extends to artists Bianca Looney and Lucas Chirnside in residence at 3331 ARTS CYD, the renovated Rensei Junior High School in Chiyoda Ward, Tokyo; and to out-and-about arts managers/curators Antoanetta (Museum of Contemporary Art/Design, Taiwan), Jasmin Stephens (Open House Singapore Biennale 2011, opening 13 March), and Lauren Ellis (Sovereign Art Foundation, Hong Kong). In Jan., Asialink staff along with representatives across the Australian arts sector participated in a delegation to India (coinciding with the India Arts Summit 2011 in New Delhi and numerous regional festivals), which should see projects materialise for 2012 and beyond – stay tuned. [www.3331.jp/en](http://www.3331.jp/en), [www.singaporebiennale.org](http://www.singaporebiennale.org) **NC**

## Beijing studio

Asialink has partnered with Darwin's 24HR Art: NT Centre for Contemporary Art to offer an artist studio in the The Huantei Art City area, near Beijing's famous 798 Art District. The studio can house 2 artists, with five 2-month residencies offered annually. Expressions of interests are invited from visual artists Australia-wide, particularly those from regional and remote areas Further details at <http://www.24hrart.org.au/residencies.html> **(Ed.)**

## #Ash

Australian artist Ash Keating has also been at 3331 ARTS CYD, Tokyo since Jan., and has been making work in reference to the nearby Akihabara electronic town. With his work focusing on themes of social and environmental responsibility, his exhibition at the venue's main gallery runs until 13 March. [www.ashkeating.com](http://www.ashkeating.com) **NC**

## All filed up

*Artist File 2011* at the National Art Center, Tokyo (NACT) is in its 4<sup>th</sup> year, this time with 8 artists: Yuki Nakaigawa, Taiji Matsue, Kengo Kito, Rikiya Iwakuma (Japan), Kristin Baker, Tara Donovan (USA), Birdhead (China), and Bjørn Melhus (Germany). Always worth a look and usually with a few surprises. From 16 March to 6 June (with talks on 19, 21, 26 March, 16 April, 7 May). [www.nact.jp](http://www.nact.jp) **NC**

## Attention please

*Quiet Attentions: Departure from Women* takes its cue from exhibitions such as *Whack! Art and the Feminist Revolution* (MCA, LA, 2007)



## Mythology & memories

Indonesian artist Jumaldi Alfi continues to make waves in the region with standout exhibitions. This residency and exhibition at Singapore Tyler Print Institute follows his sell-out show with Malaysian dealer Valentine Willie at his Singapore space late 2010. This exhibition titled *Melting Moments* continues Alfi's exploration of mortality and memories, typically layered works using text and signature motifs – the rock, skull and cactus – and for this series inspired by the Greek mythology of Sisyphus paralleled with Alfi's own quest for meaning. Until 26 March. <http://www.stpi.com.sg/> **GF**

## Artistic passage

Indonesian artist Mia Bustam passed away in Jakarta on 2 Jan. 2011, aged 90 years. First wife of the famous painter Sudjojono, from 1943 to 1959, she wrote an important memoir (for her children) of her life with him entitled *Sudjojono dan Aku* [Sudjojono and me], 2006. A self-taught artist, she was (despite not being a communist herself) interned for pro-leftist sympathies from 1965 to 1978, having been secretary of LEKRA in Yogyakarta, the artist-formed PKI Cultural Front Organisation which believed artists should be concerned with political struggle. She also left a memoir of her internment, *Dari kamp ke kamp, cerita seorang perempuan* [From Camp to Camp, a woman's story], 2008. **NC**

## MiFA Melbourne

*Closing The Gap: Contemporary Indonesian Art* runs from 20 Jan to 18 March. <http://www.mifa.com.au> **GF**

## Saluysoy

Charting 30 years and moving between the aesthetic landscapes of Japan, Korea, America, China and the Philippines, this huge retrospective of 80 sculptures and mixed media paintings salutes Roberto M.A. Robles's contribution to Philippine abstraction. Titled *Saluysoy*, which means 'an eternal spring' in the Southern Tagalog



dialect, it captures Robles's self-styled Zen and gestural abstractions. Curated by Gina Fairley and presented by Ateneo Art Gallery in collaboration with Galleria Duemila. Until 23 April. [www.galleriaduemila.com](http://www.galleriaduemila.com)

Ateneo Art Gallery recognises another Philippine abstractionist with the retrospective of Lee Aguinaldo whose superb monograph by Vibal Foundation, *The Life and Art of Lee Aguinaldo*, was recently launched. **GF**

## Two stages, one voice

Coinciding with Singapore's Art Stage in Feb. was the start of a year of exhibitions celebrating the Philippine pioneer conceptual artist and teacher Roberto Chabet. It is followed this month by 2 consecutive exhibitions of his former students – the names that pepper contemporary Philippine art today and regional auction houses. Chabet was a driving force that shaped several generations, and this exhibition captures that alert discourse and vision. *Completed & Unabridged*, curated by Ringo Bunoan, Gary-Ross Pastrana and Isabel Ching, is showing at ICA, La Salle College of the Arts, Singapore until 28 March; Part 2 of the exhibition shows at Osage Kwun Tong, Hong Kong, 4 March to 5 June. **GF**

## No surprises

It is no surprise Ho Tzu Nyen has been selected as the Singapore representative at June's 54th Venice Biennale. A multidisciplinary artist, Ho has become known for probing and dense projects, working across mediums with filmmakers, musicians, actors, and choreographers. His science fiction experimental media work *Earth* was recently shown at the Sydney Festival 2011. **GF**



P50: 1/ Ivan Lam, *You are being missed, Dear*, 2009/2011, synthetic house paint and resin on canvas, 250 x 380cm. One of Lam's huge diptychs showing in *Together Alone* at Weiling Gallery, 8 to 28 March. Image courtesy of the artist and Weiling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur.

THIS PAGE: 1/ Ekarat Aroonrat, *Face 3*, 2010, oil on canvas. 2/ Sitthisak Natheechaichana, *Bantam*, acrylic on canvas, 2010. Both images above from the 3-person exhibition *SEA* at Rinks Gallery, (Khukkhak, Takuapa, Phang Nga) Thailand until 30 April. [rinks-gallery@yahoo.com](mailto:rinks-gallery@yahoo.com) Photos by Neilton Clarke.

3/ Sindutomo Sudjojono (1914-86), *Portrait of Mia Bustam*, 1952, oil on canvas. Mia Bustam, Indonesian artist, author, and wife (from 1943-59) of painter Sudjojono, passed away on 2 January, 2011.

Courtesy of the collection of the Affandi Museum, Yogyakarta. 4/ LIN Xue, *Untitled* (2010-11), 2010, ink on paper, 78.1 x 52.4 cm framed. Showing Lin Xue's solo exhibition, *The Sixth Day*, at Gallery Exit, Hong Kong until 21 March. [www.galleryexit.com](http://www.galleryexit.com)



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