



## LEE MOK YEE

Visual Artist, Drummer

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### Artist Statement

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Lee Mok Yee (b. 1988, Klang, Malaysia) is an artist currently based in Kuala Lumpur. He graduated from the Dasein Academy of Art in Kuala Lumpur and later from the Fine Art programme at the University of London in Middlesex. Lee's work is process-oriented and often interrogates the material aspect in art-making. He frequently works with readymade or store-bought objects, rearranging these materials as an act of interrogation against uniformity, pushing against the boundaries of function in mass production. In the re/arranging, he questions the idea of moving within structures as an exploration of change and its futilities.

Lee's work has been exhibited locally and internationally, in Germany, London, Singapore, and South Korea. His most recent solo exhibition was Lee Mok Yee: The Pyramid Series (2023) at Rissim Contemporary, KL. Other notable exhibitions include Rudiments (duo with Mark Tan) 2022 at Temu House, KL, and A Rhetorical Garden (2021) at Richard Koh Fine Art, KL. He was also awarded the Gold prize of the UOB Painting of the Year award in 2021. A large part of Lee's practice focuses on collaborative projects and exchange through art residencies. He recently completed a residency in Arles, France, in 2022, under the auspices of Alliance française in Malaysia. In 2021, he was a grantee of the British Council Connections through Culture grant, which allowed him to have an online residency with British artist, Laura Porter. In the same year, he initiated a temporary collective called "Labour and Weight" with local art and cultural workers Okui Lala, Yeo Lyle, and Koe Cheng Gaik. The project was funded by CENDANA's Art in the City Public Art Commissioning Project and later exhibited at Multimedia University in Cyberjaya in 2023.

### Education

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**Middlesex University – London**

First Class Honor, BA Fine Art

**July 2014**

**Dasein Academy of Art – Kuala Lumpur**

Diploma in Fine Art

**July 2010**

## Solo Exhibition

- 2023            **One Zero**, Temu House, Kuala Lumpur  
                  **The Pyramid Series**, Rissim Gallery, Kuala Lumpur
- 2022            **Une Esquisse Céleste**, Galerie Huit Arles, France
- 2021            **A Rhetorical Garden**, Richard Koh Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur
- 2019            **Superstition II (In Conjunction with GTF 2019)**, George Town, Pulau Pinang
- 2013            **Superstition**, Studio at Straits, Pulau Penang
- 2012            **Scepticism is a Virtue**, Artseni Gallery, Kuala Lumpur

## Group Exhibitions

- 2024  
**Folded Lines**, UK-Malaysian Artist group exhibition, the Back Room KL, Kuala Lumpur
- 2023  
**Mystique Song ‘神秘之歌’** group exhibition, Eslite Bookstore Malaysia  
**1000 Tiny Artworks** Group Exhibition, the Back Room KL, Kuala Lumpur  
**Indonesia Contemporary Art & Design (ICAD)**, Jakarta, Indonesia  
**Realpolitik**, group exhibition, Cult Gallery, Kuala Lumpur  
**Aluminati**, group exhibition, Dasein Gallery, Kuala Lumpur
- 2022  
**Rudiments** by Lee Mok Yee & Mark Tan, Temu House, Kuala Lumpur  
**Mise En Place**, duo show with Diana Hajji, Arles, France  
**Labour & Weight: A Travelling Exhibition**, Multimedia University (MMU), Cyberjaya 2021
- 2021  
**Material Matters**, Sunny Bank Mills, Leeds, UK  
**Labour & Weight: A Travelling Exhibition**, Rumah Hai Kao, Batu Pahat  
**Labour & Weight: A Travelling Exhibition**, Hokkien Association, Pulau Pangkor

2020

***The Echo Boomers***, Richard Koh Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur

***Warganegara***, Segaris Art Center, Kuala Lumpur

***Embodiment***, Group Exhibition, Taksu Galleries, Singapore

2019

***Locals Only***, Taksu Gallery, Kuala Lumpur

***Bakat Muda Sezaman 2019 (Young Contemporaries 2019)***, National Visual Arts Gallery, KL

***Catalyst***, HOM Art Trans, Kuala Lumpur

***Pangkor Island Festival 2019***, Pulau Pangkor

***SHIFT***, White Box Publika, Kuala Lumpur

***Reinterpreting Minimalism***, Segaris art center, Kuala Lumpur

2018

***The Horizon is Just an Illusion: New Thoughts on Landscape***, Our Art Projects, Kuala Lumpur

***Echoes of Possibilities***, Core Design Gallery, Kuala Lumpur

2017

***Barat East***, Chandan Gallery, Kuala Lumpur

***This is Where We Meet***, duo show with Liew Kwai Fei, Our Art Projects, Kuala Lumpur

2016

***Young Malaysian Artists: New Object(ion) III Exhibition***, Petronas Gallery, Kuala Lumpur

***LOOK TO SEE***, Shalini Ganendra Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur

2015

***Young and Blooming***, China House, Pulau Pinang

***Presence***, Gallery@Starhill, Kuala Lumpur

***March Show***, G13 Gallery, Kuala Lumpur

***BioDATA***, Artseni Gallery, Kuala Lumpur

***Malaysia-Korea Asia Art Awards Invitation Exchange Exhibition 2015***, OACA, Kuala Lumpur

2014

**STATE**, Middlesex University, London

**PAUSE**, Beaconsfield Contemporary Art, London

2013

**Snake year Art Exhibition**, OACA, Kuala Lumpur

**Nordart International Art Exhibition**, Rendsburg, Germany

**TIGA, Three young contemporary artist exhibition**, Gehriq Gallery, Pulau Pinang

2012

**Asia Invitation Art Exhibition**, The Seoul Museum of Art, Korea

**Nordart International Art Exhibition**, Rendsburg, Germany

2010

**Breakthrough Exhibition**, The Gallery @ Starhill, KL PAC and Dasein Gallery, Kuala Lumpur

**NKOTB**, Threesixty Art Development Studio, Kuala Lumpur

### Residencies

2022 Rimbun Dahan, Rimbun Dahan International Residency, Kuang, Malaysia (Mar-May)

Arles Penang Cross Residency, Arles, France (Aug-Oct)

2021 Reciprocal Space, Online Residency with British Artist, Laura Porter, funded by British Council

2019 INXO International Artist Residency Program 2019, Kluang, Malaysia (Aug)

### Projects & Talks

2023

**Unreel Pangkor: Participatory Design and Built project**, collaboration project with Collab, Platz Studio, Hello Pangkor, School of Architecture & Built Environment (SABE) UCSI.

**'Space, Spectator and Materials'** Artist Talk at Eslite Bookstore, Kuala Lumpur

2022

**Open Studio**, Kuala Lumpur

**Online Sharing Session**, invited by Yuye Ge (迂野阁)

**Resonance | Rudiments: Artist exchange by Lee Mok Yee & Mark Tan**, moderated by Sarah Merican

**Labour & Weight: A Travelling Exhibition**, Collaboration Project with Okui Lala, Yeo Lyle, Koe Cheng Gaik, (Invited and commissioned by Multimedia University (MMU), Cyberjaya)

2021

**Labour & Weight: A Travelling Exhibition**, Collaboration Project with Okui Lala, Yeo Lyle, Koe Cheng Gaik

**Speaker in 'On Material: Artist in Conversation'** with Laura Porter, Sharon Haward, Kim Ng, Online, UK/Malaysia

**Speaker in 'On Object: Artist in Conversation'** with Laura Porter, Lorna Johnson, Tan Kian Ming, Online, UK/Malaysia

2019

**Pangkor Island Festival 2019**, Pulau Pangkor

**George Town Festival 2019**, George Town, Pulau Pinang

2017

Set Designer in Dong Di Yin 动地吟, DPAC, Petaling Jaya

Set Designer in Musicsynthesis 光合作用, KLPac, Kuala Lumpur

Co-Director in Inner Voices, theater performance by Deaf Beat, DPAC, Petaling Jaya

2016

**Installation Artist in OPIUM** - Artistic Expression by Malaysian & French Artists, DPAC, Kuala Lumpur

Installation Artist in Yayasan Sime Darby Arts Festival, KLPAC, Kuala Lumpur

2015

Installation Artist in Hua Zong Literary Awards Giving Ceremony 2015 (花踪文学奖)

Curator & Installation artist in - 'Insight into Being: Five Style of Chinese Calligraphy, OACA, Kuala Lumpur

## Awards, Grants

- 2022            Open Art Competition 2021, Penang State Art Gallery
- 2021            Gold in Established Artist Group, UOB POTY 2021  
Connections Through Culture UK-Southeast Asia Online Collaboration Grantees
- 2020            CENDANA Art in the city Public Art Commissioning Programme, 2020
- 2019            Shortlisted, Bakat Muda Sezaman 2019 (Young Contemporaries 2019)  
Hai-O Arts & Cultural Grants 2019

## Collections

UOB Bank

Penang State Art Gallery

HSBC Kuala Lumpur

Rimbun Dahan