

LEE MOK YEE

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Artist Statement

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

Middlesex University – London First Class Honor, BA Fine Art July 2014

Dasein Academy or Art – Kuala Lumpur Diploma in Fine Art

July 2010

Solo Exhibition

2023	<i>One Zero</i> , 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

2025

Crossing the Third Bridge, group exhibition, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur **Artist Project Showcase**, group exhibition, Gerald Moore Gallery, London, UK **Drawn to it**, group Exhibition, Temu House

2024

I am a Prayer, group Exhibition in conjunction with WLG Incubator Program 2024, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur

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

2025	Khazanah Associate Artist Residency (KAAR), London, UK (Sep-Dec)
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

2024

One Zero: Restage, George Town Festival 2024, Jetty 35 (Set & Multimedia Design)

一箱子的光Sekotak Cahaya: Photography Exhibition, collaboration project with Papan Collective, (Curating and Exhibition Design)

Moderator in *Roundtable meeting of Reellife Pangkor*, organised by Colllab & Village Vision" Speaker in "一箱子的光Sekotak Cahaya", organised by Papan Collective

2023

Unreel Pangkor: Participatory Design and Built project, collaboration project with Colllab, 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 Extablished 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
Citaldine Hotel Tanjung Tokong
Park Hyatt Kuala Lumpur
Hyatt Regency KL Midtown
Ibis Styles Bukit Bintang, Kuala Lumpur