

91, Jalan Sejati 1
Sejati Residences
63000 Cyberjaya, Selangor
Malaysia.

M +6019 6978897

james.ly@mmu.edu.my

bit.ly/3jX430d

<https://anthologyofmetaverses.com>

@jamesly_tk

@anthologyofmetaverses

@minutinit @copyplanet.eth



Name

James Ly Toong Kwok (1984)

Profile

Lives and works in Kuala Lumpur, WP

James Ly is an artist, curator and educator who's practice evades easy definition. A graduate of the Duncan Jordanstone College of Art & Design, he is an artist with an interest in globalisation, the transitory nature of things and the relation between image and language. He co founded Minut Init in 2010. An art project that is dedicated to the diversification of the artistic climate in Malaysia and Anthology of Meta-verses in 2020 an online initiative, virtual exhibition space and digital exploration project that embraces the idea of the internet as a deterritorialized space.

Often creating works that are multilayered studies of materiality, form and process. James investigates different forms of language, understanding and perception through drawing, painting, sculpture, installations and projects. With a focus on creating temporality structures that meditate on the theme of co-existence and legacy in the time of global warming, technological revolution and cold war, as an instrument to speculate equatorial futurities within the south east asian region though the lens of globalisation and the environment.

Central to his practice are the ideas of freedom and hybridity, which are expressed through his process of deconstructing ontological categories through embracing experimentation. Often juxtaposing unfamiliar materials together to create hybrid sculptural objects and structural interventions of spacetime to explore novel possibilities for production and meaning making. Through this process James liberates objects and ecosystems from established narratives inherited from neo colonialism and late capitalism to propose alternate narratives infused with themes related to kinship, extinction, regeneration and evolution. Through poetic gestures that allude to explorations of alternative models for co-existence and human legacy on earth in the form of abstraction, personal fantasies and fiction that are informed by history, philosophy and mass media. To ask the questions "How will we (humanity) evolve?" and "What will we leave behind?" Visit bit.ly/3jX430d for more information.

Languages

English (fluent)

Mandarin, Malay (intermediate)

Education

2009 - 2010 MSC 3D Animation, Duncan of Jordanstone School of Art and Design, University of Dundee, Scotland, UK

2002 - 2006 BA Multimedia Design, LIMKOKWING University of Creative Technology + RMIT University, Melbourne Victoria

Experience

Research Chair (Centre of Creative Arts) + Lecturer, Multimedia University, Faculty of Creative Multimedia - 2021 - Present

Media Arts, 3D Animation, Immersive Media Design

Lecturer ,UCSI University, Faculty of Social Sciences and Liberal Arts (Mass Comm Dept) – 2013 - Present

Lecturing at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Liberal Arts (Mass Communications)

Visual Communication, Documentary Production, Screen Production, Video Production, Film Studies, Introduction to Eastern Civilisations, Basic Photography.

Year Advisor to second year students, Research Advisor ,Branding Consultant for Faculty of Social Sciences, Coop (Internship) Coordinator, Student Association Advisor, Multimedia Broadcast Studio coordinator.

Co-founder & Artistic director/Lead Curator, Anthology of Metaverses - 2020 - present

Curation, Artistic direction, Web design, Virtual space design, Project management, Fund raising, proposal writing, content writing, Social media marketing.

Artist, Director & Co-Founder, Minut Init – 2010 - 2019

Programme Development, Project Management, Curation, Artistic Direction, Art Education, Art production, Image Making , Installations, Event Management , Liaison with Industry, Talent Scout, Art Writing, Staff Training, Logistics.

Lecturer, Multimedia Design, Limkokwing University of Creative Technology, Cyberjaya – 2011-2012

Film appreciation , Concept Development, Video Production, Motion Graphics. Assessor and adviser to final year animation students.

Content Editor, Qtel Media; Cyberjaya – 2008-2009

Content creation & development, live streaming, data management, archiving of digital content, supervising and overseeing project from start to finish, developing datelines, video editing, content design, motion graphics, supervising interns, camera crew and post production crew, conducting interviews, writing for script and interviews, direct-ing talent, casting.

Assistant Producer, 8TV Media Prima; Kuala Lumpur – 2007-2008

Planning and coordinating shoots, client liaison, managing crew members, talent liaison, content creation & development, supervising and overseeing project from start to finish, developing datelines, video editing, content design, directing, data archiving, motion graphics, supervising staff, interns and editors, camera crew and post production crew, conducting interviews, writing for script and interviews, directing talent, casting.

Interests

Painting, drawing, poetry, sport, history, cooking, innovation of existing models, interdisciplinary projects, psychology, visual perception, visual communication, kinetics, philosophy, design, film, photography, net art, new media art.

Skills

Contemporary Art, Art Direction, Visual Arts ,Art Education, Computer Animation, Traditional Animation ,Acrylic Painting, Landscape Painting ,Conceptual Art ,Graphic Design ,Content Curation ,Proposal Writing, Lecturing Syllabus Development, Film Editing, Film Production, Figure Drawing, Art consultancy, Event - Planning, Event Management, Social Media Marketing, Curating Contemporary Art, Curriculum Development, Project Management, Installation Design, Creative Writing, Web Content Writing, Content Development, Content Strategy, Strategic Planning, Marketing Strategy, Curatorial Writing, Managing Staff/Interns, Scouting for artistic talent, Online teaching, Research.

Apps

Adobe photoshop, illustrator, after effects, premier & Maya. Microsoft Teams, Zoom, Course Networking. Windows & IOS.

Exhibitions & Projects

2010 -

27/11 - Curator, Maiden Voyage, Minut Init Art Social.

2011 -

29-31/06 - Curator, Tinpix Mophog group exhibition, Minut init Art Social. 17-27/11 - Curator, Tahi Cicak: Photography exhibition , Minut Init Art Social.

2012 -

28/04-02/06 - Artist and curator, Creole:Group Exhibition, Minut Init Art Social

01/06 - Artist, Baht 19 Charity Auction, Pavilion KL

28/10 - Curator/organizer Midas Touch Art Fusion feturing Justin Lim and Andrew T Crum, Publika 24-25/11 - Artist ambassador Levis Go Forth Campaign and Exhibition @ Urbanscapes Kuala Lumpur.

2013 -

06/04 - Curator, Punk Chic in collaboration with Pearly Wong, Minut Init Art Social.

15/06 - Artist, Heineken Green Room Exhibition, KL Live Centre.

22/07 - Artist, APOV group exhibition @ Captain Melville Melbourne Australia.

23/12 - Artist and curator,"Emancipation: No such thing as freedom" with Kara Inez, Minut Init Art Social

2014 -

15-22/02 - Curator, Julley: A photography exhibition by Sadiq Mansor, Minut Init Art Social.

28/11-5/12 - Artist and curator: Fabled Structures: The Allegory of Form featuring Andrea Tan, May Chan, Minut Init Art Social.

2015 -

25/04-02/05 - Curator, Inner Visions: An Exploration of the Subconscious, Minut Init Art Social.

19-26/06 - Curator, Adolescence: an exhibition exploring reminiscence and reconnection through contemporary images of imaginary tales and folklore, Minut Init Art Social.

04-18/06 - Curator, Duality: Photography and paintings by Nadzim Zainal and Lupe Parada, Minut Init Art Social.

28/08-04/09 - Curator, Alive in Wonderland: A solo exhibition by Annie Chai exploring the essential relationship between colour and consciousness, Minut Init Art Social.
 18/09 - Organizer, Ringan-Ringan SoundSystem2, Minut Init Art Social.
 03/10 - Organizer, Opal Daze Indulgence (Fashion Show by LaLaLand and Performance by Midnight Snack, Lounge Floor Opening), Minut Init Art Social.
 03/10 - Organizer, Je Ne Sais Quoi 3:The Beginning (A Showcase of Musical Talents, Lounge Floor Opening), Minut Init Art Social.
 03/10 - Organizer, The Opening Party (House Music,Lounge Floor Opening), Minut Init Art Social.
 28/10-11/11 - Curator, Ripen at Home: Examines and celebrates the exotic while pointing out the fleetingness of this notion in the age of information and our increasingly digitised and globalised lives. Featuring Veronika Neukirch, Minut Init Art Social.
 15/11-27/11 - Curator, Circle Jerks, A Group Post-Internet Exhibition. Minut Init Art Social.
 27/11 - Organizer, Ringan-Ringan SoundSystem2, Minut Init Art Social.
 02-15/12 - Curator, WUDU by Sophia Kamal, Minut Init Art Social.
 19/12 - Organizer, OBSCR Space's Volume 1: Art Gallery, Minut Init Art Social.
 21/12 - Organizer, Suara Naga:Voices from The Dragon (A night with Arrington de Dionyso), Minut Init Art Social
 23-31/12 - Curator, The End is The Beginning:A group exhibition, Minut Init Art Social.

2016 -

08/01 - Organizer, Minut Init & Bukakemono Inc. Present:SPORTZ (In collaboration with Basement 6 Collective, Shanghai), Minut Init Art Social.
 09/01 - Organizer, Kong Across The Pond (A Night of Bass Music), Minut Init Art Social.
 15-24/01 - Artist, curator, Inured solo exhibition. Minut Init Art Social.
 19/01 - Organizer, FTP-Singer/SongWriter Showcase (Gamaharu), Minut Init Art Social.
 20/01 - Organizer, Drink & Draw @ Minut Init, Minut Init Art Social.
 30/01-06/02 : Co-Curator, Unknown Plus (x_+) by Ajim Juxta, Minut Init Art Social.
 12/02 - Organizer, So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish (DJ Night), Minut Init Art Social.
 13/02 - Organizer, Kong Across The Pond2 (A Night of Bass Music), Minut Init Art Social.
 14/02 - Organizer, Valentine's Day:Live Tinder Party, Minut Init Art Social.
 20/02 - Organizer, Happy Birthday Kurt Cobain (Nirvana Tribute Night Gig), Minut Init Art Social. 29/02 - Host & Organizer, Si Badut Sedih (Malam Mic Terbuka), Minut Init Art Social.
 04-10/03 - Curator, VDA Freakshow (A Group Exhibition), Minut Init Art Social.
 12/03 - Organizer, The Kickback (Hosted by Livelle T. Mobley), Minut Init Art Social. 19-26/03 - Curator, HIGH + Minut Init : An Art Exhibition by Fizjedar, Minut Init Art Social. 22/03 - Host & Organizer, Verbal Diarrhea:Open Mic Night, Minut Init Art Social.
 30/03 - Host & Organizer, Broken English:Open Mic Night, Minut Init Art Social.
 01/04 - Organizer, Friday 1st April (Psychedelic Gig), Minut Init Art Social.
 04/04 - Curator, Escapism:An Interpassive Theatre (version 1.0), Minut Init Art Social.
 08-14/04 - Curator, Time X Space:A Group Exhibition, Minut Init Art Social.
 16/04 - Organizer, The Daily Seni's Bintang X Bulan Celebration (Decay; A short play by Lighters Studio, PoetVsWild; SisiSeni's poetry reading, Wayang Di Bayang; A showcase of musical talents), Minut Init Art Social.
 17/04 - Organizer, Crafternoon: Cut& Craft Sunday Afternoon
 23-29/04 - Curator, Space X Time:A Group Photography Exhibition, Minut Init Art Social.
 23/04-31/05 - Artist & Curator, Intersections (cube),
 Enter the Vault (Site specific installation. Hang Tuah LRT station, Urbanscape house (underground vault). 28/04 - Organizer, Minut Init X Urbanscape 2016: Drink&Draw (Vault Heist), Urbanscape House.
 13-14/05 - Artist & Curator, Minut Init X Lena Kravchenko Cube Installation (Site specific installation: Hari Belia 2016 @ UPM)
 27/05-03/06 - Co-Curator, Once Upon A Midnight:A Group Exhibition, Minut Init Art Social.
 04/06 - Organizer, Ringan-Ringan Soundsystem Presents: Pre Puasa Groovin', Minut Init Art Social. 04/06 - Organizer, Northern Drug Tour:SpeakZodiac, Minut Init Art Social.
 24/06-01/07 - Curator, Morphic Resonance:A Group Exhibition, Minut Init Art Social.
 25/06 - Organizer, Champion Sound, Minut Init Art Social.

15/07 - Organizer, Ringan-Ringan Soundsystem presents:Uptown Dub Skankin', Minut Init Art Social. 22/07 - Organizer, Muhd Jayzuan:Gustavo Tour (Poetry Reading & Acoustic), Minut Init Art Social. 30/07 - Organizer, Skits: Live @ Minut Init, Minut Init Art Social.
20-27/08 - Co-Curator, 2057:A Group Exhibition , Minut Init Art Social.
05-12/08 - Artist & Curator, In Collaboration with Basement 6 Collective, Shanghai presents: (Wang Rou)网网 肉肉's SHOW (Streamed Live via LivingRoom.Today), Minut Init Art Social.
20/08 - Organizer, Champion Sound feat. Rumshot (Dub Skankin' Hi-Fi) | Hosted By Masia One, Minut Init Art Social.
27/08 - Organizer, The Day We Call It A Day, Di Heret Kekeliruan (A book launch party by B58 Publication), Minut Init Art Social.
02-19/09 - Artist & Facilitator, Andy Warhol Social Circus Silk screen factory, Slate @ The Row.
05-10/09 - Curator, Home Soon:Assemblage and Collage Exhibition, Minut Init Art Social.
07/09 - Organizer, Drink&Draw+Collage:Andy Warhol Social Circus X Home Soon, Slate @ The Row, KL. 17/09-19/09 - Artist, Kitaran Art Festival commissioned sculpture and performance, Legoland @ Johor Bahru. 21/09 - Organizer, FTP-Singer Songwriter Showcase (Jiyu), Minut Init Art Social.
23-28/09 - Curator, The Ballad of:Escapeva, Minut Init Art Social.
30/09-07/10 - Artist & Curator, 6 years of Minut Init Poster Exhibition, Minut Init Art Social.
13/10 - Organizer, Thursday Octobear, Minut Init's Gig, Minut Init Art Social.
14/10 - Organizer, Rainbow Horsemen, Minut Init's 1st LGBT Halloween Party, Minut Init Art Social. 15/10 - Organizer, Champion Sound:Kuala Lumpur, Minut Init Art Social.
17/10-23/10 - Curator, Immortality: A Group Exhibition, Minut Init Art Social.
30/10 - Echoes Photography Seminar - James Harding (UK) , Kamila Ciesluk (POL) , Minut Init Art Social.

2017 -

22 - 23/06 - Facilitator/Coordinator art/creative workshops , IP Kreatif - Puteri Harbour Iskandar Puteri, Johor Bahru.
25 - 26/10 - Facilitator/Coordinator art/creative workshops , Iskarnival(Kool) - Puteri Harbour Iskandar Puteri, Johor Bahru.
10 - 31/03 - Curator & Facilitator, APHRODISIA - Solo exhibition Alya Hatta, Minut init Art Social.
12 - 15/10 - Artist, Art Expo Plus 2017 Solo Booth - James Ly "Once Upon a Time" Installation, Matrade Centre.
26/10 - Artist, Installation "Dream Window" for Isetan the Japan store, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
14/10 - Artist, Fred Perry Subculture Mural - James Ly for Fred Perry Malaysia, Gasket Alley, Malaysia.
31/10 - Director, Perspectives - Video documentation project of interviews with artists, curators and historians involved in the contemporary art scene in KL/PJ, Malaysia.

2018 -

24/02 - 24/03 - 'Soul Killers Don't Quit' -Artist and curator, duo show with Andy Wauman (Belgium), with support from Embassy of Belgium , Deweer Gallery, Minut Init Art Social.
07/07 - 14/07 - "In Defence of Poetry" - Curator, producer, artist. Group show organised in collaboration with "Kill The Radio".

2019 -

01/08 - 11/08 - 'SHIFT' group show for CENDANA (Cultural Economy Development Agency) - Selection panel and curator, , MAPSKL Publika.

2021 -

01/30 - Ongoing - '<https://anthologyofmetaverses.com>' Online initiative, virtual exhibition space and digital preservation project, tapping into the idea of the internet as a deterritorilised site - Founder and lead curator, , online (@anthologyofmetaverses). Supported by Cendana.

01/01 - Ongoing - 'Living Together' A funded online virtual anthology and digital conservation project of peranakan cultures - Founder and lead researcher, online.

01/13 - Ongoing - "copyplanet.xyz" Virtual art project with Belgian artist Andy Wauman. Writer & curator, Online.

2022 -

04/28 -04/30 - Artist, Art For All 2022 projects booth - "In Between Plants and Ghost" Installation, GMBB. With support of The National Art Gallery.

05/20 -05/29 - Artist, All Out 2022 projects booth - "In Between Plants and Ghost 2" Installation, GMBB. With support of The National Art Gallery.

28/07 - "Talking Heads Podcast Series: Metaverse Party" online - Panel Speaker. Hosted by Cultural Masseur a community of the Hong Kong Arts Centre.

24/11 - 19/01 - Curator - " Anthology of Metaverses: A Journey of Traversing Realities" . Hosted by Alliance Francaise Kuala Lumpur as part of Novembre Numerique.

15/12 - 31/01 - Curator - "Unsuspected Realities: VR" online and physical - in collaboration with Digital Art Gallery, Petaling Jaya Selangor and supported by Cendana.

2023 -

25/11 - Artist, Producer, grantee, "SENSART"- CODE Gallery, MMU. With support of The Embassy of France, Faculty of Creative Media, MMU.

15/12/23 -07/01/24 - Artist, Immersio 2023 - "Anthem of Shadows" Installation, TM Museum. With support of Filemen, Creative MMU, Centre of Interactive Media.

08/10 - 30/11 - Artists & Curator, "Star Paved" by Copyplanet. Hosted by MMU CODE gallery, Anthology of Metaverses and Centre of Interactive Media, Faculty of Creative Media Multimedia University Malaysia, Flanders State of Art.

08/09 - 08/12 - Curator - " Anthology of Metaverses: My Words Won't Change the World" . Hosted by DAG at TM Museum, Kuala Lumpur.

2024 -

12/06 - 13/06 - Chairman of Organizing committee, "APARN 2024: ART AS RESEARCH METHODS OF SYNTHETIC REASONING" Hosted by MMU CODE gallery and Centre of Interactive Media, Faculty of Creative Media Multimedia University Malaysia.

29/04 - 10.05 - Artist & Curator, "CIM OpenLab 2024: Cybernetics, Landscapes and Spiritualities" MMU CODE gallery and Centre of Interactive Media, Faculty of Creative Media Multimedia University Malaysia.

20/08 - 06/10 - Artist & Curator, "CIM OpenLab 2024: Cybernetics. MALL at TM Museum, Kuala Lumpur. Supported by Centre of Interactive Media, Filemen, Yayasan TM's Digital Incubator.

15/10 - 15/12 - Artist & Curator, CCA OpenLab 2024: Spiritualities Landscapes. MALL at TM Museum, Kuala Lumpur. Supported by Centre of Interactive Media, Filemen, Yayasan TM's Digital Incubator.

23/12 - 23/01 - Artist & Curator, CCA OpenLab 2024: Redreaming Technics: Sensing the World. MALL at TM Museum, Kuala Lumpur. Supported by Centre of Interactive Media, Filemen, Yayasan TM's Digital Incubator.

2025 -

23/12 - 23/01 - Artist & Curator, CCA OpenLab 2024: Redreaming Technics: Sensing the World. MALL at TM Museum, Kuala Lumpur. Supported by Centre of Interactive Media, Filemen, Yayasan TM's Digital Incubator.

05/02 - Organiser & Moderator, CCA OpenLab 2025: Anggun Priambodo Screening of "Evakuasi Mama Emola" & "Suli Storyboard". MMU Cinema. Supported by Faculty of Creative Muktimedia, Faculty of Cinematic Arts, Centre of Creative Arts, Yayasan Tm, TM Research & Development (Immersive Experience)

Residencies Awarded -

2012 - Can Serrat - Art Residency El Bruc, Catalonia, Spain.



References

Amanda Ariawan, Independent Curator and Writer
(+6281288397046, lalune.at@gmail.com)

Sarah Abu Bakar, Art Writer, Curator & Consultant
(+6012-234 4072, sarah@cendana.com.my)

Ken Choong, Former Head of Department, UCSI University,
Independent peranakan conservationist
(+6016 231 7769, eyegel@yahoo.com)

Veronika Neukirch, Artist & Educator
(+4407715588816, veronika.neukirch@gmail.com)

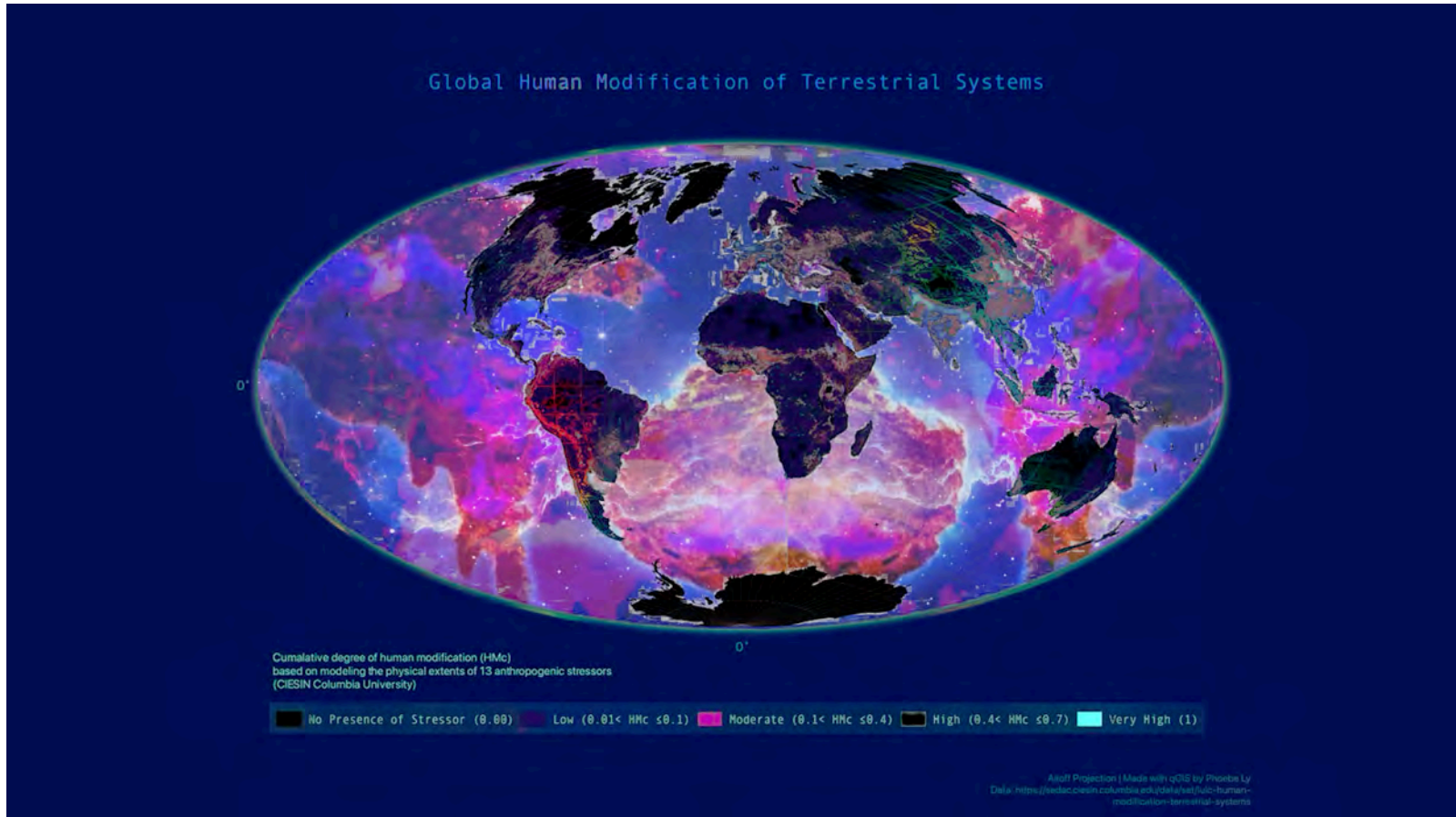
Redreaming Technics: Sensing the World
Medium: Unity games engine, AI generated models, Lidar 3D Scans, Sounds of
Earths Magnetic field(ESA) 2024



From the series Redreaming Technics
Medium: Projection, mp4 video, Ai generated satellite images of speculative landscapes
2024



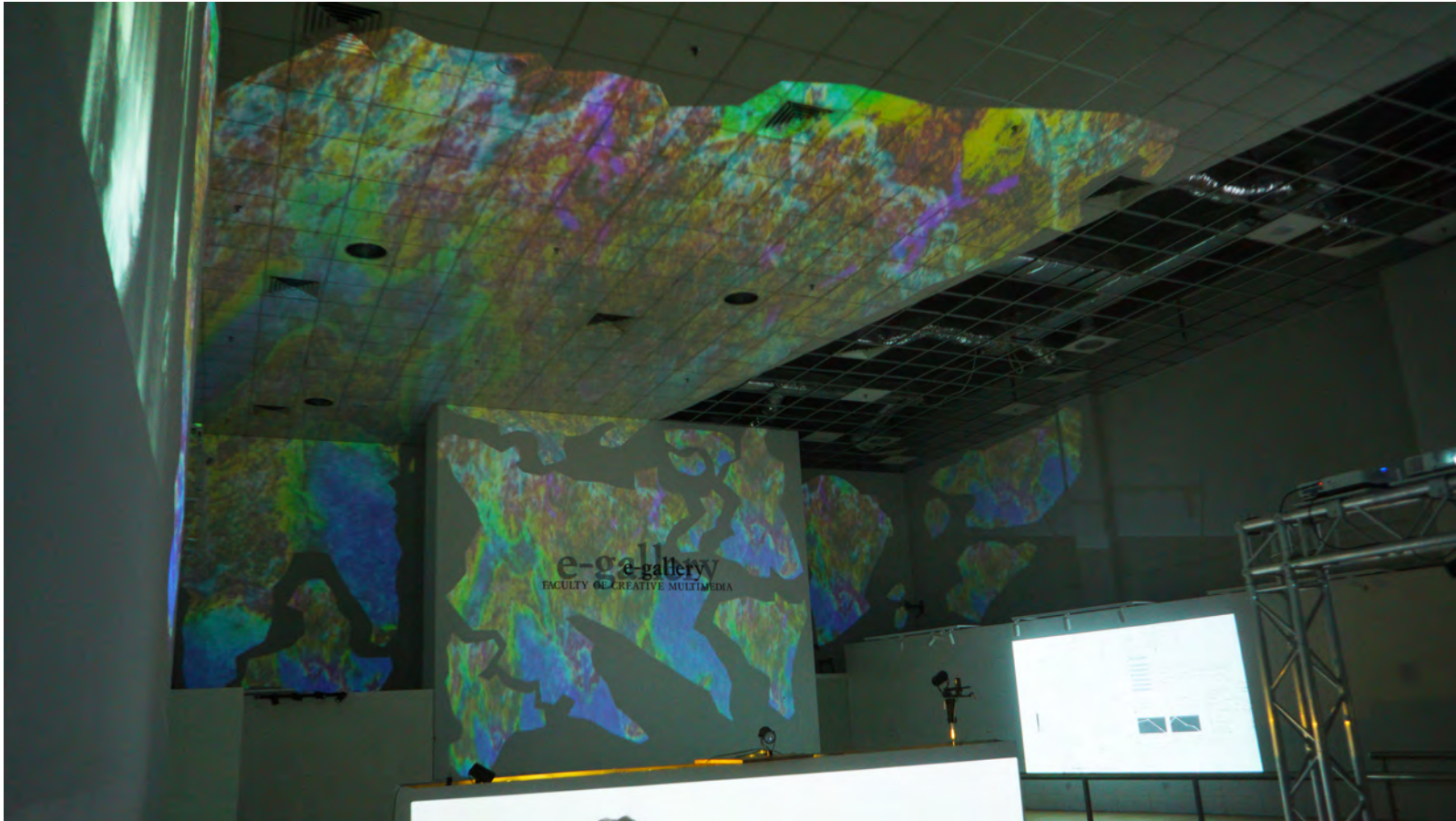
From the series Redreaming Technics
Medium: Map of Anthropological stressors on the Earth, Ai generated images of the earth, whale calls,orca footage
2024



From the series Redreaming Technics
Medium: Projection, MP4 video, Ai generated landscapes
2024



Shifting Landscapes
Medium: Projector, MP4 video, Ai generated satellite images, touch designer.
2024





Anthem of Shadows
Medium: GIF, touch designer, Maya 3D, projector, screens
2023





In Between Plants and Ghost 1.0
Medium: Organic and inorganic matter, container, led lights
2022







