



# URBAN MEDIA ART ACADEMY

SINGAPORE  
28 FEBRUARY  
- 3 MARCH 2019



CITY OF QUANTIFIED VISIONS

LAB+LECTURES || FIELD TRIP ||  
SYMPOSIUM

@ SCHOOL OF ART, DESIGN AND MEDIA  
NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY |  
@NATIONAL GALLERY SINGAPORE

## OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

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28 Feb.-1 MARCH  
9.30.00-18.00

Urban Media Art Academy  
LAB ++ LECTURES ++ FIELD TRIP  
*@ School Of Art, Design And Media |Nanyang Technological  
University Singapore*

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2 MARCH  
9.30.00-18.00

Urban Media Art Academy  
LAB ++ LECTURES ++ FIELD TRIP  
*@ Classroom / National Gallery Singapore*

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3 MARCH  
15.30-17.30

Urban Media Art Academy  
PUBLIC PANEL  
*@ Classroom / National Gallery Singapore*

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## ABOUT THE URBAN MEDIA ART ACADEMY

The Urban Media Art Academy is conceived as a networked initiative that investigates and intermediates *What Urban Media Art Can Do - why when where and how – for people, communities, society, our cities and future environments*. It is an interdisciplinary learning environment for artists, curators, designers, architects, scholars and city makers to explore how to bring media art closer to processes of change in local and global urban contexts today. It is initiated with aims of facilitating and qualifying thoughtful, ethical and sustainable practice with media aesthetic expressions - based on the publication *What Urban Media Art Can Do - why when where and how* published at avedition.

## URBAN MEDIA ART ACADEMY SINGAPORE: CITY OF QUANTIFIED VISIONS

28 Feb.- 3 March: LAB ++ LECTURES ++ FIELD TRIP ++ PUBLIC PANEL  
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UNIVERSITY SINGAPORE | NATIONAL GALLERY SINGAPORE

The Urban Media Art Academy 2019 program addresses to Singapore, one of the world's most high ranking 'smartest' cities today, with advanced technologies of surveillance and tracking functionalities implemented across the island city-state. The computational infrastructure of intelligent cameras and sensors is mirrored in intense urban media aesthetics of light and celebration in this competitive urban context, growing fast in size, resolution and computational complexity while contributing to quantifying the quality and spatial feel at a street level. Quantified visions fuse through ecologies of intelligence and intensity and familiarize Singapore's citizens to perfect designs for housing, transport, economy, recreation, identity and public spaces, which are priority areas formulated at the top. But do the visions of seamless government and celebratory aesthetics behind Singapore's urban blueprint also stimulate initiative, participation and engagement at the human scale, from the bottom-up?

With this Academy program we examine the urban visions reflected in Singapore's urban media aesthetic environments and ask: how may urban visions embedded in art's intensities differ, and how can they co-exist? How can art engage intensities that stimulate rather than compute human behavior?



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theory	<b>thursday 28 february 2019</b> @adm   NTU
9.00-9.30	check in registrations
9.30-10.00	<b>welcome and introduction</b> by Prof. Kristy H.A. Kang, School of Art, Design & Media, Nanyang Technological University Singapore Tanya Toft Ag and Susa Pop, directors of Urban Media Art Academy
10.00-10.45	<b>urban media art - what can it do?</b> visions and theory by Tanya Toft Ag
	<b>unwrapping the theme</b>
10.45-11.15	<b>1. curatorial perspective</b> investigating the curatorial questions about the City of Quantified Visions by Tanya Toft Ag
11.15-12.15	<b>group conversation</b> discussion about the urgency and relevance of urban media art related to the curatorial theme of the City of Quantified Visions
12.15-13.15	lunch break



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13.15-14.15 talk: 40 min. Q/A: 20 min	<b>2. philosophical perspective</b> philosophical approach including the ethics and historical background of societal development of Singapore towards a City of Quantified Visions by Audrey Yue, National University of Singapore
14.15-14.30	break
14.30-15.30 each talk: 25 min. Q/A: 10 min.	<b>3.1. perspective on the facts and figures</b> by Ludovica Tomarchi, Future Cities Laboratory Singapore  <b>3.2. 'being seen - being watched'</b> by Preeti Gaonkar, project manager of ASEF and ASEM Cultural Festival
15.30-16.00	<b>group conversation</b> discussion about relevant issues of the City of Quantified Visions Where might we find them in Singapore? What issues and urban urgencies might they reveal?
16.00-17.00	<b>introduction to the field trip methodology</b>
17.00-19.00	<b>field visit</b> tour to Chinatown on Telok Ayer and Amoy Street area guided by Kristy H.A. Kang, ADM / NTU

<b>practice</b>	<b>friday 1 march 2019</b> @adm   NTU
9.30-9.45	<b>welcome &amp; sharing reflections about the field visit</b> by Tanya Toft Ag and Susa Pop



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9.45-11.00	<p><b>presentation of the field trip</b></p> <p>by the participants - including different perspectives on the City of Quantified Visions which we have explored during the field trip</p>
11.00-11.15	break
	<b>input talks to citymaking</b>
<p>11.15-12.00</p> <p>talk: 30 min.</p> <p>Q/A 15 min.</p>	<p><b>1. curatorial practices and methodologies from urban media art to citymaking</b></p> <p>by Susa Pop</p>
<p>12.00-12.45</p> <p>talk: 20 min.</p> <p>Q/A: 25 min</p>	<p><b>2. perspective on the local context</b></p> <p>presentation of the community studies and methodologies by Prof. Kristy H.A. Kang</p> <p>What can we learn from this study? Which methodologies can we apply for the field trip?</p>
<p>12.45-13.30</p> <p>talk: 20 min.</p> <p>Q/A: 25 min</p>	<p><b>3. creative technology perspectives on the City of Quantified Visions</b></p> <p>by Ina Conradi , Associate Professor, School of Art, Design and Media, Nanyang Technological University and Mark Chavez, creative director of Media Art Nexus (MAN) at NTU</p>
13.30-15.00	<p>lunch break and tour to the MAN screen / Nexus Gallery</p> <p>facilitated by Ina Conradi and Mark Chavez</p>
<p>15.00-16.00</p> <p>talk: 30 min.</p> <p>Q/A 30 min.</p>	<p><b>4. artistic perspectives on the City of Quantified Visions</b></p> <p>by Elliot Woods</p>
16.00-17.30	<p><b>3. parallel input labs</b></p> <p><b>context - creation - creative technologies</b></p> <p>facilitated by Kristy H.A. Kang, Elliot Woods and Ina Conradi &amp; Mark Chavez</p>



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practice	<b>saturday 2 march 2019</b> @National Gallery Singapore
9.30-10.30	<b>welcome conversation and tour of Sensorial Trail</b> by Vanini Belarmino, assistant director of the public programmes of the National Gallery Singapore and Tanya Toft Ag and Susa Pop, directors of the Urban Media Art Academy
10.30-11.30 talk: 30 min. Q/A 30 min.	<b>fails of digital +/- physical art</b> evolutionary learnings from the development of in-situ digital works by Dr. Kevin Lim, Deputy Director, CoLab X, National Gallery Singapore
11.30-12.30 talk: 30 min. Q/A 30 min.	<b>artistic perspectives</b> with Blake Shaw, iLight Marina Bay festival (tbc)
12.30-13.30	lunch break
13.30-14.30 talk: 40 min. Q/A 20 min.	<b>strategies for digital placemaking of communities</b> by Prof. Luke Hespanhol, University of Sydney, head of the design research lab
14.30-14.45	break
14.45-15.00	introduction to <b>exam submission</b> by Tanya Toft Ag about learning goals and knowledge building
15.00-16.00	<b>final discussion</b> what have we learnt? what will we take with us?



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16.30-19.00	<b>communities - related field trip</b> to Peninsula Plaza by Asst. Prof. Dr. Liew Kai Khiun, Wee Kim Wee School of Communication, Nanyang Technological University
19.00-21.00	<b>dinner</b>

<b>network</b>	<b>sunday 3 march 2018</b> @National Gallery Singapore
15.30-15.45	<b>welcome</b> by Suenne Megan Tan, director of Audience Development and Engagement, National Gallery Singapore  <b>introduction to the Urban Media Art Academy</b> by Tanya Toft Ag and Susa Pop, founding directors of Urban Media Art Academy
15.45-16.25 introduction talk à 10 min	<b>panel: City of Quantified Visions</b>  <b>welcome</b> by Suenne Megan Tan, director of Audience Development and Engagement, National Gallery Singapore and Tanya Toft Ag and Susa Pop, Urban Media Art Academy  <b>introduction talks</b> <b>1. curatorial program of the Light-to-Night- Festival</b> <b>by Suenne Megan Tan</b> Director of Audience Development and Engagement, National Gallery Singapore Suenne is the Festival Director of the annual Light to Night Festival, a district wide art festival which activates the public spaces in and around Singapore's historic Civic District. She will share with audiences the overall curatorial perspective of this urban and collaborative festival, with a focus on the unique and enhanced aspects of the 2019 edition.



	<p><b>2. revisiting the festival Traces and Echos by Brandon Tay and Safuan Johari</b></p> <p>Brandon and Safuan are young Singaporean artists who work in collaboration with a diverse group of artists to present the signature series of the Light to Night festival, Art Skins on Monuments. They will present their perspectives on their involvement in this festival and share on their artistic interpretations of the theme of this year's festival, Traces and Echoes.</p> <p><b>3. artistic perspectives by Elliot Woods</b></p> <p>artist from Kimchi &amp; Chips collective, Seoul Elliot Woods will talk about 'Images that change the way we look'. He will discuss some examples of works he has designed to alter the way we tell the difference between images and reality.</p> <p><b>4. urban media art perspectives by Tanya Toft Ag</b></p> <p>co-director of the Urban Media Art Academy Tanya will introduce to the curatorial theme of the Urban Media Art Academy in Singapore 'City of Quantified Visions' and elaborate the urban change of our cities through urban media art aesthetics.moderated by Vanini Belarmino, Assistant Director, Programmes of the National Gallery Singapore</p>
16.25-17.15	<p><b>panel discussions</b></p> <p>Following each speakers' 10 min presentation on their topics, they examine the topic of urban media art in a city like Singapore from the perspective of local institutions and artists (Suenne, Brandon, Safuan) and international artists and academics (Elliot, Tanya).</p> <p>moderated by Vanini Belarmino, Assistant Director, Programmes of the National Gallery Singapore</p>
17.15-17.30	<p><b>questions &amp; answers</b> by the audience</p>
17.30-18.30	<p><b>reception</b></p>





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