

NEWS RELEASE

Lim Tzay-Chuen: Singapore's Venice Biennale representative to showcase new work at LASALLE-SIA

Friday, 17 June 2005

Singaporeans will soon have the chance to experience the work of Lim Tzay-Chuen, Singapore's sole representative at the Venice Biennale, without having to fly to Italy. From 24 June, the Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore will present the artist's new work, simply entitled *A Work by Lim Tzay-Chuen* at Earl Lu Gallery in Singapore.

This exhibition is curated by Dr Eugene Tan, Director of LASALLE-SIA's Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore. In February this year, the National Arts Council had appointed the Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore to curate Lim's work at the Singapore Pavilion at the 51st La Biennale di Venezia (Venice Biennale). Established in 1895, the Venice Biennale is the most prestigious international contemporary art event and widely regarded as one of the most significant. Singapore has been participating in the event since 2001. This is, however, the first time that only one artist has been selected to represent Singapore. The 51st Venice Biennale is held in Venice, Italy, from 12 June to 6 November 2005.

A Work by Lim Tzay-Chuen at Earl Lu Gallery at LASALLE-SIA offers Singaporeans the opportunity to experience Lim's work at the same time as the Venice Biennale at their very own doorstep.

Born in Singapore in 1972, Lim has participated in numerous local and international exhibitions. Some of his outstanding Singapore exhibitions included those realised at the Substation (2001) and TheatreWorks (2003), while, internationally, Lim's work has been exhibited at Polypolis at the Kunthaus Hamburg, Germany (2001), the Gwangju Biennale, Korea (2002) and the Sydney Biennale, Australia (2004).

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Lim Tzay-Chuen who refers to himself as 'a lousy salesman', questions and redefines aesthetic experience. He compels viewers to reflect upon their experience of his work and to critically re-evaluate their perceptions and assumptions of what constitutes aesthetic experience. He achieves this through intricate and complex engagements with the social, economic, cultural and political processes that define the particular contexts around which his work is situated.

Lim's interventions acknowledge the transitory and fragmented nature of space and memory, and it is their engagement with the volatility and uncertainty of situations that is significant. His work rejects the construction and definition of prescribed meanings as to what comprises a work of art. Instead, the recognition of an aesthetic event derives from moments of self-discovery, often involving reflexivity and intuition.

A Work by Lim Tzay-Chuen is a poignant installation which will epitomise Lim's unique and complex engagement with the experience of art. The exhibition will be from 24 June – 31 July at Earl Lu Gallery at LASALLE-SIA College of the Arts.

About the Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore

Established by LASALLE-SIA College of the Arts, the Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore is devoted to the exhibition and research of international and Asian contemporary art. Through its exhibition programme at its facility, Earl Lu Gallery, as well as its extensive programme of publications, conference and research activities, it aims to further the discourse on contemporary art in Asia.

Exhibition Details:

Title: *A Work by Lim Tzay-Chuen*
Exhibition Duration: 24 June – 31 July 2005
Venue: Earl Lu Gallery, LASALLE-SIA College of the Arts
Address: 90 Goodman Road, Singapore 439053
Time: 10am - 6pm (including Sundays)
Price: Free
Enquiries: Tel: +65 6340 9102 or Email: icas@lasallesia.edu.sg

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Visuals and interviews with the curator, Dr Eugene Tan may be arranged upon request.

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Note on the College name

LASALLE-SIA College of the Arts

The name of the College always appears as “LASALLE-SIA College of the Arts” or “LASALLE-SIA” in short. “LASALLE-SIA” is always in uppercase, appears as one word and is hyphenated.

In Mandarin, the College name appears as 拉萨尔—新航艺术学院
or, in short, 拉萨尔—新航