

Everyday We Create Histories

Artists: Lai Yu Tong, Li Shan, Lu Lei, Arin Rungjang, Sun Xun, Melati Suryodarmo, Boedi Widjaja, Xu Zhen, Yang Fudong

Exhibition Period: 14 March 2026 – 30 April 2026

Singapore, March 2026 — ShanghART Singapore is pleased to present *Everyday We Create Histories*, bringing together works by nine artists who offer different ways of looking at, constructing, and questioning history. Spanning across painting, photography, sculpture, and animation, the exhibition provides multiple entry points into the idea of history, positioning artists as observers of the past and artmaking as an act of both remembrance and resistance.

We often understand “history” as a record of past events. Yet not everything that happens becomes history. Events must be witnessed, documented, and circulated before they are collectively remembered as part of history. At each stage, various factors and decisions determine whether an event gets turned into history, and how it is framed. Under such conditions, history reveals itself as contingent and malleable rather than singular and fixed.

It is within this space where artistic practice operates. Artists offer their own readings of the world, attending to the cracks and dents within history through their work. Their efforts range from the everyday to the monumental; from glancing at the recent present to looking at the distant past. Drawing on motifs, crafting narratives, and engaging materiality, the artists created works that invoke intersecting possibilities, suggesting presence as much as absence. What remains unspoken and outside of the frame can at times appear as loud and clear as what is placed before our eyes.

Across diverse contexts and subjects, the artists in *Everyday We Create Histories* continually examine both present and past, sharing distinctive takes that could shed light on the future as much as reflecting on what has been. The exhibition invites us to look beyond what is visible and read between the lines, encouraging us to reconsider our roles not only as a spectator, but also as active participants in the ongoing making and reading of history, day after day.

About the Artists

Lai Yu Tong (b. 1996) is an artist from Singapore who works across drawing, image-making, sculpture and sound. His practice is interested in creating adequate media to articulate the present, believing in the intrinsic need for humans to make images and tell stories.

Li Shan (b. 1942) is a Chinese contemporary artist and a pioneer of Bio-Art. In 1993, Li began investigations on life science through his art. Based on molecular biology, he completed the first-ever genetic Bio-Art project Reading in 1998.

Lu Lei (b. 1972) works show sensitivity and precise control of material texture. In his works, social symbols, personal memories and sensitive intuitions of material attributes are combined to form a closed system with hidden orders.

Arin Rungjang (b. 1975) is known for deftly revisiting historical material, overlapping major and minor narratives across multiple times, places, and languages. He has a practice that spans different media and often involves video and site-specific installation.

Sun Xun (b. 1980) work primarily consists of animated films, along with related manuscripts and pieces developed using other mediums.

Melati Suryodarmo (b. 1969) work is the result of ongoing research in the movements of the body and its relationship to the self and the world. These are enshrined in photography, translated into choreographed dances, enacted in video or executed in live performances.

Boedi Widjaja (b. 1975) explores migration through the conceptual frames of house, home and homeland, engaging with space and semiotics. Trained in architecture and design, Boedi works across media, often combining scientific phenomena with poetic gesture.

Xu Zhen (b. 1977) has been considered as an iconic figure in Chinese contemporary art. His works express not only the tendency of performativity but also contain a strong conceptual meaning and narrative in multiple themes and events.

Yang Fudong (b. 1971) works explore the structures and forms of identities in myths, personal memories, and life experiences while providing a unique visual interpretation of the subject from multiple cultural perspectives that transcend time and space.

About ShanghART

ShanghART Gallery was established in Shanghai in 1996. It has since grown to become one of China's most influential art institutions and a vital player in the development of contemporary art in China, working with over 50 pioneering and emerging artists, including DING Yi, LI Shan, LIN Aojie, Arin RUNGJANG, SUN Xun, Melati SURYODARMO, TANG Da Wu, Apichatpong WEERASETHAKUL, XU ZHEN®, YANG Fudong, ZENG Fanzhi, and ZHAO Renhui Robert.

ShanghART Singapore was established in 2012 as the gallery's Southeast Asia wing, located in the contemporary art cluster Gillman Barracks. The gallery's first overseas space serves as a platform to introduce Chinese contemporary art to the region while developing collaborations with Southeast Asian artists, facilitating cross-cultural dialogues and enriching artistic exchanges within the global art community.

  @shanghart.singapore

For interviews & enquiries, please contact:
Tian Lim
T: +65 6734 9537 | tianlim@shanghartgallery.com