

Maps of the Sea

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This is an early attempt at compiling a list of exhibitions, conferences, publications and related events where modern and contemporary art in Southeast Asia countries are mapped regionally – within the discursive and disciplinary frameworks of either Southeast Asia (primary) and/or Asia (secondary).

Instead of thinking about the development of modern art exclusively within the national, these regional overlays construct an expanded form of narrative that largely based itself on discursive models that are either comparative (different developments of what national is in terms of cultural production) and/or essentialist (trying to seek out commonalities amongst the selected area of study).

As Southeast Asia, a geo-political/cultural concept that gained currency in the Post-war period, has been continuously reinvented in political, economic and cultural usages, conversations pertaining to its significance and relevance are in themselves useful in decentering the study of modern art solely within the national while at the same time proposing a disciplinary field that is at least categorically useful to complicate how the development of modern and the contemporary art outside of Europe and America can be discussed and understood.

Corrections and contributions are more than welcome; write to me at noosnomis AT gmail DOT com (Simon Soon)

[PUB] publication

[EXH] exhibition

[CFR] conference, symposium, meeting

[EVT] event

1957

[EXH] First Southeast Asia Art Exhibition: A Southeast Asian Competition and Exhibition organised in Manila, chaired by the president of the Art Association of the Philippines. Malaya's Patrick Ng Kah Onn won the first prize followed by the Philippines' Vincente Manansala. Other known participating artists include: Dave Shanti (India), Syed Ahmad Jamal (Malaya), Simon Saulog (Philippines), J Sultan Ali (India).

1963

[EVT] The First South-East Asia Cultural Festival in Singapore 8 August.

1964

[CFR] Seminar on Fine Arts of Southeast Asia held in Bangkok. Organised by the Association of Southeast Asian Institutions of Higher Learning.

1968

[EXH] 1st ASEAN Exhibition held in Jakarta featuring artists from Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines.

1972

[EXH] All five founding members of ASEAN (Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore) participated in an exposition of painting and photography in Singapore.

1974

[EXH] ASEAN Mobile Exhibition inaugurated in Kuala Lumpur with the purpose of promoting, 'improving' understanding among member nations. Set as traveling exhibition in member countries.

1978

[CFR] 6-8 March, meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Culture in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

[CFR] ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information (COCI) established. 1st Meeting in Manila, Philippines on 4-6 October.

1979

[CFR] 13-15 June: Meeting of ASEAN Cultural Experts in Manila, the Philippines (including 1st Meeting of ASEAN Museum Directors). A directory of ASEAN Museums published.

1980

[EXH] COCI sponsored ASEAN Painting and Photograph exhibition held in Jakarta and subsequently travelled to Bali.

[EXH][CFR][PUB] Asian Art Show Part II: Contemporary Asian Art Show (Fukuoka Art Museum) (13 Asian countries joined: including Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand from Southeast Asia). Symposium Topic: 'What must be done for the future of Asian tradition and art which have been changed under the influence of Western art?'

1981

[EXH][CFR] 1st ASEAN Square Sculpture Symposium and exhibition in Singapore 27 March – 28 April.

[EXH][PUB] 1st ASEAN Traveling Exhibition of Painting, Graphic Arts and Photography in Bangkok

1982

[EXH][CFR] 2nd ASEAN Travelling Exhibition of Paintings and Photographs (Exhibition and Symposium) in Kuala Lumpur. Symposium dates 13-17 December.

1983

[EHX][CFR] 2nd ASEAN Sculpture Symposium in Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. Exhibition ran from 16 October – 2 December.

1984

[EXH][CFR][PUB] 2nd Asian Art Show (Fukuoka Art Museum) (13 countries join including Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Burma) Special section: Art of Bali/ Symposium: 'Contemporary Asian Art - Its future perspective'

[EXH][CFR] 3rd ASEAN Travelling Exhibition of Paintings and Photographs (Exhibition and Symposium) in Manila, Philippines from 24 Feb – 25 March. Traveled to Singapore on 14 April – 13 May. Traveled to Jakarta, Indonesia on 14 June – 13 July. Traveled to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 14 August – 12 September.

[EXH][CFR] 3rd ASEAN Square Sculpture Symposium in Jakarta. 6 November – 21 December.

1985

[EXH] 13 – 17 January 4th ASEAN Travelling Exhibition of Paintings and Photographs in Singapore.

[EXH] 5th ASEAN Travelling Exhibition of Painting and Photography in Brunei Darussalam. 1 – 30 November.

1986

[EXH][CFR] 4th ASEAN Sculpture Symposium in Brunei Darussalam 11 Jan – 24 Feb.

[CFR] 2nd Meeting of ASEAN Working Group on Visual and Performing Arts, in Manila 22 – 24 October.

1987

[EXH][CFR] 5th ASEAN Square Sculpture Symposium in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 19 July – 1 September.

[CFR] 3rd Meeting of ASEAN Working Group on Visual and Performing Arts in Singapore in July.

1988

[CFR] 4th Meeting of ASEAN Working Group on Visual and Performing Arts in Singapore 24 -25 November

[EXH][CFR] 6th ASEAN Square Sculpture Symposium (Theme: Towards Regional Identity), in the Philippines 3 November – 17 November.

1989

[EXH][CFR][PUB] 3rd Asian Art Show - Symbolic Visions in Contemporary Asian Life (15 countries including the founding members of ASEAN + Brunei)

[CFR][PUB] 1st ASEAN Symposium of Aesthetics, Workshop and Exhibition 9th Oct – 27th Oct. 1989, Kuala Lumpur: Published by ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information, 1990. Symposium held in Kuala Lumpur Oct 24-27 1989. Includes Niranjan Rajah essay, 'Regionalism in an Era of Global Art in Constructing Cultural Identities in the Context of Globalisation'

1990

[EXH] Narrative Visions in Contemporary ASEAN Art (from the collection of the Fukuoka Art Museum) at Japan Foundation ASEAN Culture Center Gallery (12 Feb - 26 Feb). Artists came from Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand.

[EXH] Tradition, the Source of Inspiration at Fukuoka Art Museum (2 May - 17 June). Artists came from Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand.

[EVT] ASEAN Cultural Center established in Tokyo.

[CFR] 6th Meeting of ASEAN Working Group on Visual and Performing Arts in Singapore 7-9 November.

1991

[CFR] Modernism and Post-modernism in Asian Art conference in Canberra, convened by John Clark.

1992

[EXH][PUB] Y. Furuichi, M. Ushiroshoji, Y. Sakonaka, New Art from Southeast Asia [bilingual], Tokyo: Japan Foundation 1992. Exh at Fukuoka Art Museum (Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines)

1993

[EXH][PUB] 1st Asia-Pacific Triennale organized by Queensland Art Gallery.

[EXH][CFR][PUB] The Aesthetics of ASEAN Expressions: A documentation of the second ASEAN Workshop, Exhibition and Symposium on Aesthetics (Manila, Philippines 8-21 October 1993). Proceedings published by ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information, 1994.

[PUB] 'Contemporary Arts of the Region: South East Asia and Australia', ARTLINK, vol 13 No. 3 November 1993 [Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia] [Part I]

[PUB] Modernity in Asian Art, John Clark (ed.), The University of Sydney East Asian Series no. 7, Wild Peony, 1993.

[PUB] Tradition and Change: Contemporary Art of Asia and the Pacific, Caroline Turner (ed.), Queensland University Press, 1993

1994

[PUB] 'Contemporary Arts of the Region: South East Asia and Australia', ARTLINK, vol 13 No. 4 March 1994 [Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia] [Part II]

[EXH][PUB] 4th Asian Art Show: Realism as an Attitude (Brunei, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand)

[CFR] ASEAN Visual Arts Education Symposium and Workshop in Manila 4-9 November.

[PUB] Rod Paras-Perez, 'South-East Asian Sense and Sensibility: The well-filled space, the well-cut silence', Art & Asia Pacific, Vol. 1, No. 4, 1994.

1995

[EVT] Japan Foundation's Asia Center established in October.

[EXH] [PUB] *Asian Modernism: Diverse Development in Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand.* Japan Foundation Asia Center, Tokyo.

[EXH][CFR][PUB] 3rd ASEAN Workshop, Exhibition and Symposium on Aesthetics in Singapore. Proceedings published by ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information in 1997.

[PUB] Julie Ewington, 'Five elements: Is installation the medium of Southeast Asia?' Art Asia-Pacific, Vol. 2 no. 1, 1995.

[EXH][PUB] *Visions of Happiness: Ten Asian Contemporary Artists*, The Japan Foundation ASEAN Culture Center, Shimizu Toshio (curator), 25 Feb – 26 Mar

1995. (Artists from SEA included: Heri Dono, Wong Hoy Cheong, Alwin Reamillo and Juliet Lea, Suzann Victor, Araya Rasdjarmrearnsook, Chatchai Puipia)

1996

[EXH][PUB] TK Sabapathy, *Modernity and Beyond: Themes in Southeast Asia art*, Singapore: Singapore Art Museum, 1996

[EXH][PUB] 2nd Asia-Pacific Triennale. Important article by TK Sabapathy.

[EXH][PUB] *Tradition/Tension: Contemporary Arts in Asia* by Asia Society Gallery in New York, travelled to Vancouver (Canada), Perth (Australia)

[PUB] *Southeast Asian Art Today*, Joyce Fenema (ed), Roeder Publications, 1996.

[PUB] Julie Ewington, 'Between the cracks: Art and Method in SE Asia', *Art AsiaPacific*, vol. 3 no. 4 1996.

[PUB] Flaudette May V. Datuin, *Research on Women Artists of Indonesian, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam*. Research commissioned by ISIS International. Unpublished due to funding constraints.

1997

[EXH][PUB] *Birth of Modern Art in Southeast Asia*, Fukuoka Art Museum (9 May - 8 June) (Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam)

[EXH][PUB] *Art in SEA: Glimpses into the Future*, Japan Foundation

[EXH][PUB] *ASEAN Masterworks: Brunei, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore* (Kuala Lumpur: National Art Gallery, 1997)

[PUB] 'ASEAN art awards 1996', *ASIAN ART NEWS*, VOL. 7, NO. 1. JAN/FEB 1997

1998

[PUB] John Clark, *Modern Asian Art*, Sydney: Craftsman House G+B Arts International, 1998

[EXH] *First Asiatopia in Bangkok*.

[PUB] Gregory Galligan, 'The ASEAN Art Awards', *Art AsiaPacific*, no. 18, 1998

[PUB] Rachel Farnay, 'An ASEAN success story', *Asian Art News*, vol. 8 no. 1 Jan/Feb, 1998.

[PUB] Akira Tatehata, 'Crossroads of Culture: A Survey of Recent Southeast Asian Art in Tokyo', *Art AsiaPacific*, no. 17, 1998.

[PUB] Caroline Turner, 'Asian Modernisms: The Birth of the Modern in Southeast Asia', *Art AsiaPacific*, no. 17, 1998.

1999

[EXH][PUB] 3rd Asia-Pacific Triennale

[EXH][PUB] 1st Fukuoka Asian Art Triennale (5th Asian Art Show) and opening of Fukuoka Asian Art Museum

[EXH] E-Art ASEAN Online: Online Database for Internet Art from Southeast Asia by Hasnul J Saidon and Niranjan Rajah

[EXH][PUB] Apinan Poshyananda, "'Con Art" seen from the edge: the meaning of conceptual art in South and Southeast Asia', in *Global Conceptualism: Points of origin, 1950s – 1980s*, New York: Queens Museum of Art, 1999.

2000

[PUB] Jason Jones, 'Could Installation Art be the New Medium for Southeast Asia?' in *Explorations in Southeast Asian Studies* (A Journal of the Southeast Asian Studies Student Association), Vol. 4 (Fall 2000).

[EXH][PUB] *Visions and Enchantment: Southeast Asian Paintings*, Ahmad Mashadi (ed), Singapore Art Museum, Singapore.

[PUB] *Studies in Southeast Asian Art: Essays in Honor of Stanley J. O'Connor*, Nora A. Taylor (ed.), Ithaca, New York: Southeast Asia Program Publications, Cornell University, 2000

- Includes articles on Modern Indonesian Ceramics, Lucia Hartini, Vietnamese Art Historiography.

[EXH][PUB] *12 ASEAN Artists*, Karim Raslan (ed.), Kuala Lumpur: National Art Gallery, 2000

2001

[PUB] *Visual Arts in ASEAN - Continuity and Change*, Kuala Lumpur: ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information, 2001.

[PUB] Sian E Jay, 'An ASEAN looking-glass', *Asian Art News*, vol. 11, no. 1, 2001.

[PUB] Iola Lenzi, 'Twelve ASEAN artists', *Art AsiaPacific*, 31 2001.

2002

[EXH][PUB] *36 Ideas from Asia: Contemporary South-East Asian Art*. First ASEAN sponsored exhibition not organised along national lines)

[PUB] *Past, Present, Beyond: Re-nascence of an Art Collection*, TK Sabapathy (ed.), Singapore: South and Southeast Asian Gallery/NUS Museum, 2002

2003

[PUB] *Under Construction: New Dimensions of Asian Art*, Japan Foundation/Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery. 7 Dec 2002 – 2 March 2003.

[PUB] Marjorie Chu, *Understanding Contemporary Southeast Asian Art*, Singapore: Art Forum, 2003

2004

[PUB] Jeab Gridthiya Gaweewong, 'Towards a New Paradigm: Contemporary Art from Thailand and Nan Yang', in *Yishu: Journal of Contemporary Chinese Art*, Vol. 3 No. 1 March 2004, p. 104-107.

2005

[EXH] New Media Arts Competition and Exhibition in Jakarta Indonesia organised by ASEAN COCI in August.

[PUB] *Art and Social Change: Contemporary Art in Asia and the Pacific*, Caroline Turner (ed.), Pandanus Press, 2005.

[CFR] Seng YuJin, 'Contemporary Art in SEA: A Process of Mapping and Re-mapping' presented at the HPAIR Conference at Mori Art Museum, Tokyo (unpublished)

[EXH][CFR][PUB] *Cubism in Asia* organised by The Japan Foundation, the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, the National Museum of Contemporary Art, Korea and Singapore Art Museum. Tokyo: 9 Aug – 2 Oct 2005; Seoul: 11 Nov – 30 Jan 2006; Singapore: 18 Feb – 9 Apr 2006; Paris: 16 May – 7 July 2007.

[EXH][PUB] *Spaces and Shadows: Contemporary Art from Southeast Asia*, Shaheen Merali (ed.), House of World Cultures, Berlin, 2005. ** Includes the exhibition - Politics of Fun: Contemporary Art from Southeast Asia, curated by Gridthiya Gaweewong and Ong Keng Sen,

2006

[PUB] *Eye of the Beholder: Reception, Audience and Practice of Modern Asian Art*, John Clark, Maurizio Peleggi and TK Sabapathy (eds.), University of Sydney East Asian Series No. 15, Wild Peony, 2006.

[EXH] *Telah Terbit (Out Now): Southeast Asia Contemporary Art Practice During the 70s*, Singapore Art Museum.

2007

[PUB] *Telah Terbit (Out Now): Southeast Asia Contemporary Art Practice During the 70s*, Ahmad Mashadi (ed.), Singapore Art Museum, 2006

2008

[EXH] *CUT: New Photography from Southeast Asia*, VWFA Kuala Lumpur and Singapore.

[EXH] Bombay Sapphire Art Projects: *Southeast Asian Video Screening*, VWFA Kuala Lumpur (Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines)

[PUB] Andrews Little, 'Mekong Art & Culture Project: Bridging the Regional Divide' in *ArtAsiaPacific*, No. 59, July/August 2008, pp. 86-7.

[PUB] Patrick Flores, 'The Curatorial Turn in Southeast Asia and the Afterlife of the Modern' in *Count 10 Before you Say Asia: Asian Art After Postmodernism*, The Japan Foundation, 2008.

[PUB] Patrick Flores, *Past Peripheral: Curation in Southeast Asia*, Singapore: NUS Museum, 2008

[EXH][PUB] Patrick Flores, 'Turns in Tropics: Artist-Curator' in *Annual Report: A Year in Exhibitions*, Okwui Enwezor (ed.), Gwangju: Gwangju Biennale, 2008.

[PUB] *Coffee, Cigarettes, and Pad Thai: Contemporary Art in Southeast Asia*, Eugene Tan (ed.), Taipei: Eslite Gallery, 2008

2009

[EXH][PUB] *Earth and Water: Mapping Art in Southeast Asia*. 19 April 2009 – 15 May, Singapore Art Museum. Landscape in art.

[EXH] *TransportAsian*. 30 May – 11 September, Singapore Art Museum. Photography from Southeast Asia.

[EXH][PUB] Jeab Gridthya Gaweewong and David Teh, excerpts from *Unreal Asia* catalogue essay and programme introductions, especially pp. 81-5. In *Festivalkatalog55. Internationale Kurzfilmtage Oberhausen* (catalogue of the 55th International Short Film Festival Oberhausen, 2009)

[PUB] Michelle Antoinette, 'Contending with Present Pasts: On Developing Southeast Asian Art Histories', in Jaynie Anderson (ed.), *Crossing Cultures: Conflict, Migration and Convergence. Proceedings of the 32nd International Congress of the History of Art*, Miegunyah Press at Melbourne University Press, Melbourne, 2009, pp. 870-874.

[EXH][PUB] *Post-Tsunami: Emerging Artists from Southeast Asia*, Eleonora Battiston (ed.) Bologna: Primo Marella Gallery, 2009

2010

[EXH][PUB] Realism in Asian Art, Singapore Art Museum 9 April – 4 July.

[PUB] TK Sabapathy, *Road to Nowhere: The Quick Rise and Long Fall of Art History in Singapore*, The Art Gallery at the National Institute of Education, Singapore, 2010.

[PUB] John Clark, *Asian Modernities: Chinese and Thai art compared, 1980 to 1999*, Sydney, Power Publications, 2010

[PUB] Alison Carroll, *The Revolution Century: Art in Asia 1900 – 2000*, Macmillan Australia, 2010.

[EXH][PUB] *Beacons of Archipelago: Contemporary Art from Southeast Asia*, Seoul, Korea: Arario Gallery, June Y. Gwak (ed.), 2010

[EXH][PUB] Making History: Southeast Asian reconquers the past to conjure the future (Tang Da Wu, Zeng Green, Vasan Sitthiket, Khanh Bui, Mella Jaarsma, Alwin Reamillo, Nge Lay), May 2010. Essay by Iola Lenzi in exhibition catalogue (curatorial essay), Esplanade Publications for Jendela Visual Arts Space, 2010, pp. 2-7.

2011

[EXH][PUB] *Negotiating Home, History and Nation: Two Decades of Contemporary Art in Southeast Asia 1991 – 2011*, Singapore Art Museum

[EXH] *Video, An Art, A History, 1965 – 2010: A Selection from the Centre Pompidou and Singapore Art Museum Collections*, Singapore Art Museum