



Gillman Barracks
47 Malan Road #01-25
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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release – 26 August 2022



Wei Leng Tay, *Untitled (cousins and relatives)*, 2022. Archival Pigment Print. 60 x 45 cm. Edition of 3 + 1 AP. Image courtesy of artist.

View From This Side
Wei Leng Tay

17 Sep - 23 Oct 2022



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EVENTS

OPENING

Sat, 17 Sept 2022, 11am - 7pm

PROGRAMME

ARTIST TOUR

Sat, 24 Sept 2022, 3pm - 4pm

Spaces limited, email info@yeoworkshop.com to RSVP

Yeow Workshop is pleased to present *View from This Side* by Wei Leng Tay, the artist's first solo exhibition at the gallery.

Local artist Wei Leng Tay works across various disciplines including photography, video, and installation. She negotiates our understanding of representation and perception through the materiality of photographs and image-making, as well as social encounters. Having lived in different cities over the years, Tay sheds new light on migrant histories, memory, and the self through her work. She documents, interviews, and collaborates with strangers from Hong Kong, Pakistan, Bangkok, and Singapore, to unravel the complexities of relationship and identity. By reworking archival material, photo prints and negatives, the artist poetically conveys their individual stories and emotions around displacement, belonging and agency that would resonate with many. Her practice moves beyond mere documentation, traversing the politics of time with auratic sensibilities.

View from This Side brings focus to a series of Tay's most recent photo works, one that had developed from a bag of family slides dated between the late 1960s and 70s, mostly taken by her parents. These old slides reveal a coming-of-age, charting her parents' migratory path through Australia, Malaysia, and Singapore. They depict how geography and history are imprinted in time through image-making. Through the artist's reprocessing and abstracting of these images, she expands upon the codes of meaning that are embedded within them, presenting novel ways of looking and remembering. Whether it is an obscure in-flight view of an aeroplane wing or a partially obliterated family portrait, an uncanny sense of familiarity is felt as traces of the past peep through. These works form the final segment of a constellation of works that Tay started in 2019.



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Wei Leng Tay, *Untitled (car parked by building)*, 2022. Archival Pigment Print. 40 x 30 cm. Edition of 3 + 1 AP.
Image courtesy of artist and Yeo Workshop

This exhibition takes its title from the words printed on the cardboard slide mount of source photographs, which guides viewers towards a specific orientation of looking at the images. Here, it is an invitation for viewers to take a closer look at the materials and processes surrounding these works. Playing on this instruction, Tay essentially raises a central question that informs the premise of this show: *what is this side from which to look?* Though the works might seek to rationalise and address what is often maudlin and its affect on us, they create a space for looking and projecting, between abstraction and reminiscence. At the same time of remediating the past, these photo works call upon deeper reflection on the values that are associated with our own ways of seeing. How we look back upon ourselves might also be a mode of looking forward.

Artist Biography



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WEI LENG TAY (b.1978, Singapore) is an artist currently living in Singapore who was based in Hong Kong from 2000-2015. Her practice spans various multi-media including photography, audio, installation, and video. She focuses on how representation is used in image-making and how difference can be negotiated through perception/reception, and the materiality of photographs. A recurrent theme in her works is the notion of displacement, where she highlights the emotional and psychic uneasiness of migration in relation to agency, home and belonging.

Wei Leng Tay is a Singaporean artist with a Master of Fine Arts, Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts, Bard College, USA, and a Bachelor of Science in Biology with a minor in humanistic studies, McGill University, Canada. Her works are in the collections of the Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Japan, Singapore Art Museum, National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, and Hong Kong Heritage Museum to name a few.

[About the Gallery](#)



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Yeo Workshop is a gallery committed to contemporary art in Singapore. This year, the gallery is focused on bringing greater prominence to local artists with several Singaporean artists joining the roster.

Opening Hours:

Tue – Sat, 11am – 7pm

Closed Sun, Mon and Public Holidays.

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