

JUSTIN LOKE (b. 1979, Singapore)

Justin Loke is a multidisciplinary artist and curator known for his storytelling-driven works, which blend installation, painting, theatre, and curatorial practice. He is the director of Vertical Submarine, an art collective acclaimed for its interdisciplinary projects.

Loke's notable achievements include receiving the JCCI Japan Foundation Arts Award in 2009. He was also the creative director and writer of *Cathay Hotel: The Curse of the Missing Red Shoe*, the highlight act of the 2022 Singapore Night Festival. In 2023, he curated *Benchmarks*, a placemaking initiative commissioned by the Civic District Alliance.

More recently, he completed an artist residency and exhibition at the Points Center for Contemporary Arts in Shanghai-Suzhou, organised by the Troy Foundation, London. He also curated *Creative Intersections: Traces of Dragons* at Funan Mall, as well as *8-Bit Word Cloud*, a public art installation for the National Gallery Singapore's *Light to Night Festival* during Singapore Art Week 2024.

Vertical Submarine has received numerous awards, including the President's Young Talent Award (Singapore, 2009), the Celeste Prize (New York, 2011), and finalist recognition for the Sovereign Asian Art Prize (Hong Kong, 2015). Featured in *ROUNDTABLE* at the 9th Gwangju Biennale, the collective's work is distinguished by a distinctive visual narrative style that has garnered international recognition and acclaim.

Loke will present a solo exhibition at Yeo Workshop in January 2027, coinciding with Singapore Art Week.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022

Flirting Point, SAW 2022, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore,
(solo exhibition by Vertical Submarine)

Vertical Submarine & The Amusement of Knowledge and Illusion, ADM Gallery, NTU, Singapore (solo exhibition by Vertical Submarine)

- 2013 *The Seven Scenes of Barry Lyndon*, Objectifs – Center for Photography and Filmmaking, Singapore (solo exhibition by Justin Loke)
- 2008 *Decomposition II: Publications is Prostitution*, Substation Gallery, Singapore (solo exhibition by Vertical Submarine)

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 *Scenes from Another Life*, curated by Chelsea Pettit from the Bagri Foundation
- 2025 *Holding (Space)*, Yeo Workshop, Singapore
- Towards Happiness, Prosperity & Progress, Reflections on the Singapore Spirit*, The Private Museum, Singapore
- Between Lands: Migration as Transformation*, The Substation and Asia-Europe Foundation, The Goethe Lab, Singapore
- 2024 *Leaving Room*, Art Jakarta 2024, with A+ Works of Art (Kuala Lumpur), Jakarta, Indonesia
- Mee Siam: Thailand and Singapore Art*, Arts House OPH, Gallery II, Singapore
- 2023 *Mad Dogs and Englishmen*, CIMB Arttober Art & Soul, A+ Works of Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Still, Dead Nature: Naturaleza Muerta*, Points Center for Contemporary Art, Troy Foundation, London/ Shanghai
- 2022 *Hotel Illiterati*, Chin Mee Chin, Singapore Art Week, Singapore
- 2018 *Mirrors and Copulation...*, Edge of Wonderland, Thailand Biennale, Krabi, Thailand
- 2017 *Chinese Illiterati 非文人*, Earl Lu Gallery, Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore, Singapore

- Table for 2 is 4... after the Big Bang*, Esplanade Concourse, Singapore
- 2015 *John Martin: Butcher or Surgeon*, Nunu Fine Art, Taipei, Taiwan
- Barry Lyndon, Prudential Singapore Eye*, Saatchi Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2014 *The Roving Eye: Contemporary Art from SE Asia*, ARTER, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2013 *Sun Tzu's Art of War*, SE Asia Pavilion, Beirut Art Fair, Lebanon
- 2012 *The Forest*, Roundtable: *Gwangju Biennale 2012*, Gwangju, Korea
- 2011 *A View with a Room*, *The Invisible Dog*, New York, United States
- Humanity will not be Happy until...*, Jakarta Biennale, Indonesia
- Incendiary Texts*, Institute of Contemporary Art, Singapore
- Armchair Philosophy*, Art Stage 2011, Marina Bay Sands, Singapore
- 2010 *Kuandu Biennale*, Kuandu Museum, Taipei

CURATORIAL EXPERIENCE

- 2026 *Fo(u)r Humours*, Cuturi Gallery, Singapore
- Creative Intersections: HobbyHorse*, Funan Mall, Singapore
- 2025 *Tran-Slate*, Singapore Design Week, National Library Board and Heritage SG, Singapore
- Elephants' Memory: Time History Memory*, Huimei Art Museum, Zhengzhou, China

- 2024 *Creative Intersections: Traces of Dragon*, Funan Mall, Singapore
- Tran-Slate 2024*, National Heritage Board, National Museum, Singapore
- 2023 *Benchmarks*, Civic District Alliance, Singapore
- 2018 *ITE Visual Arts Show 2018*, Institute of Technical Education, Singapore
- 2014 *Manner of Spitting*, Grey Projects, Singapore
- 2012 *The Goodman Bunker*, Goodman Arts Centre, Singapore
- 2009 *Forms of Persuasion*, Lim Hak Tai Gallery, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore

WRITING

- 2026 *Madmen of National Library*, Delere Press
- 2013 *The Logbook of Public Ideas Vol.II*, Red Herring, The Substation, Singapore
- 2012 *The Logbook of Public Ideas Vol. I*, Red Herring, The Substation, Singapore
- 2009 *Forms of Persuasion*, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore
- 2008 *Watching Time Pass, in Preoccupations: Things artists do anyway*, laiyan Projects, Studio Bibliothèque, Hong Kong
- Genres of Reality*, for 'Real Space Conceptual Space', exhibition by Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen exhibition, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts and Goethe- Institut Singapore

- 2007 ‘Youth Visual Culture, From Alfred Hitchcock to Hayao Miyazaki’
in *Youth Culture in the past, today, and in the future*, Exchange
Programs Division, Public Diplomacy Department, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs of Japan, Tokyo, Japan
- 2006 ‘The line between artist and tyrant’, by Joshua Yang and Justin
Loke, in *Withdrawing*, Nanyang Academy of Fine
Arts, Singapore
- ‘Toya and Modern Batik’ in *Idyllic Cantings: Toya’s Batik Art*,
Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- 2025 Artist-Designer for *Care-Full Shelter*, Singapore Design Week
2025, Singapore
- Artistic Director for *A Few Little Words*, National Arts Council
Culture Nodes, Singapore
- 2024 Artist Residency, Nanjing Print Institute, China
- Artistic Director for *Fairground: Every Little Thing, Ours*
Tampines Hub, Ministry of Social and Family Development,
Singapore
- 2023 *Home*, Co-creation Digital Mural, Family Justice Courts,
Singapore
- 2022 *Funderland: 2 or 3 Tigers*, Public Installation for SAW 2022,
Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre, Singapore

- 2019 *Flowery Language*, Public Façade Project, Singapore Art Museum and MCCY, Singapore
- 2017 *Larger than Life: Jurong*, Public Art Trust, National Arts Council, Singapore
- 2014 *Fool's Gold* (part of *iLight at Marina Bay*), Urban Redevelopment Authority, Singapore

SELECTED AWARDS & MERITS

- 2015 Finalist, Sovereign Asian Art Prize, Hong Kong, China
- 2011 Celeste Prize, Installation & Sculpture Prize, New York, United States
- 2009 Foundation Arts Award, Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Japan
- President's Young Talents 2009 Credit Suisse Art Residency Award (with Vertical Submarine)
- 2005 Judge's Choice, *Singapore Art Show 2005: New works*, (with Vertical Submarine)
- 2004 First Prize, Windows - *Wisma Atria creative windows display* (with Vertical Submarine)
- 2000 *Della Butcher Award: Certificate of Merit*, Rotary Club of Orchard, Singapore
- 1999 *Della Butcher Award: Certificate of Merit*, Rotary Club of Orchard, Singapore