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// 72-13.com // TWorkssg.wordpress.com // T:>Works is supported by the National Arts Council under the Major  
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## MEDIA RELEASE

### T:>Works launches digital library, T:>Digital with a new website

**Singapore, 26 July 2022** – T:>Works launches a brand new digital library, **T:>Digital**, with a new website, [tworksasia.org](http://tworksasia.org). A first of its kind, T:>Digital is a virtual locus that carries T:>Works’ commitment to contextualising histories, contemporary experiences, and situated art practices in Singapore and larger Asia. Under the artistic direction of Dr. Ong Keng Sen, T:>Works continues to pioneer cross-cultural collaborations, from nomadic residency, The Flying Circus Project and founding of Arts Network Asia, to most recent developments of The Curators Academy and PerForm research fellowship. In this spirit, T:>Digital is the company’s latest development in furthering thought leadership in transcultural, transdisciplinary, and inclusive processes within and beyond the arts, and in the new digital-centric milieu.

### A space for creations beyond the binaries of physical and digital

Cutting across geographies and time zones, the digital library embodies a border porous space for idea exchange. The growing collection of works on T:>Digital include *PerForm* and *Curating No-Thing* lecture series, and the hybrid production, *The Swimming Pool Library*. The collection is developed with artists, curators, researchers, and writers, including Shubigi Rao, Ho Rui An, Nurul Huda Rashid, Brian Gothong Tan, and T:>Works Artistic Director Dr. Ong Keng Sen. Each transdisciplinary work is rooted in locales within Asia, addressing topics on labour and economy, knowledge production, gender and identity, being and becoming, vis-à-vis art and research practices. This constellation of works across Asia reflect emergent practices of gathering, sharing knowledge, and experiencing performance in the digital realm.

Says Dr. Ong Keng Sen, Artistic Director of T:>Works, “The consistent research, experimentation, and development of digital and hybrid creations began as a necessary response to restrictions imposed on live performance over the past two years. However, the stage of the digital realm has turned what was once ephemeral into something more enduring — new processes and practices emerging out of this digital turn are enabling ways of connecting to one another in situated and porous ways. There is a collective desire and momentum to continue bridging communities and activating international dialogue across the digital realm. T:>Digital recognises our international collaborations and audiences, and the dialogues and works crucial to our contemporary contexts and collective futures.”

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T:>Works invites audiences from around the world to experience T:>Digital with an affordable and inclusive annual subscription of S\$28, which includes five credits that can be used to redeem and experience works within the digital library. Subscribers may also choose to redeem credits to one live-streamed digital event at T:>Works within their subscription year, for instance the upcoming hybrid production *#Metazomia* by Brian Gothong Tan in November 2022. As a digital library and more, T:>Digital is a platform that reflects the continued artistic development and thought leadership of T:>Works. The digital library can be found on T:>Works' new website, [tworksasia.org](https://tworksasia.org).

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**Visit our new website:** <https://tworksasia.org>

**Subscribe to T:>Digital:** <https://tworksasia.org/subscription/>

The library presently includes:

- *PerForm* Digital Lecture Series by PerForm fellows Shubigi Rao, Ho Rui An, Nurul Huda Rashid
- *Curating No-Thing* Lecture Series by Dr. Ong Keng Sen
- *The Swimming Pool Library* by Brian Gothong Tan (limited release until 31 July 2022)

View the full library at [tworksasia.org/library](https://tworksasia.org/library)

Subscription and credits:

- Each annual subscription (S\$28) includes five credits that can be used to redeem titles in T:>Digital
- Subscribers can purchase additional credits for S\$10 per credit or S\$28 for an additional five credits
- Unused credits are rolled over into the following subscription cycle upon renewal
- Credits can be purchased at \$15 each for individual purchases without subscription

Frequently Asked Questions:

View the FAQ page through [tworksasia.org/frequently-asked-questions/](https://tworksasia.org/frequently-asked-questions/)

**For more information, please contact:**

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## **Annex A: Details of PerForm Lecture Series**

PerForm is a fellowship platform that cuts across silos, disciplines, and fields to support contextualised research, situated practices, and translocal knowledge production as shared resources for the future. PerForm brings the audience of this fellowship programme back to the basics of acting in our personal capacities and performing personal responsibilities to create liveable societies.

### ***Inaugural Lecture by Shubigi Rao***

In this inaugural PerForm digital lecture, Shubigi Rao explores connections between on-site artistic production and her work as an artist-curator, as well as ways which artistic strategies inform curatorial research. Drawing from her curatorial experiences in a pandemic-affected world, she examines the position of artist-curator within a potentially fraught biennale-model, and the forms of knowledge generation that could potentially be sustained through such curatorial research and practice.

Shubigi Rao is an artist, writer, and artist-curator, whose interests include archival systems, histories, lies and ecologies. Her art, texts, films, and photographs critically, poetically and wittily examine current and historical flashpoints as perspectival shifts to systems of knowledge that structure our world and their consequences on displacements of humans and cultures. Rao represents Singapore at the Singapore Pavilion in La Biennale di Venezia (Arte) in 2022. She is also the Curator for the Kochi-Muziris Biennale 2022.

### ***From Crisis to Value\* by Ho Rui An***

In this PerForm digital keynote lecture, Ho discusses his recent and ongoing bodies of work exploring the material networks and geopolitical imaginaries that have animated the regions of East and Southeast Asia. Spanning the mediums of performance, film, and installation, Ho's lecture illustrates trajectories of his research and works that examine the relationship between race and financial capitalism, the student as a figure of capitalist modernity and radical culture, and the displacement of class politics by a discourse of anti-corruption amidst the systemic crises of late capitalism.

Ho Rui An is an artist and writer working in the intersections of contemporary art, cinema, performance, and theory. Working primarily across the mediums of lecture, essay and film, he probes the ways images are produced, how they circulate and disappear, within contexts of globalism and governance. Ho has presented projects at numerous Biennales and cultural institutions including the Bangkok Art Biennale, and Kunsthalle Wien, Austria. He was awarded the International Film Critics' (FIPRESCI) Prize at the International Short Film Festival Oberhausen, Germany in 2019.

### ***Image, Data, Actor: Unpacking images of Muslim Women by Nurul Huda Rashid***

In this PerForm digital lecture, Nurul traces the trajectories of her photographic, annotative, and participatory research that have engaged with representations of Muslim women, from the daguerreotype to data. Using self-reflexive means and methods, Nurul explores what it means to recalibrate processes of image-making and consumption through Muslim women as 'actor'.

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Nurul Huda Rashid is a researcher, writer, and third PerForm fellow currently pursuing her PhD in Cultural Studies. Her research focuses on images and narratives, visual and sentient bodies, feminisms, and the intersections between them.

## **Annex B: Details of Curating No-thing lecture series**

The Curating No-thing lecture series by Dr. Ong Keng Sen looks at activating one's communities through art and rethinking our relationships with money and production. The series consists of four lectures that include topics such as creating worlds, ethical generosity, rethinking value, small actions and listening. Curating No-thing is the first thought leadership programme by an arts company. Originally held virtually in May-June 2020, the programme consisted of this lecture series, alongside co-thinking sessions, consultations and clinics. Curating No-thing is a part of the Curators Academy led by Dr. Ong Keng Sen.

### **Curating No-Thing Lecture 1**

In this first Curating No-thing lecture on 19 May 2020, Dr. Ong Keng Sen introduces the concept of no-thing as an inversion, a critique, a resistance, and a destabilisation of power and privilege, control and hegemony. Through specific experiences of activism situated in Myanmar and nomadic residency, the Flying Circus Project in 2013, Ong traces acts of creative practice on the frontlines and reflects on the translocal discourse generated. Unpacking processes of small actions and little democracies, world-creating and planetary humanism, Ong introduces rich topics relevant to reconsidering, and infusing new considerations into the curatorial process.

### **Curating No-Thing Lecture 2**

In this second Curating No-thing lecture on 21 May 2020, Dr. Ong Keng Sen elaborates on curating the space in-between or curating 'no-thing' through the context of the alternative university project in the Flying Circus Project in Cambodia (2010). Ong discusses affect and open affiliations, pleasure and ethical life, agency and engagement, personal political responsibility and human relationships as integral to 'being' in the world. The proposal of locality, community, and tradition as vital considerations conclude the lecture.

### **Curating No-Thing Lecture 3**

In this third Curating No-thing lecture on 26 May, 2020, Dr. Ong Keng Sen begins with the question: what is the purpose of curating? Ong shares a multitude of perspectives on curating and artist residencies as world-creating processes, including reflections on the nomadic artist residency, Flying Circus Project in Vietnam (2007). The lecture critiques neoliberal capital disguising as artistic process, and rethinks translation as an affective process in world building.

### **Curating No-Thing Lecture 4**

In the fourth and final lecture of the Curating No-thing series on 28 May 2020, Dr. Ong Keng Seng centralises on topics of festival dramaturgy and reconsidering value. Ong references the re-making of Singapore International Festival of the Arts (SIFA), which he directed between 2013-2017, to discuss the processes of curating no-thing within an institutionalised space. This lecture delves into the plasma of world-creating in festival-making: the intervention of an open, co-thinking space, and sharing ownership with the public.

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## **Annex C: Details of *The Swimming Pool Library***

### ***The Swimming Pool Library* by Brian Gothong Tan**

Reflecting an unconventional rite of passage where society's labels of gender and sexuality may not necessarily apply, *The Swimming Pool Library* by acclaimed visual artist Brian Gothong Tan, is an immersive, multi-sensorial production that looks at the relevance of society's definitions of masculinity, and explores how feminine traits such as tenderness, kindness and vulnerability can also be part of masculine identity.

*The Swimming Pool Library* by Brian Gothong Tan is part of Tan's artistic atelier within T:>Atelier. It consisted of a live performance, exhibition, and series of engagement talks by artists and LGBTQ+ activists. The exhibition was split into various chapters that mark milestones in a rite of passage, reflected through the director's intimate, surreal lens. Paper sketches, paintings, 3D printed sculptures, 3D film photography and DIY books evoke memories of a boy trying to make sense of who he is, and where life will take him. Complementing this was a live performance specially choreographed for the camera and performed in-situ at 72-13, while simultaneously live-cast over the internet.

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## **Annex D: About T:>Works**

Established in 1985, T:>Works is an independent and international arts company based in Singapore at its space, 72-13. It is currently led by Artistic Director, Dr. Ong Keng Sen. T:>Works' mission and vision are the pioneering of thought leadership in the arts focused on transdisciplinary, transcultural, and inclusive processes. To this end, there is a strong educational perspective with research and discourse contextualising histories, contemporary experiences, and situated art practices of the global south. T:>Works also serves to investigate the current urgencies of being located in Singapore, and larger Asia, through different creative expressions in the public sphere. It is a recipient of the National Arts Council Major Company Grant from 1 April 2022 until 31 March 2025. T:>Works is an Institute of Public Character with charity status.