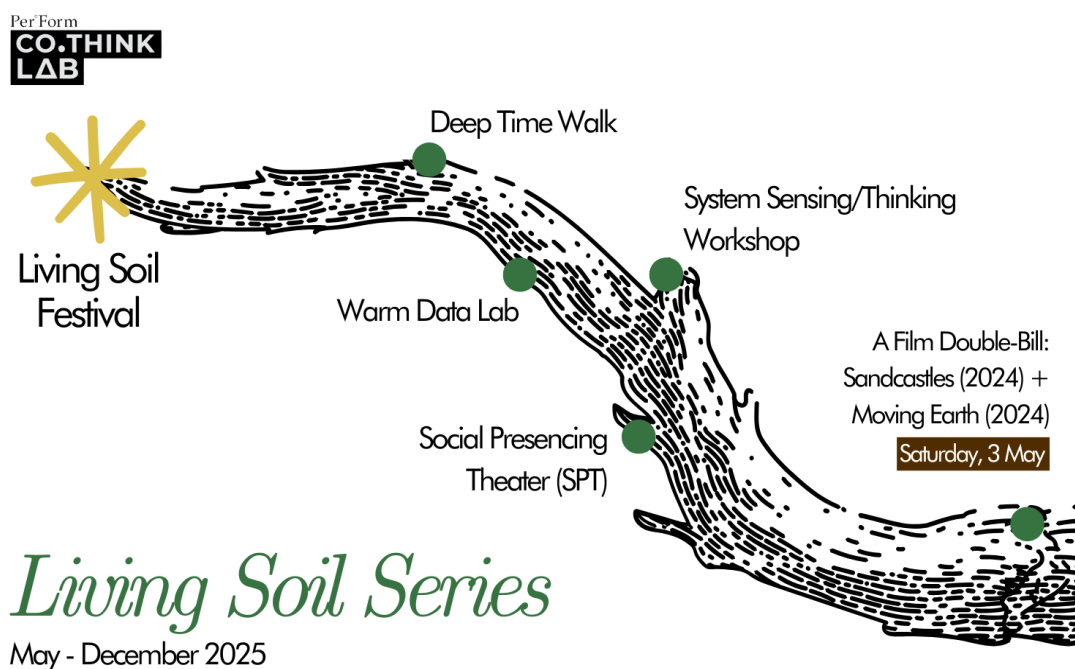


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// 72-13.com // TWorksasia.org // T:>Works is supported by the National Arts Council under the Major Company
Scheme for the period from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2028. // T:>Works is a registered charity with Institution of a
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MEDIA ALERT

24 April 2025



Living Soil Series timeline, as part of CoThink Lab and Living Soil Asia.

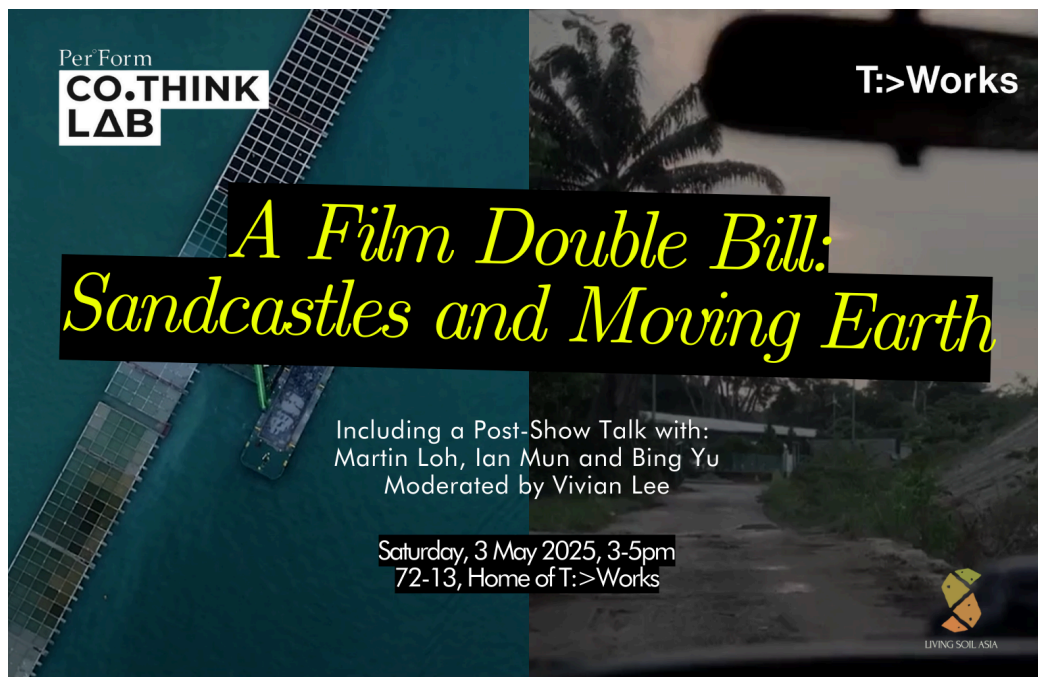
T:>Works and Living Soil Asia launches new series with A Film Double Bill

24 April 2025 — T:>Works kicks off the *Living Soil Series*, a new programme under *CoThink Lab* initiative, in partnership with *Living Soil Asia*. This year-long series invites the public to reflect on our collective relationship with land through a film screening, hands-on workshops, community-led conversations, and activity walks. Grounded in land use, food, and home, the *Living Soil Series* brings together communities to spark inquiry into how urban development shapes our lives and environment. The series launches with *A Film Double Bill* on *Saturday, 3 May*, featuring ‘Sandcastles’ by Carin Leong and ‘Moving Earth’ by Ian Mun.

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At the heart of the Living Soil Series is a desire to create space for inquiry into how land shapes who we are, how we live, and how we connect. *“This series is about holding space—to reflect on how urban development impacts our relationship with land, and to explore how we might reconnect, reimagine, and care for the ground beneath our feet,”* shares Vivian Lee from Living Soil Asia.

Programmes will roll out across the year, beginning with A Film Double Bill in May, followed by Social Presencing Theater in June, a System Sensing/Thinking Workshop in August, the Warm Data Lab in October, and a Deep Time Walk in November. The series culminates in a five-day Living Soil Festival in December, featuring exhibitions, durational programmes, and community celebrations that gather the learnings and reflections from the months before.



Film Double Bill of Sandcastles and Moving Earth

Opening the Living Soil Series is A Film Double Bill featuring Sandcastles (2024) by Carin Leong and Moving Earth (2024) by Ian Mun. Both films uncover stories of land, memory, and transformation, raising questions about what we consider home: the physical spaces we inhabit or the landscapes that sustain us. The screening includes a pre-show activity and a post-film conversation moderated by Vivian Lee from Living Soil Asia, featuring Ian Mun, producer Martin Loh, and Bing Yu from Ground-Up Initiative.

Carin Leong is a documentary filmmaker whose practice is rooted in personal memory, place-making, and ecological observation. Her work explores how the everyday intersects with broader socio-political conditions, often through a lens of lived experience and emotional truth. In Sandcastles, she draws parallels between a forgotten 19th-century town in Michigan buried by sand and present-day Singapore, which continues to expand through extensive land reclamation. The film reflects on the fragility of land, displacement, and the uncanny mirroring between two geographies a century apart.

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Ian Mun is an architect and filmmaker whose work lies at the intersection of spatial narratives, nature, and the built environment. A graduate of the Master of Architecture programme at NUS under Dr. Lilian Chee, Ian's work explores spatial poetics, landscape memory, and cultural mythologies. In *Moving Earth*, he captures the final days of Ground-Up Initiative as they relocate from their long-standing site. Through quiet observations and personal reflections, the film meditates on our emotional ties to land and the meaning of collective resilience.

A Film Double Bill: *Sandcastles* (2024) (rated PG for some mature content) and *Moving Earth* (2024) will take place on **Saturday, 3 May, from 3:00 – 5:00pm** at **72-13, Home of T:>Works**. It will include a Q&A session with the filmmakers, allowing audiences to explore the film's creative process and thematic nuances.

Watch the official trailers of [Sandcastles](#) and [Moving Earth](#). For more film stills, please [click here](#). Link to Eventbrite ticketing for A Film Double Bill [here](#) (ticketed on a donation basis). The media kit is available [here](#).

For media enquiries and interviews, please contact:

Eryka Rashid (she/her)
Communications & Engagement Executive
Emails: connect@tworksasia.org, eryka.rashid@tworksasia.org
Contact Number: +65 8950 1821

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Annex A: Living Soil Series Programme Line-up

A Film Double Bill

Saturday, 3 May 2025, 3:00 – 5:00pm

Featuring *Sandcastles* (2024, dir. Carin Leong) and *Moving Earth* (2024, dir. Ian Mun). Includes pre-show activity and post-screening conversation with filmmakers, Martin Loh (producer), and Bing Yu (from Ground-Up Initiative).

Social Presencing Theater (SPT)

Saturday, June 14 2025, 2:30 – 5:30pm

An embodied social arts-based change methodology for making visible current reality and exploring emerging future possibilities

System Sensing/Thinking Workshop

Coming August 2025

Warm Data Lab

October 2025

An interactive, experiential group session on transcontextual mutual learning and relationship-building.

Deep Time Walk

Coming November 2025

Living Soil Festival

3 – 7 December 2025

Marking the culmination of the year-long Living Soil Series, the festival gathers reflections, learnings, and community connections formed throughout the year. Featuring exhibitions, durational programmes, fireside chats, workshops, and a closing gratitude circle, the festival offers a shared space for grounding, celebration, and imagining regenerative futures together.

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Annex B: Sandcastles Synopsis and About Carin Leong

Sandcastles Synopsis

SANDCASTLES parallels two Singapores: one in Southeast Asia, and one buried on the western coast of Michigan. On top of sharing the same name, these two places also share a fraught relationship with sand.

Singapore, Michigan was a thriving lumber town in the late 19th century until erosion from mass deforestation caused the sand dunes around it to shift and swallow the town whole. Just as quickly as Singapore, Michigan disappeared under sand, its namesake in the East emerged from it through land reclamation. The film weaves a narrative that intertwines the two Singapores to depict the temporal nature of human edifices built on and destroyed by nothing more than sand.

About Carin Leong

Carin Leong is a Singaporean documentary filmmaker and multimedia journalist based in Brooklyn.

Her work explores themes of science, cultural memory, and landscapes. Her latest film, Sandcastles, supported by Field of Vision, was selected for IF/Then SEA, a joint program by the Tribeca Film Institute and IN-DOCS, and premiered at SXSW in 2024. Her earlier documentary Canciones de Memorias premiered at the Singapore International Film Festival in 2018. In 2024, she was recognised by Filmmaker Magazine as one of the 25 Faces of Independent Film.

Carin’s work has been featured by outlets including Scientific American, Hakai Magazine, and The Atlantic. She holds a master’s degree in science journalism from Columbia University’s Graduate School of Journalism and is also a graduate of New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts.

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Annex C: Moving Earth Synopsis and About Ian Mun

Moving Earth Synopsis

Against the backdrop of nation-building and urban development in Singapore, a touch of bittersweet nostalgia lingers in the air as the good people of Ground-Up Initiative (GUI) bid their home goodbye in preparation for the move to a new land.

What happens when we love our earth from the ground up? We start by loving the soil that makes us. 2024 marks the start of GUI’s big move, a movement that brought together people from all walks of life who believed in a common vision to write a new chapter in our environmental story. To have filmed Moving Earth was a privilege to step into this journey, to peer into a whole new world of stories.

About Ian Mun

Ian Mun is a Singapore-based wildlife and conservation filmmaker, photographer, and storyteller whose work brings to life the complex and vital connections between humanity and nature.

His films have been selected for international festivals, including the International Ocean Film Festival and the Edinburgh Conservation Film Festival. From championing marine conservation efforts with partners such as Ocean Geographic and Mission Blue, to documenting environmental change on land, Ian’s storytelling is a call to protect the wild places we share. In 2021, Ian founded The Roving Studio where he curates stories through film, photographs, and expeditions that invites audiences to see the world not just as a collection of landscapes but as interconnected habitats where human and environmental stories converge.

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Annex D: About Living Soil Asia

About Living Soil Asia

Living Soil Asia, part of the Foodscape Collective ecosystem, champions a balanced ecosystem built on equity, care, and regenerative practices. Their mission is to broaden knowledge and accessibility of regenerative methods in Singapore, emphasising a community-oriented, care-based approach. They merge ancient wisdom with modern technology to regenerate soil and reconnect people with the land, advocating for soil's crucial role in climate change, food security, and sustainability discussions. This organisation stands as a beacon for environmental stewardship and community-driven sustainability, committed to nurturing each person's unique contributions to a healthier planet and fostering a culture of care and personal engagement.

Annex E: About Per°Form Fellowship

Led by Artistic Director Dr. Ong Keng Sen, T:>Works continues to expand its mission of pioneering thought leadership in the arts, and providing educational perspectives through situated research and discourse.

Moving beyond the art world and collaborating with Arts Network Asia, T:>Works introduces a fellowship platform from 2021 to 2024 that cuts across silos, disciplines, and fields, to support contextualised research, situated practices, and translocal knowledge production as a shared resource for the future. In particular, Per°Form focuses on the arts practitioner as a thought leader engaged in care and repair, actively bridging histories, the precarious present, and world-creating.

T:>Works has named this fellowship platform, Per°Form CoThink Lab, which is centred around the idea of leaving nobody and nothing behind. Per°Form harnesses the contexts of multiple 'locals', honouring a local which is simultaneous and interdependent on other locals, and emphasising that all localities are dependent on each other, even though they may be physically very distant. The Fellow may be based in another localised context; knowledge and research produced there will be digitally shared with publics in Singapore and internationally.

Per°Form fellowship is open to collaborative ventures between artists, scientists, writers, curators, activators, and creative communities, amongst others.

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Annex F: About Dr. Ong Keng Sen and T:>Works

About Dr. Ong Keng Sen

Keng Sen Ong is primarily a live performance maker, working in transdisciplinary hybrid forms including live expanded cinema. He is a curator of international artistic processes, and artistic director of T:>Works and artspace 72-13 in Singapore. He has been developing internationally acclaimed live performance productions for many years. His productions have been presented in major performance venues around the world. A notable recent work is Trojan Women, which was staged at BAM Next Wave Festival in New York (2022) and Edinburgh International Festival (2023), DIDO AND AENEAS at SIFA 2024 and The House of Janus, an official selection for 35th edition of SGIFF.

He was the artistic director of the Amsterdam-based Prince Claus Funds' digital 25-hour festival to commemorate 25 years of work with Global South cultural innovators, as well as its inaugural biennial symposium in Colombo, Sri Lanka (December 2023) which he entitled "Legacies of Care, Failures, and Emerging Solidarities". He holds a Ph.D. in Performance Studies from Tisch School of the Arts, New York University.

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 2025 to 31 March 2028. T:>Works is a registered charity with Institution of a Public Character (IPC) status.
