

Solo Exhibition by  
LIM SOO NGEE

The 傳  
·  
Legend 說

林 序 毅 個 展



E-Published specially for

**The Legend 傳・說 - A Solo Exhibition by Lim Soo Ngee** 林序毅個展

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## Contents

04	Foreword 前言
10	Works by Lim Soo Ngee 林序毅作品
33	CV 簡歷

iPreciation is delighted to present The Legend, a solo exhibition by Lim Soo Ngee (b. 1962, Singapore), one of Singapore's most known sculptors who consistently delights viewers with his thought - provoking works.

### About the Exhibition

In this exhibition, Lim gives 'legends' a playful spin by interrogating the hearsay aspect of such narratives in today's world. With an extensive collection of anecdotes heard elsewhere and anywhere, Lim creates captivating figurines that

are packed with emotive stories of people and their lives through the lens of others. It is important to understand that these sculptures are shaped by the accounts of people, as the artist attempts to pivot the discussion to the rudimentary formation of stories.

When looking at his sculptures, we often find ourselves being reminded of an individual that we know of or someone we didn't know and could only guess. Past and present alike, the narratives largely stayed the same, stemming from reality, stirred with perceived truth

and a spoonful of imagination. While a story begins with telling, the multitude of ways of interpreting and re-telling give rise to fascinating variations that are somewhat similar and/or different. This common amnesia and/or collective memory in Lim's works is an embodiment of the nature of narratives.

Lim has brilliantly conceptualized a blend of heterogeneity and homogeneity to highlight that our perception is very much influenced by the world around us and is fluid as we move on to different stages in life. The titles

may have indicated who the person could be. Perhaps they are a commendable person, or not at all. Regardless, it doesn't matter. Because the persona that surfaced in our heads will never be a shared experience. somehow an inspiration struck.

As he traces the inkling of a legend and challenges the notion of what should be a legend, Lim invites viewers to relook at how stories are being told and reconnect with the humans present in these tales.

誰先覺很榮幸舉辦新加坡著名雕塑家林序毅（1962年生，新加坡）名為「傳·說」的個展。林序毅熱衷於思考人類的生存狀態，常常將自己對社會的觀察、見地，注入木雕之中。他深耕與在地文化相關的題材，用一雙巧手講述平凡的生活。

#### 關於展覽

「傳·說」將展出11件木雕作品。耐人尋味的質樸雕塑，也許會讓你不由得聯想到某個人、某個故事。

在本次展覽中，林序毅表達了他對所謂「傳說」的詮釋，把「道聽途說」的概念引入其中。他把自己從別人、別處聽到的故事化為作品的主軸，創造出通過他人視角而塑造的人物形象，進而講述屬於這個人物的故事。值得一提的是，這些雕塑是由人們的眾多敘述塑造而成的，林序毅正是以這樣的方式，提煉出故事的根本——「說」。

在欣賞他的雕塑作品時，我們可能會發覺雕像就像是某

位我們認識的人，或者不熟悉但可以猜想的人。無論是過去還是現在，敘事都沒有太大的變化，它總是源於現實，摻雜著人自認為知道的真相，以及一點想象力。雖然故事始於「說」，但解讀和重新講述故事的方式多種多樣，因此相似和/或不同的版本就此產生。林序毅的作品中集體失憶以及集體記憶的存在，恰恰體現了敘事的本質。

他將異質和同質巧妙地融為一體，揭示我們的感知在很大

程度上受周圍環境的影響，並且會隨著不同人生階段而變化。作品名稱可能會透露這個人的身份，也許他們是一個大人物，又或許什麼都不是。其實，他們是誰，一點都不重要。畢竟，浮現在我們腦海中的人物，永遠都不會一模一樣。

隨著林序毅深入探究傳說的概念和來歷，身為觀者，不妨重新審視「故事」的傳遞方式，並與這些故事中。



Lim Soo Ngee (b. 1962) is one of Singapore's most prominent sculptors. He attained a Diploma in Fine Art (Sculpture) from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts in 1989. Subsequently, having been honoured with the National Arts Council's Arts Bursary (Overseas) award, he pursued further studies at the Edinburgh College of Art, Master of Fine Arts (Sculpture) in 1997.

Lim's artistic approach has always been a personal one, he reflects on the human condition and would imbue his observations on the society in his woodcarvings. His subjects are playful representations derived from the local context and serve to tell stories of the ordinary.

Lim Soo Ngee is an active participant in international

sculpture symposiums, having contributed to events like the inaugural International Woodcarving Symposium in Singapore (2007) and the Hong Kong International Sculpture Symposium (2009). He has represented Singapore in numerous exhibitions both locally and abroad. His creations are part of the Inner Mongolia Asian Sculpture Theme Park's permanent collection and were featured in the 11th Asian Art Festival's International Sculpture symposium.

His works are in the collection of the Singapore National Art Gallery, Esplanade Singapore, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts Singapore, Ngee Ann Kongsi Singapore, and other prominent local and international private collections.

林序毅生於1962年，是新加坡傑出雕塑家之一。1989年畢業於新加坡南洋藝術學院純美術系雕塑文憑。1995年他獲得國家藝術理事會的海外藝術助學金前往愛丁堡藝術學院深造，主修雕塑，並於1997年獲得美術碩士學位。

林序毅的創作方式向來從個人出發，他熱衷於思考人類的生存狀態，常常將自己對社會的觀察、見地注入木雕之中。他深耕與在地文化相關的題材，用一雙巧手講述平凡的生活。

林序毅是不少國際雕塑研討會的座上賓，包括2007年新加坡首屆國際木雕研討會和2009年香港國際雕塑研討會。他曾多次代表新加坡參加海內外的展覽，作品獲亞洲雕塑藝術主題公園（內蒙古）永久收藏，也曾在第11屆亞洲藝術節國際雕塑研討會上展出。

他的作品被多家知名機構收藏包括新加坡國家美術館、新加坡濱海藝術中心、新加坡南洋藝術學院、新加坡義安公司等，並頗受私人收藏家青睞。



**Man Beneath the Mask**  
戴面具的男人

2023  
17 (L) x 17 (W) x 72 (H) cm  
Painted Woodcarving





**Woman Beneath the Mask**  
戴面具的女人

2023  
47 (L) x 23 (W) x 80 (H) cm  
Painted Woodcarving







**The Nanyang Lady**  
南洋姿娘

2013  
18 (L) x 18 (W) x 75 (H) cm  
Painted Woodcarving



**Tu Tu**  
土土

2014  
26(L) x 29(W) x 81(H) cm  
Woodcarving



**Diva**  
歌姫

2023  
55 (L) x 16 (W) x 71 (H) cm  
Painted Woodcarving







**Tiger Bro (Lau Ho Hia)**  
老虎兄

2023  
19 (L) x 16 (W) x 66 (H) cm  
Painted Woodcarving





**Urban Sky knight**  
城市飞侠

2023  
56 (L) x 13 (W) x 72 (H) cm  
Painted Woodcarving







**Dancer**  
跳舞的男人

2023  
64 (L) x 34 (W) x 74 (H) cm  
Painted Woodcarving





**Crux (Southern Cross)**  
南十字星

2023  
23 (L) x 20 (W) x 108 (H) cm  
Painted Woodcarving





**Mi Meng**  
觅梦

2018  
20 (L) x 18 (W) x 60 (H) cm  
Painted Woodcarving



**Man with Bird**  
男人与鸟

2015  
36 (L) x 19 (W) x 64 (H) cm  
Painted Teak Woodcarving







## **Lim Soo Ngee**

**1962** | Born in Singapore

### **Education**

**1997** | MFA in Sculpture, Edinburgh College of Art – Heriot-Watt University, U.K

**1989** | Diploma in Fine Art (Sculpture), Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore

### **Selected Solo Exhibitions**

**2018** | Ritual · In Progress, iPreciation Gallery, Singapore **2016** | Between / Worlds 人間天使, Jendela (Visual Arts Space), Esplanade, Singapore **2008** | Paradise – Tropical Garden, Esplanade, Singapore **2006** | Form-ing Materials & Processes, Sculpture Square, Singapore **2003** | On The Table, Utterly Art Exhibition Space, Singapore

### **Selected Group Exhibitions**

**2023** | 2023 International Exchange Exhibition of Wood Sculpture, Sanyi Wood Sculpture Museum, Taiwan / Alternative Identities: Masks of ASEAN & Korea, ASEAN Culture House, Busan, Korea / Grand Views Within Reach, International Shoebox Sculpture Exhibition, Yilan Museum of Art, Taiwan 咫尺之見—國際袖珍雕塑展, 宜蘭美術館, 臺灣 **2022** | 13<sup>th</sup> Shoebox Sculpture Exhibition - Taiwan 第13屆國際袖珍雕塑展, 臺灣 / The 24<sup>th</sup> Ngee Ann National Teochew Artist's Exhibition, Singapore **2021** | reTHiNGing Gesture in Contemporary Sculptural Practice, Jendela (Visual Arts Space) Esplanade, Singapore / The 23<sup>rd</sup> Ngee Ann National Teochew Artist's Exhibition, Singapore **2020** | The 22<sup>nd</sup> Ngee Ann National Teochew Artist's Exhibition, Singapore **2019** | Sculpture Society (Singapore) Annual Show 2019 – 200 - Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre **2018** | Motionless Boundary 靜界 - Japan, Singapore Taiwan joined Exhibition at Da Xin Art Museum, Tainan, Taiwan **2017** | An Atlas of Mirrors - Singapore Biennale 2016 Commission, Singapore / Insight - Singapore International Miniature Sculpture Exhibition, Sculpture Society Singapore / Touch - Duo Exhibition with April Ng Kiow Ngor, Art Projects Gallery, Hong Kong / DROP: Beyond Boundaries. Looking Down on Art - Organised by: Artists Alliance SG, ONLY CONNECT Japan / The 19<sup>th</sup> National Teochew Artists' Exhibition - Ngee Ann Cultural Centre, Singapore / "JTC Wind Chamber" Larger than Life: The Unspoken Histories of Jurong Neighborhood - Arts in Your Neighbourhood by National Arts Council **2016** | ENVISION: Sculptures @ the Garden City, iPreciation Gallery, Singapore / Art Stage Singapore 2016 **2015** | The 17<sup>th</sup> National Teochew Artists' Exhibition, Ngee Ann Cultural Centre, Singapore / Art Stage Singapore 2015 / These Sacred Things, Jendela (Visual Arts Space) Esplanade, Singapore **2014** | Practice and Perfection, Group Exhibition, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore / Sculpture Society (Singapore) Annual Show, Singapore / ...6767...Draw Bridge, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore / Nothing in Common, Group Exhibition at ION Art Gallery, Singapore **2013** | The Exhibition of Art Works by The Association of Asian Contemporary Sculptors - Passion Asia, Guangzhou, China / Second Nature, Sculpture Society Singapore, Fort Canning Park, Singapore / Make in Singapore - Three Quarters of A Century,

Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore / The Little Joys of Singapore, Galerie Sogan & Art, Singapore **2012** | “Inside” Jendela (Visual Arts Space) Esplanade, Singapore / 8th Ngee Ann 3D Art Exhibition, Singapore / Continuities & Discontinuities, Group Exhibition, NAFA, Singapore **2011** | “Animal Talk”, Jendela (Visual Arts Space) Esplanade, Singapore / “Visions of Lightness” - 7 Artists Show, Pipal Fine Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia / “Visions of Lightness” - 7 Artists Show, ION Art Gallery, Singapore **2010** | NAFA – LASALLE Show, NAFA Lim Hak Tai Gallery, LASALLE Gallery, Singapore / Excavation – Ten Singapore Artists, Art Gallery @ Old School, Singapore **2009** | Form + Reform, 6th Ngee Ann 3D Art Exhibition, Singapore / Visual Praxis - An exhibition by artists and art educators at NIE, National Institute of Education, Singapore **2008** | “Off The Pedestal” Sculpture Society (Singapore), Esplanade, Singapore / “The Three Elements”, 5th Ngee Ann 3D Art Exhibition, Singapore / 2008 International Wood Sculpture Exhibition, SanYi Wood Sculpture Museum, Miaoli, Taiwan **2007** | “Laughing Matter” – Group Exhibition, NAFA, Singapore **2006** | Painterly Dialogues, Group Exhibition, Studio@106a, Singapore / 1st Sculpture Society (Singapore) Exhibition, Esplanade, Singapore **2005** | You Can Touch – Sculpture in The Green, Singapore Art Show, Singapore **2003** | Now You See It, Utterly Art, Singapore / Work in Progress – The Power Show, Sculpture Society (Singapore), The Substation, Singapore **2002** | The 1st International Miniature Sculpture Exhibition Taiwan 2002, National Museum of History (Taipei), Kaohsiung R.O.C., Taiwan **2001** | “Eye-Dentifying Peranakan Cultures” Affiliate Exhibition, Nokia Singapore Art 2001, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore **2000** | “Kacang Puteh” Exhibition of Small Works by 51 Young Artist, Telok Kurau Studio, Singapore / “Creativity...Processes...Approaches” Sculpture Square, Singapore / “5 Colours” Group Exhibition, Paragon Art Gallery, Singapore **1999** | “Volume & Form Singapore 1999” An Environmental and Urban Sculpture Exhibition, Singapore Arts Festival, Singapore **1998** | TWO Solo Exhibition at Substation Art Gallery, Singapore / Installation Exhibition 'Bicara-Dialogue-Zaghata', Singapore Arts Festival Fringe, Singapore **1997** | The 16th Painting of The Year, UOB, Singapore / The Final Whistle Has Gone, Degree Show, Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK / “7up at The Collective” Work Selected by Mel Gooding, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK / “SITED” Exhibition, Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK **1996** | S.A.A.C. Seventh Annual Exhibition, Scottish Artists & Artist Craftsmen, The Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK / Grand Shell Discovery Art Exhibition, Shell Companies in Singapore / R.S.A. Students' Exhibition, The Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh / “But I Know What I Like, A Dialogue”, Exhibition by Postgraduate Students, Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK **1995** | 17th Shell Discovery Art Exhibition, Singapore **1994** | “Six Fields” Group Exhibition, Empress Place Museum Art Gallery, Singapore **1993** | Corporate Art Programme, CAP V “COCOON”, Shenn's Fine Art, Singapore **1992** | “Three Phases of Sky” Three Men Exhibition, NAFA Gallery, Singapore **1991** | “Sculpture in Singapore” Exhibition, National Museum Art Gallery, Singapore **1990** | Singapore Festival of Arts - “ Eye 2 I” Art Exhibition, Della Butcher Gallery, Singapore / Apple Art affair, Cifford Art Gallery, Singapore / NAFA Lecturer Art

Exhibition, Thailand, Singapore **1989** | “Initiato” Art Exhibition, Goethe-Institute, Singapore / The Artist Village 2nd Open Studio Show, Singapore / IBM Art Award Exhibition, Singapore / Six Men Sculpture Exhibition, Singapore **1988** | Singapore-Philippines Contemporary Printmaking Exhibition, National Museum Art Gallery, Singapore

#### Awards

**2019** | Ngee Ann Artist of the Year 2019 - The Ngee Ann Kongsì 2019年度義安特選藝術家 - 新加坡義安公司 **2004** | SIA-NAC Travel Grant, The 5th International Symposium of Woodcarving, Brien, Switzerland **2003** | NAC Project Grant, “On The Table” 1st Solo Exhibition, Singapore **1998** | SIA-NAC Travel Grant, International Snow Sculpture Event of the Quebec Carnival, Canada / SIA-NAC Travel Grant, 5th International Symposium of Woodcarving, Brien, Switzerland / NAC Project Grant, “TWO Solo Exhibition” at Substation Art Gallery **1997** | Andrew Grant Bequest, Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK / The Clason-Harvie Bursary, Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK **1996** | NAC Arts Bursary (Overseas) Award, Singapore **1995** | Singapore International Foundation Art Sponsorship Award (International Wood Sculpture Symposium in Denmark), Singapore / NAC Arts Bursary (Overseas) Award, Singapore **1994** | Third Prize in Sculpture Category, Philippe Charriol Foundation Contemporary Art Competition / Merit Award, Singapore Urban Art Competition, Singapore / Winner Award, Tokyo Urban Art Competition, Japan **1993** | Distinction Award in Sculpture Category, Philippe Charriol Foundation Contemporary Art Competition, Singapore / Second Prize in 3D Category, The Philip Morris Group of Companies Singapore Art Awards, Singapore

#### Private and Public Collections

National Trades Union Congress (NTUC), Singapore | National Arts Council, Singapore | National Art Gallery, Singapore | Ngee Ann Kongsì, Singapore | Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore | Esplanade, Singapore | Switzerland | France | Hong Kong | Taiwan | China | Malaysia | Turkey



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