

About National Gallery Singapore



Artist's Impression of National Gallery Singapore © studioMilou Singapore 2013 / National Gallery Singapore

The National Gallery Singapore aims to be a leading visual arts institution that engages, excites and inspires with the art of Singapore, Southeast Asia and the world. The Gallery will help position Singapore as an international hub for Southeast Asian visual arts, and contribute to Singapore's ambition of becoming a global city for the arts when it opens its doors in 2015.

Occupying two important heritage buildings symbolic of Singapore's nationhood, City Hall and the former Supreme Court buildings, the Gallery will be a leading civic and cultural destination. Designed by Studio Milou Singapore, in partnership with CPG Consultants Pte Ltd (Singapore), construction works on the two buildings started in January 2011. When completed, these beloved monuments will be transformed into an art museum of international stature while maintaining a deep respect for their original architecture.

At a total gross floor area of approximately 64,000 square metres, it will be the largest visual arts institution in Singapore, matching established museums such as Musée d'Orsay (France) and Tate Modern (UK) in size.

Reflecting Singapore's unique heritage and geographical location, the Gallery will feature Southeast Asian art from our National Collection, providing a comprehensive survey of the region's artistic development. The Gallery will also feature international exhibitions, which will provide the Gallery with the opportunity to present Southeast Asian visual arts in the global context, thereby creating a dialogue between the region and the rest of the world.

The National Collection and Our Permanent Galleries



Cheong Soo Pieng, *Drying Salted Fish*, 1978, Chinese ink and colour on cloth, 55.5 x 88.5 cm, gift of Trans Island Bus Services Ltd., National Collection, Singapore.

The Gallery draws from the National Collection, one of the world's largest public collections of modern and contemporary Southeast Asian artworks. Through careful nurturing over the years, this collection now numbers approximately 10,000 pieces. Apart from displays within Singapore, this collection has also travelled to international museums and exhibition venues in the Americas, Europe and Asia. The collection's strength also lies in its comprehensive representation of Singapore art and its unparalleled holdings of works by major Singapore artists such as Cheong Soo Pieng, Liu Kang, Chua Mia Tee, Georgette Chen, Chen Chong Swee, Chen Wen Hsi, and Tang Da Wu.

The collection also holds significant pieces from Southeast Asian artists of international standing, such as Raden Saleh (Indonesia), Fernando Cueto Amorsolo (Philippines), U Ba Nyan (Myanmar), Nguyen Gia Tri (Vietnam), Latiff Mohidin (Malaysia), Imelda Cajipe-Endaya (Philippines), Montien Boonma (Thailand), and Svay Ken (Cambodia).

The heart of the Gallery's research efforts lies in its two core galleries, featuring long-term displays of the National Collections of Singapore and Southeast Asian art. Both the DBS Singapore Gallery and Southeast Asia Gallery will complement each other. The former will provide a deep and comprehensive overview of Singapore art from the 19th century to present day, whilst the latter will offer a transnational and thematic approach to Southeast Asian art of the same period, through regional commonalities. Collectively, these galleries explore the interconnections between Singapore and Southeast Asian art within an international context.

Learning with Art



Artist's Impression of the Keppel Centre for Art Education

Besides enjoying permanent and changing exhibitions, visitors will be able to participate in talks and seminars on art-related topics, workshops, art demonstrations, film screenings, art appreciation classes, and many more exciting activities.

For those interested in a slice of Singapore's history, they can embark on a building history trail which celebrates the rich histories behind the iconic buildings. Its narrative will involve various key architectural and building features throughout the complex, and recount the many significant functions and events over the decades.

Younger visitors can look forward to unique offerings at the Keppel Centre for Art Education, the first dedicated art education facility of its kind in Singapore and the region. Specially designed and programmed for school children and families, it will provide fun, multi-sensory learning opportunities for children of all ages, house playgrounds for toddlers and young children, wet/dry activity workshops, interactive media rooms, as well as learning spaces for secondary and tertiary students.

A Cultural and Leisure Destination



Artist's Impression of the Roof Terrace © studioMilou Singapore 2013 / National Gallery Singapore

The building's design by Studio Milou Singapore creates a unique blend between the old and the new — introducing contemporary architecture to rejuvenate the old, while maintaining a deep respect for the original architecture and history of these buildings.

A distinctive metal and glass canopy, supported by tree-like columns, integrates the buildings at roof level, creating a civic plaza in the sky. Bathed in filtered, natural light, the Roof Terrace will be a premier day and night destination, vibrant with performances, exhibitions, talks, events and eateries.

Visitors can dine at one of several restaurants or cafés, and enjoy spectacular views of the city skyline at one of the rooftop bars. Specialty retail shops will be available for visitors to pick up an art-inspired souvenir or two.

The Gallery will also provide unique venues for hire for conferences, performances, corporate events, and private functions. Aside from a 220-seat auditorium, several unique event spaces will be available for hire. The Roof Terrace and Supreme Court Terrace are ideal for private cocktail receptions and celebratory events.

We look forward to welcoming you in 2015!

For the latest information, please visit www.nationalgallery.sg.