

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Angela Chong and Goh Abigail named as 2017 Chan-Davies Art Prize winners

Singapore, 23 May 2017 –

2017 LASALLE College of the Arts' graduates Angela Chong (MA Fine Arts) and Goh Abigail (BA(Hons) Fine Arts) were announced as the winners of the **Chan-Davies Art Prize** on 18 May, in conjunction with the opening of *The LASALLE Show 2017 Exhibition*.

There were 10 applications from the MA Fine Arts graduating class at LASALLE College of the Arts, of which 4 were shortlisted and interviewed, and 18 applications from the BA(Hons) Fine Arts graduating class of which 5 were shortlisted and interviewed.

The two prizes, which are awarded annually, are designed to give substantial financial support to graduating students in the LASALLE BA(Hons) and MA classes in their first year after graduating - with the objective of a solo exhibition at the end of the year.

The judges reflected that this year's applicants exhibited diverse and challenging approaches to their submissions including works with sound, light, installation and 2-D. They also pointed out that the interviews with applicants, which considers future plans, motivations and artistic insight, play a substantial part in the judges' ultimate selections.

Emphasizing this, Angie Chan commented, "Both Angela and Abigail provided

considerable insight into their work during the interview process. It was clear that the ultimate prize winners had a well defined vision of where they had come from and were going to in their artistic practice. The judges considered and supported artists with clear medium term goals, but not necessarily with the premise that the work would ultimately be commercial.”

Angie Chan added, “VADA and Chan + Hori Contemporary look forward to working with Angela and Abigail over the next year and to exciting showcases.”

Ian Woo, Programme Leader, MA Fine Arts commented, “This is now the third year of the Chan-Davies Art Prize, and we have again had tremendous interest and support from our graduates who are increasingly seeing the achievements and advantages gained by previous prize winners as an opportunity to further develop their artistic voice. We are delighted to continue this partnership with Chan + Hori Contemporary, VADA and Nick Davies and Angie Chan, who all share LASALLE’s vision of encouraging talented artists, building capability and cultivating and promoting contemporary art in Singapore.”

Each artist will hold a solo exhibition in early 2018. Individual press releases will be submitted in advance of each show.

About the Artists

Goh Abigail (b.1993, Singapore) works primarily with drawings, objects and sound and is interested in manifesting the intangible and exploring the “in-betweeness” between spaces and objects. She is looking at how commonplace objects can create interesting sound installations and how objects will interact and perform with one another in the given space.

Abigail's object making is informed by her drawings. It is a form of thinking, and it further translates into a way of working with objects and installation. Objects and materials are an extension of her practice in drawing, essentially drawing in space.

Abigail graduated from LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore in 2015 with a Diploma in Fine Arts and then in 2017 with BA(Hons) in Fine Arts. She received The Winston Oh Travel Award (Practice) in 2015.

Angela Chong (b. 1977, Singapore) is an installation artist whose research focuses on the discourse on image representation covered by news media, and an investigation on the hierarchical relationship between word and image.

Angela has been investigating news media coverage on conflicts in Syria, an issue that is affecting the world. In her words "The stage is set; audience bear witness to elusive realities of the perpetuating conflicts, at the expense of creating 'peace'. Through staging a 'spectacle', the spectator becomes a forced witness to a subject that alienates, while engulfed by theatricality of darkness. By presenting light in a darkened space, doubling darkness through shadow, he/she becomes a player in a dark play, made to confront a subject too heavy to receive."

Angela graduated from LASALLE College of the Arts with a BA(Hons) in 2004 and then in 2017 with a MA in Fine Arts. She has participated in Nes Artist Residency in Skagastrond, Iceland and Youkobo Artist Residency in Tokyo, Japan.

About the Chan-Davies Art Prize

The Chan-Davies Art Prize is open to all final year students of LASALLE's BA(Hons) Fine Arts programme and the graduating cohort of the MA Fine Arts programme. For each of the two categories, the prize includes a SGD 15,000 cash prize, a personal contribution by the owners of Chan + Hori Contemporary, Angie Chan and

Nick Davies, and a solo exhibition, supported by Chan + Hori Contemporary and VADA, to take place within 12 months of the award.

The annual award is promoted in January each year, with the winner being announced at the opening of the College's annual graduation showcase, The LASALLE Show, each May. Eligible students are invited to submit up to three original artworks in either 2-D or 3-D media. Artists are judged based on originality, conceptual rigour, and coherence between the concept, the current work and planned evolution. The judging panel includes Angie Chan, Nick Davies, well-known Curator Khai Hori, and Programme Leaders Hazel Lim (BA(Hons)) & Ian Woo (MA Fine Arts).

About VADA

The Visual Arts Development Association (Singapore) (VADA) was conceived in response to the growing need for an independent, not-for-profit arts organisation to service the needs of the burgeoning Singapore visual arts industry. VADA's in-built capability allows it to take the lead in developing platforms and opportunities for those individuals who will represent Singapore nationally and internationally in the visual arts.

VADA programmes are intended as “incubator initiatives” designed to identify and cultivate artistic and curatorial talent by providing developing arts practitioners both the exposure and practical experience required to establish sustainable careers in the arts. All programmes include presentation and sharing components, from exhibition and blogs, to publications and talks, artists and curators have opportunities to present their work to private and industry audiences as well as the community-at-large. VADA President Angie Chan comments, "VADA initiatives provide participants valuable first-hand experience with the processes, details and interactions that take place behind-the-scenes, allowing them to better understand

the practical components of bringing creative projects to fruition." For more information on VADA visit: www.vada.org.sg.

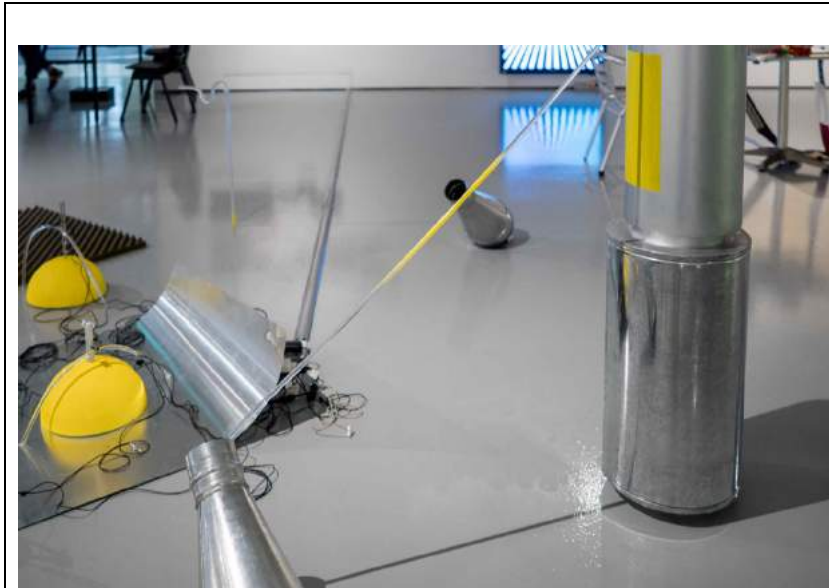
About LASALLE College of the Arts

LASALLE College of the Arts in Singapore is a leading tertiary institution in cutting edge contemporary arts and design education and practice. The college offers 31 diploma, undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in fine arts, design communication, interior design, product design, film, animation, fashion, dance, music, theatre, arts management, arts pedagogy and practice, art therapy, and Asian art histories.

Its faculty is led by a community of award-winning artists, designers, educators and researchers, and their practice-led research sets LASALLE apart as an international centre of excellence. Critically acclaimed alumni form the core of the cultural and creative sectors in Singapore and increasingly, internationally.

Founded in 1984 by De La Salle Brother Joseph McNally – a visionary artist and educator – LASALLE is a not-for-profit, private educational institution. LASALLE receives tuition grant support from the Singapore Ministry of Education. Its degree programmes are validated by Goldsmiths, University of London.

Hi-res versions of these images may be downloaded at: <https://we.tl/kPtojheilM>
(Expires on 30 May 2017)

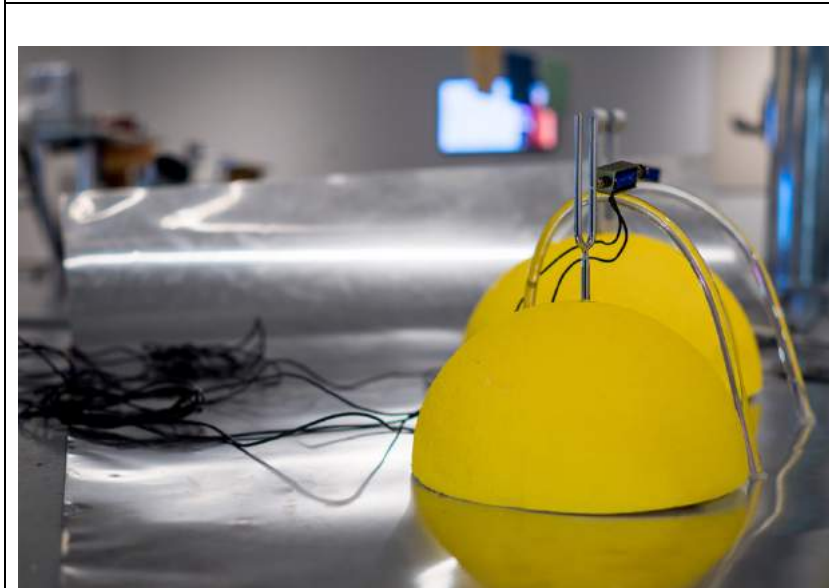


Goh Abigail

Two Silences and a
Disembodied Ear
2017

Tuning forks,
styrofoam, solenoids,
wires, twin timers,
metal, acrylic rods,
paint, pipes, drawings
and silencers

Dimension variable
(Photo credit Ng Wu
Gang)





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	<p>Angela Chong <i>Machine Eyes</i>, 2017 Light projection, lanterns, adhesive vinyl on aluminium, digital transparency, magnifying glasses, wire, cables, mirror Dimension variable</p>
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