



60 years of European Union

25-26 May 2017
LASALLE College of the Arts

1 McNally Street, Singapore 187940

Free Admission



European Union
Delegation to Singapore



Opening night, 25th May 2017

(6pm-7pm)

- **Joint welcome by H.E. Dr Michael Pulch, European Union Ambassador to Singapore and Professor Steve Dixon, President, LASALLE College of the Arts**
- **Master of Ceremonies: Dr Darryl Whetter, Programme Leader, MA Creative Writing, LASALLE College of the Arts**
- **A brief group reading by Yong Shu Hoong, Matthew Lyon, Heng Siok Tian and Olivier Castaignede**
- **Refreshments**



Full-day festival, 26th May 2017

- **10am-11am: In Conversation: Michael Schindhelm with Darryl Whetter**
Michael Schindhelm; Moderated by Darryl Whetter.
- **11am-12pm: Art Writing and Its Challenges**
Kathleen Ditzig, Melanie Pocock, Anca Rujoiu; Moderated by Silke Schmickl.
- **12pm-1pm: The Craft of Film Writing**
Benjamin Slater, Sebastian Grobler; Moderated by Kenneth Tan.
- **1pm-2pm: The Fine Art of Publishing**
Dominique Husken-Ulbrich; Moderated by Edmund Wee.
- **2pm-3pm: Writing in the Age of Social Media**
Joshua Ip, Vladimir Todorovic; Moderated by Gilles Massot.



In Conversation: Michael Schindhelm with Darryl Whetter (10am-11am)

Michael Schindhelm will present his latest publication, *Happy Tropics I*, co-authored with Damian Christinger. It is the result of a research into the changing cultural landscapes of Singapore and the intercultural dialogues here. He will also refer to the transmedia project *Lavapolis*, which is a collaboration with Zurich University of the Arts, the European Parliament and the Venice Biennale in 2014. This experimental project relates the development of Lavapolis, a utopian and fictional country which counters the pitfalls of our contemporary societies.



Born in 1960, **Michael Schindhelm** is a German writer and theater director. He served as a cultural advisor for international organizations and prestigious international art venues, both in Europe and Asia. After his studies in Quantum Chemistry, he translated theatre works in German. Apart from writing, he directed several documentary films, such as *The Chinese Lives of Uli Sigg* (2016), which will be the closing film of EUFF 2017.



Moderator: **Darryl Whetter** is the inaugural director of the first taught MA Programme in Creative Writing at Lasalle College of the Arts. In 2008, he released his debut novel, a bicycle odyssey, *The Push & the Pull*. On Earth Day 2012, he released *Origins*, a book of poems devoted to evolution, energy and extinction. In addition, he has published nearly 100 book reviews for papers such as *The Toronto Star*, *The National Post*, *The Vancouver Sun*, *The Globe and Mail*, *The Montreal Gazette* and Detroit's *Metro Times*.



Art Writing and Its Challenges (11am-12pm)

How to put into words the purpose of the most irrational and subjective artistic creation? The challenging endeavour of writing on Art will fuel the discussion between Stephanie Burt, Melanie Pocock and Silke Schmickl.

Featured speakers:

Melanie Pocock is a curator and writer, and currently



Assistant Curator at the Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore, LASALLE College of the Arts. Recent curated group exhibitions include *Native*

revisions (2017), *The world precedes the eye* (2016) and *Countershadows (tactics in evasion)* (2014). She has curated and organised numerous solo exhibitions by artists, including Shezad Dawood, Michael Lee, Shooshie Sulaiman, Jack Tan, Boedi Widjaja and Stephen Willats. Her writing and art criticism have appeared in magazines, newspapers and journals, such as *ArtAsiaPacific*, *Eyeline*, *Frieze*, *Third Text* and *The Journal of Curatorial Studies*.



Anca

(Romania/Singapore) is a curator and Manager of Publications at NTU Centre for Contemporary Art

Rujoiu

Singapore (NTU CCA Singapore). Previous curator for exhibitions at NTU CCA Singapore, Anca Rujoiu was part of the founding team of the Centre and has contributed to the early stages of its development. She is also co-director of FormContent, a nomadic curatorial institute adopting a subjective attitude towards cultural production and using fiction as critical tool. Her practice focuses on questions of curatorial and institutional self-reflexivity, forms of experimental writing. As a writer and editor, she worked for several art publications, film, and television productions.



Kathleen Ditzig is a writer, researcher and curator based in Singapore. She writes about a variety of topics that include art, finance, culture and Cold War histories of exchange. She is currently Assistant Curator and Manager (Curatorial and Outreach) at the National Museum of Singapore. Her work



has been published in-print and online by local and international academic journals, museum and magazines such as Art Forum Critic's Pick and Flash Art Magazine.

Moderator: **Silke Schmickl** is a curator at National Gallery Singapore. She was previously curator at the Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore, a researcher at the German Art History Center in Paris and the co-founding director of Lowave, a Paris/Singapore based curatorial platform and publishing house. She has initiated and directed numerous art projects dedicated to emerging art scenes in the Middle East, Africa, India, Turkey and Singapore, and has curated exhibitions in partnership with museums and biennials in Singapore, Paris, Guangzhou, Beirut and Düsseldorf.



The Craft of Film Writing (12pm-1pm)

Film scripts are the cornerstone of movies, as their interpretation shapes the movie's visual outcome. This panel discussion will explore how film writing can be conducive to the development of the various cinema narratives.

Featured speakers:

Benjamin Slater is a writer, editor and lecturer based in Singapore for the last 15 years. He's the author of *Kinda Hot: The Making of Saint Jack in Singapore* (Marshal Cavendish: 2006), *25: Histories and Stories of the Singapore International*

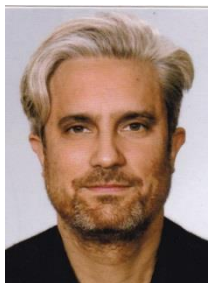


Credits: Esther May Campbell

Film Festival (SGIFF: 2014), and contributed extras to the 2017 Blu Ray of Peter Bogdanovich's SAINT JACK. He also co-directed (with Sherman Ong) the documentary *TONY'S LONG MARCH* (2015). He's both a screenwriter and script editor, serving as the latter for Joe Lawlor and Christine Molloy's first two feature films *HELEN* (2008) and *MISTER JOHN* (2013) (and their forthcoming feature, *ROSE PLAYS JULIE*), and script consultant on *HERE* by



Ho Tzu Nyen (selected for the Directors Fortnight in 2009). He wrote the short film *THE LEGEND OF THE IMPACTS* (2012), and co-wrote *CAMERA* (2014), directed by James Leong, which played in competition at several international film festivals. He recently edited a publication dedicated to interviews with screenwriters in Asia, *NANG ISSUE ONE: SCREENWRITING* (2016). He's currently a Senior Lecture at the School of Art, Design & Media, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, where he teaches screenwriting and narrative.



Sebastian Grobler is a director of fiction films and since December 2015 an Associate Professor for Digital Filmmaking at the School of Art, Design and Media (ADM) in Singapore. Since 2005 he has been working in the German film industry directing series and TV-movies. His theatrical debut feature *Der ganz grosse Traum* (English title: Lessons of a Dream), which Sebastian also co-produced, was nominated for the German Film Award (“Lola”) 2011 for Best Film, Best Camera, and Best Costume Design. It had its international premiere in the competition of Montreal World Film Festival 2011, won 10 international awards, and has been



sold to 80 countries worldwide with theatrical releases in France, Spain, South Africa, Japan and China. At present Sebastian is working with screenwriters on two theatrical feature films.

Moderator:

Kenneth Tan has spent the whole of his adult life in Film and Television. Chairman of the Singapore Film Society for over thirty years, he graduated with First Class Honours from the National University of Singapore



and rose through the ranks at Acorn Marketing & Research Consultants, before joining Mediacorp as Chief Operating Officer (TV) / Chief Executive Officer (Radio) and concurrently overseeing Group Communications. Subsequently, he spent five years as Managing Director of leading cinema chain and film distributor, Golden Village, before his next nine years as Assistant Chief Executive of national regulator and industry development agency, the Info-Communications Media Development Authority.



The Fine Art of Publishing (1pm-2pm)

How can publishing encapsulate the spirit of a city in a book? This discussion will reflect on the opportunities and the challenges of publishing in Southeast Asia.

Featured speaker:

Dominique Husken-Ulbrich, a French geographer and the publisher of *Singapore365*. He is a lecturer at the French High school in Singapore. Published in 2013, *Singapore365* offers a comprehensive insight into the political, economic, cultural and entertainment realms in Singapore.



Moderator: **Edmund Wee** is the founder of Epigram Books which was set up to champion Singaporean literature. It publishes mainly fiction—from picture books to graphic novels to literary bestsellers. Its authors have won all the major book prizes, including the Hedwig Anuar Children’s Book Award, Singapore Literature Prize and Singapore Book Awards since it started in 2011. It also behind Singapore’s richest literary award, the annual Epigram Books Fiction Prize. Wee Editions, another imprint, supports local designers, photographers and artists. In 2008, Wee was Designer of the Year in the President’s Design Award, Singapore’s highest design accolade.



Writing in the Age of Social Media

(2pm-3pm)

How can literature reinvent itself and embrace the challenges posed by social media? The panellists will explore the state of play of the literature in the context of the widespread use of social media tools and platforms.

Featured speakers:



Joshua Ip is the Singapore Literature Prize-winning author of *'sonnets from the singlish upsized edition'* (2015), *'making love with scrabble tiles'* (2013), and *'sonnets from the singlish'* (2012). He has placed in three different categories of the Golden Point Award. He co-edits two series of anthologies: *A Luxury We Cannot Afford* and *SingPoWriMo*; and edits *Ten Year Series*, an imprint of Math Paper Press. He is working on a graphic novel, *'Ten Stories Below'*. He is the founder of Sing Lit Station, a non-profit that runs multiple community initiatives, including SingPoWriMo, Manuscript Bootcamp, poetry.sg, and several workshop groups. www.joshuaip.com.



Vladimir Todorovic is a filmmaker, multimedia artist and educator based in Singapore. He is working as an associate professor at the School of Art, Design and Media, NTU. His projects have won several awards and have been shown at hundreds of festivals,



exhibitions, museums and galleries including: Visions du Reel, Cinema du Reel, IFFR (42nd, 40th and 39th), Festival du Nouveau Cinema, BIFF, SGIFF, L'Alternativa, YIDFF, Siggraph, ISEA (2016, 2010, 2008, 2006), Ars Electronica, Transmediale, Centre Pompidou, House of World Cultures, The Reina Sofia Museum and Japan Media Art Festival.

Moderator: **Gilles Massot**, a French artist, teaches photography in Lasalle's Faculty of Fine Arts. He holds a BA in Photography and Audiovisual from the University of Provence (France) and an MA in Fine Arts at the Lasalle College of the Arts (Singapore). *Retrospecks*



Future Pix: the Book, published in 2008, summarizes his 30 years of research on time, space and their relation to photography and painting.

