

# MASTER OF ARTS **FINE ARTS**

**MODE**

Full-Time/ Part-Time  
Classes will be conducted mostly in the evenings.

**INTAKE**

January

**DURATION**

Full-Time — 1.5 Years (3 Semesters)  
Part-Time — 3 Years (6 Semesters)



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Image:  
Kathryn, *Door*, 2015.



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Image:  
Anne Molleskov, *MacRitchie Me, Turning to be Wider(led)*, 2017.

Image: Jackson Tan, *Here*, 2015.



MASTER BOTH RESEARCH  
AND PRACTICE,  
AND DEVELOP YOUR  
INDIVIDUAL VOICE  
AS AN ARTIST.

ACQUIRE CRITICAL,  
THEORETICAL,  
AND HISTORICAL  
DISCOURSES THAT  
INFORM YOUR  
CONTEMPORARY  
ARTISTIC PRACTICE.

Image: John Clang, *Boon Hock in 2014*, 2015.



## OVERVIEW

As a fine artist, you are dedicated to advancing your art making and developing a rigorous research and studio practice. You conceptualise, evaluate and analyse your process, pushing the boundaries in relation to your own social and cultural context as well as the theoretical discourse around your practice. Whether it is focusing your research area within a certain mode of expression, or choosing to work via an interdisciplinary approach, the MA Fine Arts Programme enables you to cultivate your practice through a firm grounding in studio experimentation and innovation.

The programme has unrelentingly worked at preparing graduates for a rapidly-evolving art landscape. Historically, Singapore's strategic position has enabled it to play a critical role in mediating the communication between Southeast Asia and the world. Concurrently, Singapore's committed investment in arts infrastructure has created a burgeoning arts industry that not only creates market opportunities for artists but also facilitates the art-related negotiations as a meeting ground for renowned artistic talent and discourse to cross-pollinate.

Central to the programme's philosophy is the role of the artist in your own artistic voice in a studio-based research practice environment. Believing that it is not enough to merely mirror global trends, the programme is the only practice-based programme in Singapore that prizes multidisciplinary practice while generating individual self-discipline, knowledge and discoveries that enable the realisation of your artistic vocabulary. The programme also prides itself in working towards the sustainability of an artist.

The MA Fine Arts Programme is a programme where alongside rigorous studio-based training, you will acquire critical, theoretical and historical discourses that inform your contemporary artistic practice. At LASALLE, you will receive quality education that integrates research and practice. You will develop your abilities to conceptualise creatively, reflect upon your practice and grow your individual and collaborative skills. The programme's stellar, dedicated faculty spans a wide range of academic and artistic backgrounds as well as geographies. Accomplished academics and artists in their own right, they provide you with individualised attention and support alongside a distinguished roster of guest lecturers, international artists, curators and critics amidst the vibrant ecosystem of fellow students.

The programme is committed to providing a conducive learning environment leveraging on Singapore's strategic geographic and culturally-connected position in Southeast Asia, and also LASALLE's integrated arts campus. Through such a rich context and diverse international exposure, candidates have ample opportunities to further contemporary art discourses through their own research and practice and graduate with global appeal.

The programme will equip you with the appropriate expertise and academic rigour to undertake a higher level of independent research work such as a PhD. Awards and financial support includes The Winston Oh Travel Award, research and study grants as well as the Chan Davies Art Prize.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

This full-time programme spans three consecutive semesters within a 1.5-year duration. Semesters 1 and 2 each have two 30-credit modules. In Semester 2, a 30-credit elective module option is made available to you with a choice to take the module offered by your respective programme or, in consultation with your Programme Leader, select a module offered by another MA programme. The 60-credit module in the final (3rd) semester will allow you to develop a thesis or a practice-based project/ exhibition based on your research interests.

SEMESTER 1	CREDIT POINTS
Research Methods in Creative Arts	30
Studio Practice	30

SEMESTER 2	CREDIT POINTS
Studio Practice 2	30
Issues in Practice and Research in Fine Arts	30

SEMESTER 3	CREDIT POINTS
Final Research	60

In the part-time mode, the programme spans six consecutive semesters within a three-year duration. You are required to complete one 30-credit module each in Semesters 1 to 4. The Final Research 60-credit module will span the last two semesters in the final year.

Part-time students will begin with the Research Methods in Creative Arts module as this establishes core principles and skills necessary across all MA programmes, while also introducing techniques of research, and enables you to present and write analytically and critically across relevant issues in your field of study. You will undergo academic guidance from your Programme Leader to organise your course of study.

Research Methods in Creative Arts

This module is an introduction to arts research through a thorough study of research methods and analytical techniques informing artistic and critical practices at the MA level. Research operates within a critical context and this module aims to prepare you to confidently articulate your practice, formulate your own critical arguments and methods to investigate and probe issues.

Studio Practice

The module emphasises the training and education of the artist dealing with fine arts practice or new media technologies and is based on independent study and research. Your learning experience is embodied in the development of a strong methodology in studio practice within the context of contemporary art and new media. This is facilitated through workshops that address issues and skills relevant to your proposed research areas (e.g. cultural politics, popular culture, theories of aesthetics, new media theories, networks, programming, immersive environment, sensors, etc).

Studio Practice 2

The module further consolidates the training and education of the artist based on independent study and research. Through the development of a range of analytical, reflective, technological and communicative skills, you are able to better articulate your individual vision and agenda in your research and practice.

Image: Giada Tagliamonte, *Leaves*, 2015.



Issues in Practice and Research in Fine Arts

The training and education of the artist is further developed through a series of seminars, workshops and lectures. Equipped with a strong research methodology, you will elaborate on its relevance to your research area. You will consider the theoretical and methodological issues that arise in the relationship between practice and research and how these pertain to your own individual studio-based practice and/or scholarly research. In preparation for your oral presentation, you should demonstrate an ability to critically analyse and articulate your concepts and practice.

Final Research

This final module requires you to contextualise and present a resolved body of works in the form of an exhibition. Your work should be informed by the critical and conceptual thinking developed over the previous two semesters, and supported by a well-informed, research-led, critical discourse. In parallel to your final exhibited work, you will also need to document your working methodology and demonstrate the reflexive thinking of how theory and art practice are related. This will be presented in the form of a 5,000-word exegesis that supports your studio practice.

You will work independently or collaboratively towards the submission of the final exhibition and will be supervised and mentored by your appointed research supervisor.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

TEACHING METHODS & ASSESSMENT

The programme is delivered through a range of learning approaches that include lectures, workshops, seminars, group discussions and critiques, candidate presentations as well as individual tutorials. These approaches support you as you work towards a Final Research project comprising of an exhibition of artworks and a supporting document in the form of an exegesis. You are expected to be self-motivated, engage in independent visual and theoretical research, as well as develop the ability to evaluate your own work and expand your awareness of the critical developments in contemporary art. Exposure to good practices in terms of professional practice also facilitates feasibility of being an artist.

STUDY TRIPS

A study trip will be organised to enable you to learn how artists and art communities respond to differing social and cultural contexts in the production of art. Harnessing the benefits of experiential learning, this study trip will include visits to artist studios, galleries, biennales and art spaces. At the same time, it offers invaluable research opportunities through networking with local art communities.



Image: MA Fine Arts students' field trip to Setouchi, Japan.



Image:  
LASALLE-RMIT Postgraduate Symposium, 2015.

Image:  
Programme Leader, Dr Ian Woo sharing his work at  
LASALLE-RMIT Postgraduate Symposium, 2014.



## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree and demonstrable ability to pursue discourse and research in contemporary issues in fine arts.
- **A minimum of IELTS 7.0, TOEFL iBT 100 or PTE Academic 65** for applicants from countries where English is not the first language or whose qualifications are obtained from institutions where English is not the medium of instruction.
- A portfolio of art works documented in digital format. Drawings, installations, paintings and sculptures should be in high resolution for close-up viewing. Interdisciplinary time-based works or performance and awareness e-based works should be presented in video or digital format. It will be useful for the documentation to include works seen within an exhibition format or public / private context.
- All interviews will include discussions on the potential candidate's knowledge of visual art theories in relation to their art practice.
- Two-page research proposal indicating your research aims and objectives, proposed outcomes, and brief details of research methods and materials you wish to use.
- Statement of Purpose: 500-word statement of your reasons for pursuing Master's studies, your suitability and expected benefits from the programme.

## POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH

LASALLE has a long tradition of practice-led research in art and design. The College aims to assume a significant role in Singapore for practice-led research in visual, performing and literary arts, and aspires to add the distinctive viewpoint of Singapore to research into artistic practice in the 21st century.

The Research Methods in Creative Arts module is a common module which all students are required to undertake. You will have the opportunity to interact with one another in the first term (seven weeks), to network with peers in other MA programmes and foster a stronger community of research practice that enhances your respective discipline of study as well as within the College.

You will be introduced to relevant professional methods of research and creation which may include profiles of and/or dialogue with creative professionals, critical/theoretical discourse, action research, visual object analysis, textual analysis, case studies, historical and ethnographic research, interviews, life stories/autobiographies, etc. You will also be introduced to research practices such as literature reviews, process-based discovery, bibliographical searches, quantitative & qualitative methods, citations and the construction of research questions.

Postgraduate students are constantly exposed to first-hand experience in current practices of research and creation, leading to the acquiring powerful knowledge and of a wide set of skills by the time you graduate. You will have opportunities to develop expertise in accordance with your research interests.

## CAREER PATHS

Fine Artist, Art Critics, Writers



Image: **MA Fine Arts Kwek Wen Qing, The LASALLE Show 2019.**

## THE FACULTY



### Dr Ian Woo

Programme Leader, Senior Lecturer

- Doctor in Fine Arts, RMIT University, Australia
- MA European Fine Art, Winchester School of Art, UK
- BA(Hons) Fine Art, Kent Institute of Art & Design, UK

Dr Ian Woo is an artist and musician influenced by forms of modernism, perceptual abstraction and the sound structures of music improvisation. His paintings and drawings are characterised by a sense of gravitational and representational change.

As an educator, Ian leads the MA Fine Arts Programme which focuses on developing artistic practice as research. He has successfully developed the curriculum for studio practice research through validations by Open University and Goldsmiths University. He has supervised major artists who have representations in the Venice Biennale and Singapore Biennale. He has also been instrumental in shaping the artistic profile and history of Singapore art since the turn of the millennium.

Ian has exhibited extensively around the world and his works are in the collection of major institutions such as ABN AMRO, Singapore Art Museum, the Istana Singapore, National Gallery Singapore, UBS and the Mint Museum of Craft & Design, USA. His paintings were featured in the publication *Art of the New Cities: 21st Century Avant-Gardes*, a publication by Phaidon Press, 2013. Since 2016, together with Beth Harland, David Thomas and Laura Lisbon, Ian has been part of the experimental painting collaborative project *Impermanent Durations - On Painting and Time*.

As a musician, Ian has composed and played free improvisation music on the bass guitar with Stigmata, Path Integral, ID, Cuba and Angie Seah's *A Thousand Horses*. He has performed at Singapore's C.H.O.P.P.A Experimental Music Festival from 2008-2017.



### Adeline Kueh

Senior Lecturer

- MA (Literature & Communications), Murdoch University, Australia
- BA (Critical Studies in Fine & Performing Arts), Simon Fraser University, Canada

Adeline Kueh makes installations, photography and sound works that reconsider the relationship with things and rituals around us. Her works are imbued with a sense of desire and longing, and act as modern-day totems that explore personal histories and overlooked moments. Adeline has produced installations and interventionist projects within the collaborative *Matrixial Technologies* (with Faith Wilding & subRosas) in *old boys network 01* (Hamburg, 2001), *Next 5 Minutes 4: International Festival of Tactical Media* (Amsterdam, 2003), and *Version & 03 Digital Art Convergence* (Chicago, 2003).

She has also exhibited in the UK, USA, the Netherlands, Turkey and Australia. Rooted in critical studies, her research interests include notions of monstrosity within Southeast Asian contexts, architecture, fashion and the future of cinema. Adeline has chaired and presented at a number of cultural studies conferences in UK, Australia, Finland, Hungary, Singapore and Malaysia.

# ABOUT LASALLE COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

**Asia's leading tertiary institution in contemporary arts and design education and practice.**

LASALLE College of the Arts offers 30 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, Asian art histories and creative writing.

LASALLE provides a nurturing, interdisciplinary learning environment to inspire the next generation of forward-looking, globally engaged artists, designers and leaders of creative industries.

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.

Founded in 1984 by the late De La Salle Brother Joseph McNally – a visionary artist and educator – LASALLE is a non-profit private educational institution. The College receives tuition grant support from Singapore's Ministry of Education. Its degree programmes are validated by Goldsmiths, University of London.

## CONTACT US

For programme consultation or to schedule a guided campus tour, contact our Admissions Office.

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Monday – Friday, 9:30am – 5:30pm  
Closed on weekends and Public Holidays

## CONNECT WITH US

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Partner Institution:

**Goldsmiths**  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

LASALLE College of the Arts is registered with the Committee for Private Education (CPE). The Committee for Private Education is part of SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG).  
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