

rediscover

Telok Ayer

Public installations
will be on display
20 March 2020 onwards

A site-specific arts project
of contemporary responses
to Telok Ayer, drawing on
community memories and
stories, history and the
urban landscape.



REDISCOVER TELOK AYER

Once a settlement along the coastline, Telok Ayer is closely interconnected with the notions of arrival and identity.

Telok Ayer is both a cultural melting pot and urban oasis, and its slumbering stories are ready to resurface once more.

Four contemporary artists – Shirley Soh, Hazel Lim, Sarah Lin and Dylan Chan – uncover the tales resting in the quiet corners of Telok Ayer. Drawing on former residents' memories and historical accounts, these artists have created artworks that resonate deeply with the space it occupies.

Come experience the confluence of cultures and histories through art. From dialect workshops, folk songs to cultural mapping tours, discover a new side to Telok Ayer that was hidden in plain sight.

“What Do You Remember?” Wall

Just like Telok Ayer, everyone has a unique history to share. Pick up a piece of chalk and share your own memories with us on our wall!

Telok Ayer Green Park

Installation will be up from 20 March 2020 onwards

You can also share your stories online on our Instagram @rediscover.telokayer

Programmes

Interventions Tour

Meeting Point: Outside Eden Garden Cafe
121 Telok Ayer St

21 March (Sat), 3:00pm & 5:00pm
4 April (Sat), 3:00pm & 5:00pm

Discover the stories and memories that our four artists drew on to create their artworks, and get a better understanding of the people who once lived and worked in Telok Ayer.



Photo Credits: LearnDialect

LearnDialect.sg
HOKKIEN · CANTONESE · TEOCHEW

Hokkien Songs Workshop with LearnDialect.sg

Museum Cafe
(Singapore Musical Box Museum)
168 Telok Ayer St

21 March (Sat), 4:00pm – 5:30pm
4 April (Sat), 1:00pm – 2:30pm

Hokkien for beginners! An extension of Shirley Soh's *Lai Ciun Gua*. Come join us for a workshop on classic Hokkien folk songs led by Ski Yeo from LearnDialect.sg.

LearnDialect.sg conducts fun Singapore dialect lessons for the general public and produces engaging online content. Specialising in dialect workshops for medical students, healthcare professionals, social workers and volunteers, LearnDialect.sg helps institutions in dialect-related events, videos and voiceovers.

Mapping Telok Ayer with Vikas Kailankaje

Meeting Point:
Outside Eden Garden Cafe
121 Telok Ayer St

4 April (Sat), 9:30am – 12:30pm

How has Telok Ayer changed over the years? Dive into old maps and immerse yourself in architecture with Vikas Kailankaje, to discover urban landscape secrets hidden in plain sight.

Vikas Kailankaje is a lecturer in Design Communication at the LASALLE College of the Arts. Outside of his design practice and teaching, Vikas leads walking tours that draw upon local issues and historical intrigue.



Photo Credits:
Kwok Jia Yang



Artists and their Artworks



Shirley Soh *Lai Ciun Gua (Let's Sing)*

1. Eng Choon Hway Kuan (Singapore)
105 Amoy St, Singapore 069925
2. Thian Hock Keng Temple
158 Telok Ayer St, Singapore 068613
3. Museum Cafe (Singapore Musical Box Museum)
168 Telok Ayer St, Singapore 068619

Shirley Soh is an artist, teacher, an erstwhile journalist and a perpetual student. Her interests lie in how individuals, community, environment and the economy interdependently connect in constantly shifting ways. Her public art commissions can be seen at Botanic Gardens Downtown MRT station and the Konfrontasi memorial at Dhoby Ghaut.

Contemplating the history of Chinese immigration to Telok Ayer resulted in Shirley confronting her own Hokkien roots and her relationship with the spoken language. She makes a tribute to the now-rarely used Hokkien dialect through once popular Hokkien folk songs in three separate installations at the Thian Hock Keng Temple, the Singapore Musical Box Museum and Eng Choon Hway Kuan. The works aim to inspire questions on the role of dialects in Chinese identity and its loss as a result of Mandarin language policies in Singapore.

Credits: Music producer: Prue Chew | Singers: Moon Chew, Vee | Design and fabrication: Neuewave



Dylan Chan *Janus*

*Walkway of Ann Siang Hill Park
(From Amoy Street) Singapore 069447*

Dylan's curiosity lies in everyday life both public and private. Engaging in acts of recollection, he looks at the body and its attachment to space; how one imprints onto various objects and spaces. He currently traverses between painting and image-making.

Drawing from the cultural and historical landscape and paying homage to the history of Telok Ayer, Dylan ruminates on the possibilities found in this transient space, the activities that once took place – of coolies and merchants, worshippers and settlers – and takes inspiration from the vibrant colours of the shophouses as well as the temples and houses of worship of different communities of the district.



Hazel Lim *Stories of the Sea*

Eden Garden Cafe
121 Telok Ayer St, Singapore 068586

Trained in painting, Hazel frequently employs text, craft techniques and drawings to express her interests in the production of narratives, notions of displacement, construction of histories and imaginary landscapes. One of her earlier works,

The Cartography of Memories, can be seen at Caldecott MRT station as part of the the Land Transport Authority's "Art in Transit" programme. Hazel is also the Programme Leader of the BA(Hons) Fine Arts programme at LASALLE College of the Arts.

Postmen, steamships, rings, lanterns, a poem by a cultural medallion laureate... images that evoke migration and home, family and kinship. Spanning generations and countries, the stories and memories of members of the Indian-Muslim community are brought to light through a series of interactions between Hazel and community members through the Nagore Dargah Indian-Muslim Heritage Centre. Installed at Eden Garden Cafe, these boxes of memories reveal a closely intertwined relationship between culture, community, and space.



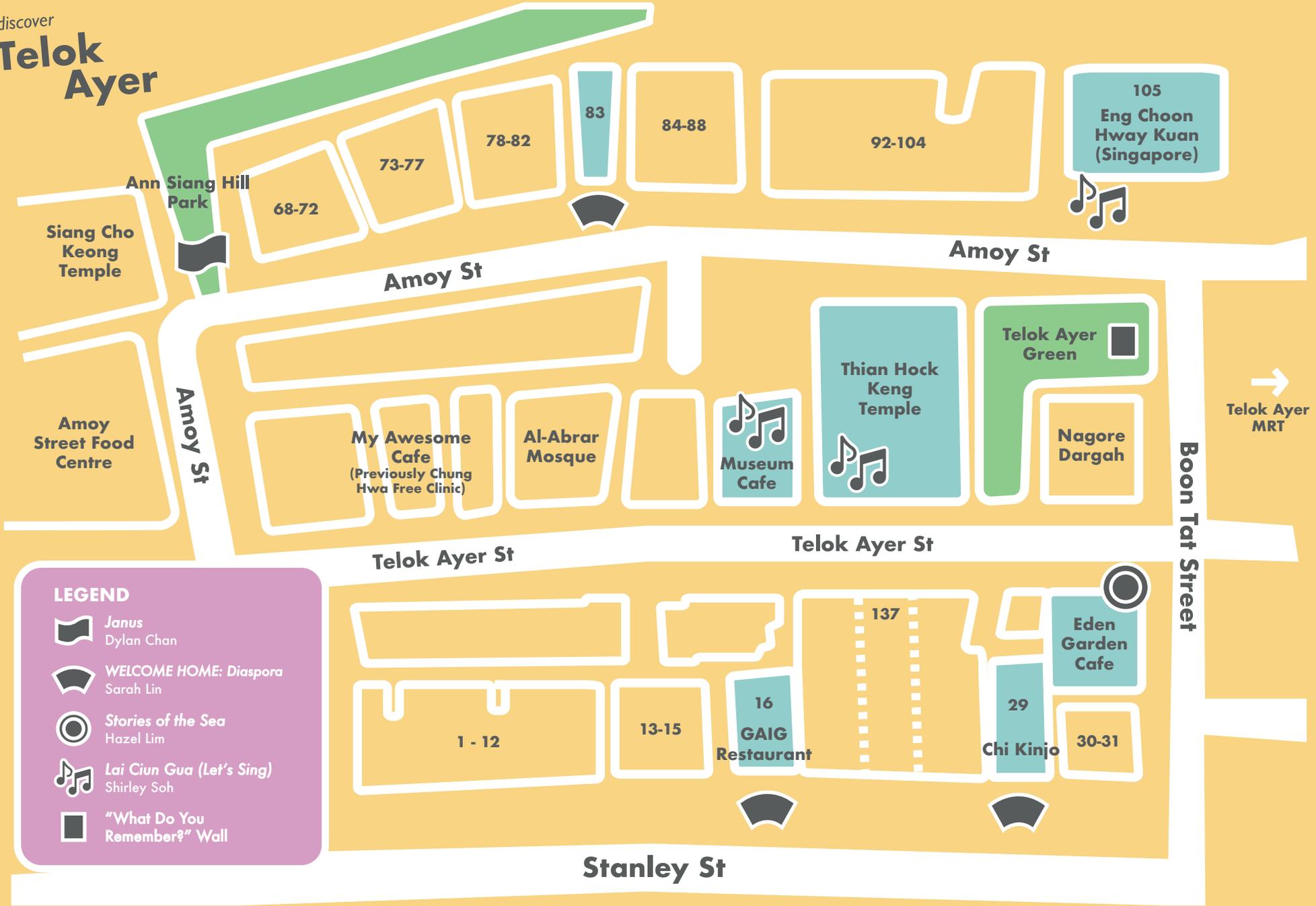
Sarah Lin *WELCOME HOME: Diaspora*

1. 16 Stanley St, Singapore 068735
2. 29 Stanley St, Singapore 068738
3. 83 Amoy St, Singapore 069902

Sarah Lin is an artist and curator who is deeply inspired by the human condition and personal narratives. Working in sculpture and painting, she incorporates eclectic colour combinations and rawness into her work and aims to create a field of stillness, contemplation and gratitude in every work that she produces.

In the mythology of Sea Goddess and patron Ma Zhu, she holds a lamp by the coastal line for the safe return of her missing father and brother. In a similar thread, Sarah searches for the 'missing piece' of her identity as a third-culture person. Sparking a dialogue between the old and the new, Sarah's work is a contemporary twist on the ubiquitous old murals found above the doorways of Telok Ayer - drawing on the images of Ma Zhu, water, and animals. She also aims to get people to look up more, and appreciate the designs that already exist in the periphery of our attention, conserving the remaining artworks in the process.

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Telok Ayer



LEGEND

-  Janus
Dylan Chan
-  WELCOME HOME: Diaspora
Sarah Lin
-  Stories of the Sea
Hazel Lim
-  Lai Ciun Gua (Let's Sing)
Shirley Soh
-  "What Do You Remember?" Wall

→
Telok Ayer
MRT

Boon Tat Street

105
Eng Choon
Hway Kuan
(Singapore)



Amoy St

Amoy St

Ann Siang Hill
Park

Siang Cho
Keong
Temple

Amoy
Street Food
Centre

Amoy St

68-72

73-77

78-82

83

84-88

92-104

Telok Ayer St

Telok Ayer St

Telok Ayer St

Stanley St

Telok Ayer
Green

Thian Hock
Keng
Temple

Nagore
Dargah

Museum
Cafe

My Awesome
Cafe
(Previously Chung
Hwa Free Clinic)

Al-Abrar
Mosque

Eden
Garden
Cafe

Chi Kinjo

16
GAIG
Restaurant

1 - 12

13-15

137

30-31

29

**A project by BA(Hons) Arts Management
students from LASALLE College of the Arts and
the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA).**

Special thanks to our partners:

Citikids Academy Pte Ltd, Eden Garden Cafe,
Eng Choon Hway Kuan,
Nagore Dargah Indian Muslim Heritage Centre,
National Parks Board, Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan,
Singapore Musical Box Museum,
Taiko Properties Pte.Ltd., Thian Hock Kheng Temple and
WAREES Investments Pte Ltd

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