

OBJECT OF DESIRE
Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore
Brother Joseph McNally Gallery
LASALLE College of the Arts
22 June – 24 July 2019

Artists
Dagrún Aðalsteinsdóttir
Weixin Quek Chong
Guðlaug Mía Eypórsdóttir
Styrmir Örn Guðmundsson
Saemundur Thor Helgason
Daniel Hui
Luca Lum
Guo-Liang Tan

Curator
Dagrún Aðalsteinsdóttir, alumna,
MA Fine Arts (2016 cohort), LASALLE

Object of desire presents prints, collage, installation, film and performance by eight artists from Singapore and Iceland. The works explore the affective agency of images and objects as ‘things’ which are desired, distributed and reproduced.

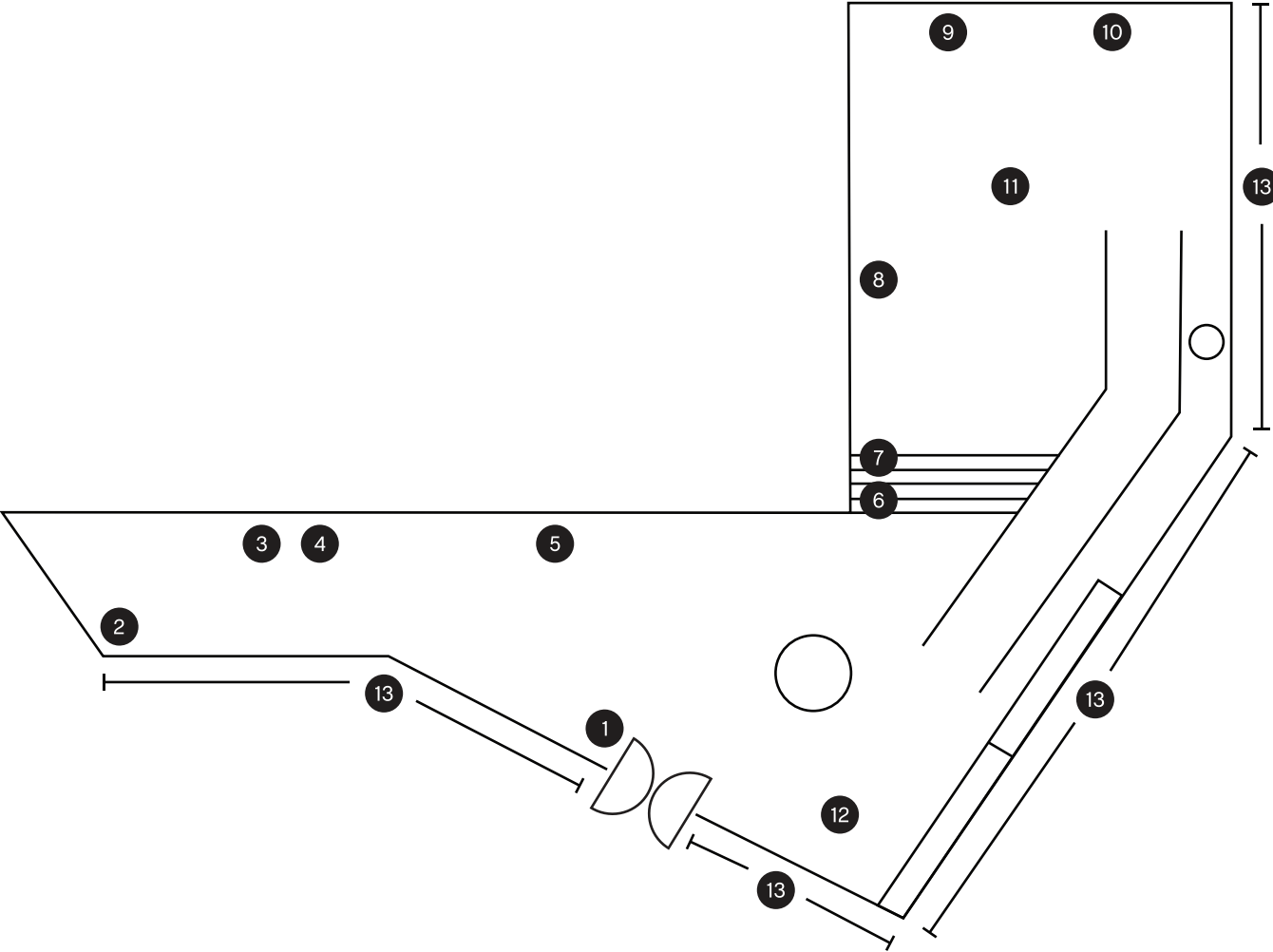
The title of the exhibition refers to an essay by artist Hito Steyerl titled ‘A thing like you and me’ (2010). In her essay, Steyerl explains the role of humans in the formation and operation of images. According to Steyerl, our participation in images not only blurs distinctions between subjects and objects, but also human subjectivity, which is increasingly objectified. In her essay, Steyerl describes images as fragments of the real world; things ‘like any other—a thing like you and me’.

For the exhibition, curator Dagrún Aðalsteinsdóttir has invited each artist to create a work that explores the values and hierarchies associated with ‘being an object or an image’. The layout is conceived as an interdependent constellation, in which the works—as ‘object-subjects’—activate one another.

The exhibition will travel to Gerðarsafn Museum in Kópavogur, Iceland, in early 2020.

ICA Singapore coordinating curator: Melanie Pocock

#objectofdesire



List of works
Dimensions are given height preceding width (followed, where applicable, by depth)

1 Luca Lum
Born Singapore 1991, lives Singapore

SPHNIXES II, 2019
2-channel sound work, plaster
25 minutes

Dagrún Aðalsteinsdóttir
born Reykjavík 1989, lives Berlin

2 *She came to stay*, 2019
high-definition digital video, 16:9 aspect ratio, colour, sound
16:59 minutes
Music: Berglind María Tómasdóttir

3 *My illusions fail me*, 2019
digital print on vinyl
91 x 61 cm

4 *Thing like any other, thing like you and me*, 2019
digital print on vinyl
91 x 61 cm

5 Guo-Liang Tan
Born Singapore 1980, lives Singapore

Left to right:

Figure IV, 2019
gauze fabric, digital print, metal hook
87 x 53 x 4 cm

Figure III, 2019
gauze fabric, digital print
66 x 52 x 5 cm

Figure II, 2019
gauze fabric, digital print
75 x 59 x 6 cm

Figure I, 2019
gauze fabric, thread, digital print, wire, metal
177 x 53 x 27 cm (approx.)

Dagrún Aðalsteinsdóttir

6 *Infinite potentials for failure*, 2019
digital print on vinyl
91 x 61 cm

7 *This mortal coil*, 2019
digital print on vinyl
91 x 61 cm

8 Guðlaug Mía Eypórsdóttir
born Reykjavík 1988, lives Antwerp

Squared shuffle, 2019
chlorine-dyed fabric, thread
4 parts, each 90 x 90 cm

9 Luca Lum
SPHNIXES I, 2019
digital print, frame, plaster, perfume bottle, candle wax
51.5 x 90 x 15.5 cm

10 Styrmir Örn Guðmundsson
born 1984 Reykjavík, lives Berlin

Organ orchestra, 2019
high-definition digital video projection, 16:9 aspect ratio, colour, sound
11:11 minutes

11 Weixin Quek Chong
Born Singapore 1988, lives Madrid and Singapore

Footbound, 2019
high-definition digital video, 16:9 aspect ratio, colour, sound
8 minutes

12 Daniel Hui
born Singapore 1986, lives Boston and Singapore

No images, 2011
16mm film transferred to high-definition digital video, 3:4 aspect ratio, colour, sound
8:27 minutes

13 Saemundur Thor Helgason
Born Reykjavík 1986, lives Amsterdam

Emblem, 2019
digitally-printed vinyl on glass
100 parts: each 50 x 50 cm
Courtesy the Fellowship of Citizens (Félag Borgara)
Design: Gabriel Markan
Art direction: Saemundur Thor Helgason

All works courtesy the artists

Public programme

Exhibition tour with artist-curator Dagrún Aðalsteinsdóttir and participating artists
Saturday 22 June
3:00–4:30 pm

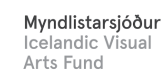
Luca Lum: Liquid crystal
Tuesday 23 July
7:00–7:45 pm

‘A dove answered with a hawk, a hare with a greyhound.’
Luca Lum

Join Luca Lum for a reading of her recent essay, ‘Liquid crystal’. Part-fiction, part-memoir, Lum’s text explores double-binds within changing forms.



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