

Nathan Tan Yew Wai

<https://natanartstudio.wixsite.com/nathantan>

natanartstudio@gmail.com

@natan.art.studio

Biography

Nathan Tan Yew Wai (b. 1995, Singapore) is an artist and printmaker whose practice explores the quiet relationships between human presence and aquatic life within Singapore's freshwater environments. Through field research, underwater documentation, and print-based experimentation, his work examines how natural and manmade ecologies intertwine, revealing fragile systems of adaptation and coexistence.

Grounded in printmaking yet expanding beyond its traditional bounds, Tan employs techniques such as screen printing on aluminum and plywood with laser-cutting to create layered material narratives. His works often reflect on the ethics of ornamental fishkeeping and the effects of aesthetic-driven human intervention.

Tan's works have been exhibited internationally in Germany, Indonesia, Japan, the Netherlands, Singapore, Thailand, the United Kingdom, and Vietnam, with selections for the 8th Graphic Art Biennial of Szeklerland (Romania) and the 4th ASEAN Graphic Art Competition and Exhibition (Vietnam).

He holds a Diploma in Fine Art (Drawing and Printmaking) from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, where he later served as Printmaking Technician, and is currently pursuing a BA (Hons) Fine Art with the University of the Arts London at NAFA, supported by the Tan Chin Tuan Scholarship and the NAFA Talent Development Programme, under the mentorship of Kitikong Tilokwattanotai.

Education

- 2024 - 2026 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Fine Art, University of the Arts London, UK
- 2019 - 2022 Diploma in Fine Art (Drawing and Printmaking), Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore

Solo Exhibitions

- 2025 *Flowerhorn Fever: The Search for Luck*, Presented by Con-Temporary Art, JW PROJECTS, Singapore
- 2025 *Traces Beneath*, Bank of Singapore, Singapore
- 2022 *Blue Imprint: FEEDfragileBACK*, Hearth Art Space, Art Outreach, Singapore

Duo and Group Exhibitions

- 2025 *60/60: Singapore in Focus*, INSTINC Space, Singapore (Upcoming)
- 2025 *Tender Breach*, Presented by Con-Temporary Art, West Bund Artistic Centre, Shanghai (Upcoming)
- 2025 *Leaking Fishtank*, Hearth Art Space, Art Outreach, Singapore
- 2025 *NAFA x UAL exhibition*, The Cookhouse Gallery, Chelsea College of Art, London, UK
- 2025 *Beyond Print*, Lim Hak Tai Gallery, Singapore
- 2025 *From Nowhere*, Triangle Space, Chelsea College of Arts, London, UK
- 2025 "What is Printmaking?" *Maxnifier V.5*, TCDC COMMONS MunMun Srinakarin, Bangkok, Thailand
- 2024 *4th ASEAN Graphic Arts Competition and Exhibition*, Hai Phong Museum, Hai Phong, Vietnam
- 2024 *Urban Pulse: Spectrum of Contemporary Art Singapore*, Presented by ISA Art and Design, World Trade Centre 2, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2024 マチに穴があいている, Up & Coming, Tokyo, Japan
- 2024 "Maxnifier V" *International Printmaking Exhibition*, Thailand Creative & Design Center, Bangkok, Thailand

- 2024 *Urban Pulse: Spectrum of Contemporary Art Singapore*, Presented by ISA Art and Design, Orasis Art Space, Surabaya, Indonesia
- 2024 *8th Graphic Art Biennial of Szeklerland*, Online Exhibition: <https://gbiennial.ro/online-expo-g8/>
- 2024 *越亮 On nights like this, the loneliness gets melancholic*, Supper House, Ann Siang House, Singapore
- 2024 *In-site: A Jungle of Curiosity*, INSTINC Space, Singapore
- 2024 *Printmakers Network*, Drawing Etc. Creative Space & Gallery, Singapore
- 2024 *Open Print Exchange Exhibition*, Feierwerk Farbenladen, Munich, Germany
- 2024 *"Maxnifier IV" Into Nature International Smallprintmaking Exhibition*, Broccoli Revolution, Bangkok, Thailand
- 2024 *International Miniprint Exhibition*, Arun Amarin 23 Art Space, Bangkok, Thailand
- 2024 *わくわく waku waku*, Peace Centre, Singapore
- 2024 *Flagship Genius featuring Văn Miếu-Quốc Tử Giám*, Ngee Ann Kongsi Galleries 1 & 2, Singapore
- 2024 *Print It! 2024*, Aire Place Studios, Leeds, UK
- 2023 *DrawEtc. Year-End Exhibition*, Drawing Etc. Creative Space & Gallery, Singapore
- 2023 *Tomorrow's Testament*, Fashion Gallery, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore
- 2023 *Open Print Exchange Exhibition*, Grafisch Atelier Den Bosch, Den Bosch, Netherlands
- 2023 *The State of the World*, Gmünder Kunstverein, Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany
- 2022 *Pameran Poskad*, Ion Art Gallery, Singapore
- 2022 *Open Print Exchange Exhibition*, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn, Germany
- 2022 *Open Print Exchange Exhibition*, 5/R Hall&Gallery, Nagoya, Japan
- 2022 *Beyond the Boundary*, Straits Gallery, Singapore
- 2022 *The Grad Expectations 2022: Create Your Space*, Ngee Ann Kongsi Galleries 1 & 2, Singapore
- 2021 *Imagining New Futures*, 1 Lock Road, #01-01, Gillman Barracks, Singapore

Commission

- 2023 *Aqua-Scape – Our Freshwater Home*, commissioned by NAFA x Resort World Sentosa, S.E.A. Aquarium, Resort World Sentosa, Singapore

Grants, Awards and Achievement

- 2025 Recipient, NAFA Talent Development Programme (Mentored by Kitikong Tilokwattanotai)
- 2024 Artwork Selected (Juried), 4th ASEAN Graphic Arts Competition and Exhibition
- 2024 Recipient, Tan Chin Tuan Scholarship for Creative Education (Degree)
- 2024 Artwork Selected (Core Collection), 8th Graphic Art Biennial of Szeklerland

Professional Experience

- 2022 – 2024 Technical Officer (Printmaking), Faculty of Art and Design, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore
- 2021 Gallery Intern, Education & Outreach Programmes, STPI Creative Workshop & Gallery, Singapore

Presentation and Participation

- 2024 *In-Site - Artist Talk* (panelist), INSTINC Space, Tanjong Pagar Distripark, Singapore
- 2024 *Participating Artist for the Preview Event of Kampung Java* (20 July), National Arts Council, Singapore
- 2023 *Artist Talk: Aqua-scape Exhibition* (speaker), School of Fine Art, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore

- 2023 *Art x Conservation: An Artistic Point of View* (speaker), Presented by Coastal Natives, Wave of Change Festival 2023, ArtScience Museum, Singapore
- 2022 *Artist Talk - Beyond the Boundary* (panelist), Straits Gallery, Singapore
- 2021 *Online Conversation - Imagining New Futures* (panelist), Gillman Barracks, Singapore (online)

Workshops Conducted

- 2024 *Conducted Linocut Class: Peranakan Tiles* (STPI Workshop), Teck Ghee Primary School, Singapore
- 2024 *Conducted Artistry Unleashed: Print* (Woodblock and Silkscreen) NAFA Open House, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore
- 2023 *Conducted Cyanotype Workshop*, School of Fine Art, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore
- 2023 *Conducted Printmaking Workshop Induction*, Faculty of Art and Design, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore
- 2023 *Conducted Print Room: Through the Screen – Batik* (Silkscreen), NAFA Open House, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore
- 2022 *Conducted Printmaking Workshop Induction*, Faculty of Art and Design, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore
- 2022 *Conducted Cyanotype Workshop*, Hearth Art Space, Art Outreach, Singapore
- 2021 *Conducted Linocut Class: Peranakan Tiles* (STPI Open House), STPI Creative Workshop & Gallery, Singapore

Press and Publications

- 2025 *Art What!: leaking fishtank at Art Outreach*, Bakchormeeboy (online)
- 2025 *Beyond Print*, published by Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (print)
- 2024 *Urban Pulse: Spectrum of Contemporary Art from Singapore in Jakarta*, Just Another Indonesia's Art & Culture (online)
- 2024 *Tomorrow's Testament*, published by Urgency Agency (print)
- 2024 *See how a ceramicist and printmaker explore man's relationship with the natural world*, FEMALE (online)
- 2024 *Print It! 2024*, published by Aire Place Studios (print)
- 2022 *Discover a new art form with a Cyanotype Workshop*, Vogue (online)
- 2022 *NAFA Grad Expectations 2022: Fine Art*, Art Threads (online)
- 2022 *NAFA to hold annual graduation exhibition from Jun 1 to Jul 20*, Youthopia (online)
- 2022 *Open Print Exchange 2021/22 Catalogue*, published by Open Press Project (print)