

YAVUZ GALLERY | PRESS RELEASE | 28 OCT 2021

Jason Wee

Cruising

Exhibition dates: 5 — 28 November 2021

Location: Gillman Barracks, 9 Lock Road, #02-23, Singapore

Yavuz Gallery is proud to present our second solo exhibition with Jason Wee in *Cruising*, featuring new collages, sculptures, assemblages, prints and drawings.

The exhibition leaps between three sites and geographies that venture from the coastal to the oceanic. *Cruising* maps these secret choreographies of bodies in cycles of movement, and the ways these movements refute our sightlines and territorial limits.

Cruising begins with a coastal scene through a suite of unique collage prints that alchemizes Wee's continued interest in landscapes and assemblages. These photo-based works *Uncommon Choreographies* are an ongoing series that features reassembled jigsaw pieces that both vitalise the image surface with fragmented information and obscures the initial images. Shifting between the expansive and the secretive, these collages dance between the cat-and-mouse navigation of seeking and acknowledging queerness, thereby creating and re-creating queer subjectivities.

Presented alongside are Wee's new assemblages, sculptural forms that are drawn from our reclaimed beaches as well as the artist's residency experience on an oil tanker in 2018. Depicting the textures of maritime living and vessel designs, these works speak of maritime shipping networks and expand on the possibilities of new voyages and our entangled supply chains in our current climate.

Cruising fully moves from inland to the oceanic in Wee's panoramic *Cruising to Nowhere*, a digital drawing that alludes to our current preoccupation for escape, towards a horizon of both anticipation and anxiety – sentiments that surround our pandemic present and futures.

The geographical story-telling of *Cruising* connects the disobedient desires inscribed onto our coastal parks, to the maritime shipping networks that form the backbone of the supply chains so crucial in a global pandemic, to the escapist search for freer heterotopic temporalities in our 'cruises to nowhere'. Cruising, as the artist suggests, is not simply queer desiring, but also queering our connections from place to network to place.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Jason Wee (b. 1979, Singapore) is an artist and a writer working between art, architecture, poetry and photography. He founded and runs Grey Projects, an art library and residency. His art is recently seen in the 6th Singapore Biennale, the 1st Asia Society Triennial, Para Site Hong Kong, and is upcoming at Other Futures Festival Amsterdam and the Kochi-Muziris Biennale. Past exhibitions include ArtScience Museum, Singapore (2019 & 2015), Singapore Art Museum, Singapore (2015), Galerie Michael Janssen (2015) and Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen, Berlin, Germany (2009), Casino Luxembourg, Luxembourg (2009), and amongst others.

Residencies and fellowships include The Arts House–National University of Singapore (2014–2015), ZKU Berlin (2016), NTU-CCA Singapore (2016–2017), and New Museum NTU-CCA IdeasCity (2020).

In 2019, he curated *Stories We Tell To Scare Ourselves With* at MOCA Taipei. In 2015, he curated *Singapur Unheimlich* at ifa galerie Berlin and Stuttgart. Other curatorial projects include *Beyond LKY* (2010), *Useful Fictions* by Shubigi Rao (2013), *When You Get Closer To The Heart, You May Find Cracks* by the Migrant Ecologies Project (NUS Museum, 2014). His artist-initiated projects include *Walk Walk Don't Run* (Islandwide Singapore, 2021), *Tomorrow Is An Island* (Villa Vassilieff, 2016), *ART OPENINGS: The Expanded Field of Art Writing* (NTU CCA Singapore, 2018) and *PostSuperFutureAsia* (Taipei Contemporary Art Center 2017, Ilin Museum, 2019).

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He's the author of three poetry collections, including *In Short Future Now* (Sternberg Press, 2020). He edited numerous publications including the bestselling *SQ21: Singapore Queers in the 21st Century* (Math Paper Press).

For further information on the artist and the works, please contact:

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Selected Works



Constellations (Tanjong Rhu), 2021, digital drawing, UV print on gold dibond, 60 x 30 cm

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Cruising to Nowhere, detail, 2021, digital drawing, c-print on canvas, emulsion paint, 30 x 180 cm



Uncommon Choreographies #22 (Left Turn & Blossom), 2021, laminated chromogenic print on Forex board in ash wood frame, 82.5 x 50 cm (artwork), 87 x 53 x 3.4 cm (framed)

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