

Ruben Pang and Speak Cryptic

Presented by Chan + Hori Contemporary, Singapore



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CONTEMPORARY



About Chan + Hori Contemporary

Chan + Hori Contemporary aims to provoke, challenge and stimulate the Singapore and Southeast Asia community through diverse and inclusive events connecting contemporary art with our everyday lives. Artistic vision and a high quality of engagement with public audience lies at the core of its mission.

Encouraging curatorial experimentation and discussion platforms, Chan + Hori highlights both processes and ideas. Dedicated to both emerging and established artists, it is also open to exploring different disciplines and artistic expressions aside from visual arts, such as performance and fashion.

In addition to Chan + Hori's strong focus on building sustainable relationships with international public and private collections, the gallery provides a professional infrastructure for its exclusive artists to support their careers in all relevant aspects - including regular exhibitions, management of large-scale productions, overseas opportunities and collaborations with institutions.

Chan + Hori opened its doors in Block 6, Gillman Barracks, in February 2017. Since then, it has continually showcased pioneering and vibrant contemporary art from Singapore, the region and the world.

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Ruben Pang (b. 1990, Singapore)



Ruben Pang's vibrant and ethereal work combines fluid technique with a kaleidoscopic palette. Without a preconceived image of the final composition, Ruben's artistic practice evolves throughout the painting process, removing the boundary between abstraction and representation. This approach allows the imagery to surface spontaneously, which Ruben describes as "visual syncopation, like searching for a melody in white noise". Using oil paint and alkyd resin, he paints, scratches and erases his paintings using brushes, hands, palette knives and sandpaper, revealing layers of colour that reflect projections of his psyche. Ruben works on aluminium panels, which allow him greater freedom to transform the image as it develops. His work explores medium and method, creating a feeling of dynamism while testing the boundaries of colour, form, and transparency.

Prominent exhibitions Ruben has been featured in include Ruben Pang@Meccaniche della Meraviglia at the MO.CA Centro per le nuove culture in Brescia, Italy (2018) and The Figure in Process: De Kooning to Kapoor at the Paul Allen Brain Institute in Seattle, United States (2015) which showcased Ruben's work alongside famed artists such as Alberto Giacometti, Francis Bacon and Anish Kapoor. He was a finalist for the Sovereign Asian Art Prize in 2010 and 2011. Locally, Ruben received the Georgette Chen Arts Scholarship (2009 – 2010) and the Winston Oh Travelogue Award (2010). Ruben Pang was the first artist to be invited on a three-month residency with the renowned Tiroche DeLeon collection in Israel and one of the artworks, The Last Supper (2015), entered the collection thereafter. Other residencies include the Stelvia Residency Program in Desenzano del Garda, Italy and Lugano, Switzerland



Ruben Pang

Stroking a Machine, 2019

Oil, alkyd and synthetic varnish on aluminium panel

73 x 63 cm



Ruben Pang

Triple A Prayers, 2018- 2019

Oil, alkyd and synthetic varnish on aluminum composite panel

220 x 150 x 3.30 cm



installation view



Ruben Pang

The Tongue, 2018

Oil, alkyd, acrylic and spray paint on aluminum composite panel

192 x 140 cm

Speak Cryptic (b. 1980, Singapore)



Speak Cryptic bases his works on the visual language prevalent in comic culture and underground music. Utilizing personal iconographies and a cast of characters developed over the years, he provides narratives on current affairs and his environment. Key exhibitions include his solo exhibition, *Open My Heart, Ease My Task, Loosen the Knot On My Tongue* at Chan + Hori Contemporary in Singapore (2019), group exhibition *Art From the Streets* at ArtScience Museum in Singapore (2018) and largescale sculpture, *Crossing Shores* as one of two Public Art Trust Bicentennial Commissions.



Speak Cryptic

Patriarchy Smasher, 2017

Acrylic on canvas

210 x 160 cm



Speak Cryptic

EA/AE, 2017

Acrylic on canvas

210 x 160 cm



installation view



Speak Cryptic

At Odds, 2019

Acrylic on wood

212.50 x 134.50 x 5.50 cm



Speak Cryptic

Truth to Power, 2019

Acrylic on wood

212.50 x 134.50 x 5.50 cm



Speak Cryptic
(con-con-conversation), 2020
Acrylic and ink on canvas
183.20 x 304.60 x 3.50 cm

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