TRACING LATENCIES - Making and holding space for the invisible, illegible, dislocated and unanticipated in the future smart city

Singapore, 3 March 2022 - Goethe-Institut Singapore launches *Tracing Latencies*, the hybrid exhibition of the *Culture | Smart City* project at 136 GOETHE LAB.

Culture | Smart City is a multilateral and multidisciplinary collaborative initiative by [EUNIC Cluster Singapore](#), under the guidance of Goethe-Institut Singapore. The project aims to create (re)imagine urban cultural transformation from a smart city perspective. Originally conceived in 2019, it aims to foreground culture, creativity and community as integral components of the future resilient city.

Curated by Dr Hoe Su Fern, *Tracing Latencies* invites the audience to pause, contemplate and (re)imagine the conditional ways we relate to our increasingly digitalised urban environments and each other. Through presenting a one-month long of artworks in both the physical and digital sphere, alongside artist activations and workshops, *Tracing Latencies* aims to provoke rumination on the role of art-making and creative play in tracing and unfolding the cloaked systems, illegible structures and dislocated anxieties that constitute the constructed environment and crowds of algorithms that surround and engulf us.

The Director of Goethe-Institut Singapore, Dr. Martin Wälde, says: "*Tracing Latencies* is a coming together of two years of delays, departures, and re-framings for Culture | Smart City. During this time, in 2021, the 136 GOETHE LAB has been established, and we feel privileged and excited to be able to present a physical exhibition for this project. And of course, our ongoing virtual programmes remain critical to keeping this conversation expansive and inclusive, with experts from around the world contributing their thoughts on this complex notion of the smart city."

For the physical exhibition, mixed-media installations are presented by Singaporean practitioners alongside Southeast Asian artists, including bani haykal (SG), Calvin Chua (SG), Irene Agrivina (ID), Sornrapat Patharakorn and Tian Skultan (TH). The Singaporean practitioners also include emerging art collectives formed during the pandemic, including

Mouse Click Click which consists of a trio of LASALLE art students, and Feelers, an art & technology studio & artist collective whose members include Ang Kia Yee, Ashley Hi and Seet Yun Teng.

"We feel happy and curious to be amongst the artists and collectives that have been gathered for *Tracing Latencies*, which we feel is a timely look at Singapore as a smart city, especially in the (continuing) wake of COVID-19. The pandemic has been a radical push for our relationships with algorithms, data collection and interfaces to change, and these changes have occurred within a city that was already attempting to become "smarter"—to use algorithms and data to make life more "efficient" and "effective". We have to consider: to what extent, in what ways, and at what cost? *Tracing Latencies* offers a survey of the landscape through multiple lenses that we are excited to contribute to," says Feelers.

"Upon seeing the phrase "Tracing Latencies," we thought of climates, both in terms of the environmental and socio-cultural climate. In the contemporary context, *Tracing Latencies* inevitably reminds us of the behavioural predictions aided by massive, continuous streams of data. We find it appropriate to respond to the theme with *Fallen Cycle*, a series of sculptures and installations that includes detection of subtle movements and nuances in the urban environment. And the work is a framing directed partly at the workings of that environment, and life, which consists of moments in which we don't know for certain where it leads us. The mode of working with the Culture | Smart City team also provokes further thought, as it provides a form of global connection in the current situation where the world is partly disconnected. We hope that the audience would enjoy any possible reflections within themselves regardless of our presence, as the intent of our work in order to redirect the attention from inside the gallery to the outside where the majority of life happens," muses Sornrapat Patharakorn and Tian Skultan, artists originally from Bangkok, Thailand and are currently based in Germany.

Alongside audio-visual documentation of, and sound response recordings to the physical exhibition, audiences around the world can also look forward to exploring the winning entries from a global open call for creative responses to broaden the smart city discourse.

Exhibition Location and Opening Hours
Exhibition Dates: 3 March - 3 April 2022
Venue: 136 Goethe Lab, 136 Neil Road Singapore 088865 (entrance on Bukit Pasoh Road)

Closed on Mondays
Tuesday - Thursday, 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Friday - Sunday, 12:00 pm - 8:00 pm

For more information, visit our website and social media pages:
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