

The Two of Them

solo exhibition by

Liana Yang

17 Oct to 4 Nov 2015

Couplehood may imply rapturous bliss and euphoria; it may also represent a private and sometimes repressed universe of unmentionable secrets and pain. If we are all actors in this broad canvas of life, how then is romantic love scripted, performed and maintained? How does one perceive and react to the various spectacles and stereotypes of love promulgated by popular culture and social media?

Criss-crossing the personal with the sociological, this exhibition interrogates the construct of romance and its multiple manifestations through photography and mixed media installations. By subverting text and subtexts, the works play upon the coded nature of photography and its phantasmagoric qualities to throw inherent complexities, ambiguities and contradictions of love into sharp relief.

Most crucially, they shed light on the role of the third party - the spectator witnessing the birth and demise of unions. While one may be quick to pass judgement from a distance, how much of the big picture does one truly know?

The Two of Them is hence a conversation starter, literally and figuratively.

Meet the artist to find out more about her work & approach on **24 Oct (Sat), 3pm.**

To register, please email esther@deck.sg

about the artist

Liana Yang is rarely motivated by direct beauty, but rather by the aesthetics of social and sociological interactions. She is drawn to the trivialities and oddities that we encounter in our daily experiences. This includes the enigmatic and unseen aspects of relationships, as well as explorations of memory and associations in our contemporary culture.

By combining photography and installation works, her methodologies usually employ sex as the starting point, and involve subversions with sexual references and objectification. Her fascination with sex as a visual language ironically grew from repression, after being born and raised in a religious family where sex is often a taboo subject.

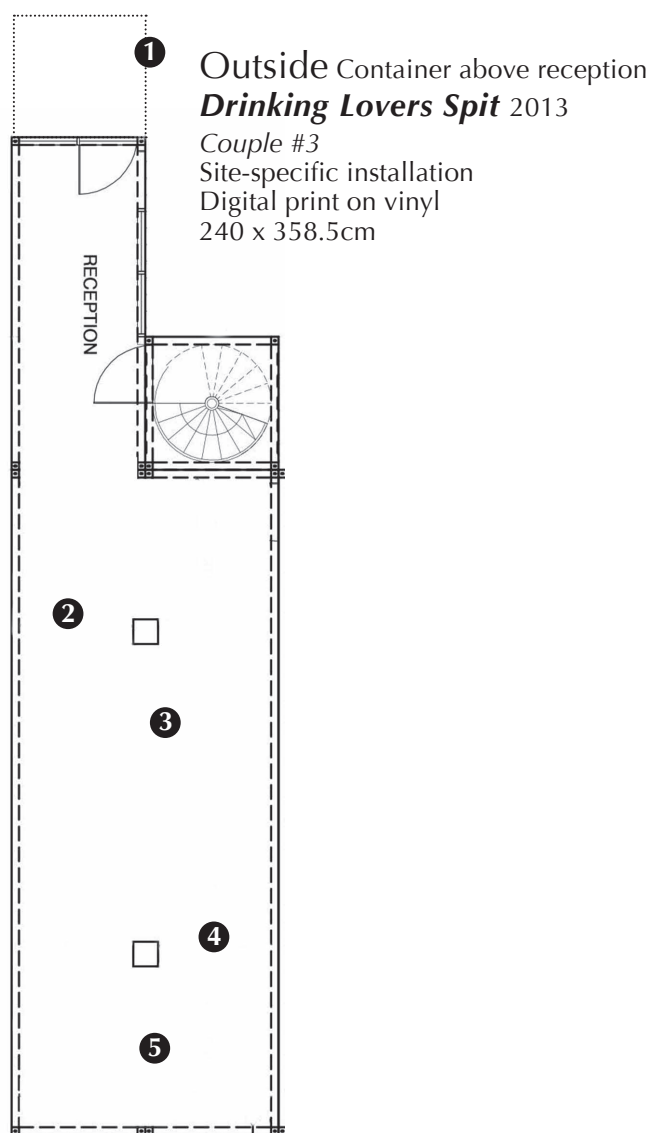
Her works have been showcased at the *Nooderlicht International Photofestival*, Netherlands, *Arles Photography Open Salon*, France, Singapore Art Museum@8Q, The National Library, Singapore, *Artissima 19*, Italy and *Warsaw Photo Days*, Poland. Her three self-published photobooks, have also been selected and showcased internationally in Brighton, UK, Helsinki, Finland, Malmo, Sweden and Tokyo, Japan.

www.lianayang.com

about A.i.R.

A.i.R. at DECK is one series of programmes targeted at nurturing the local photography scene and increasing public engagement with the arts. DECK plays a unique role in the local and regional art scene. It helps fill the gaps between existing art spaces such as institutional museums and commercial galleries, with a strong emphasis in community engagement, education and experimentation. The residency programme in particular offers artists essential space and support in pursuing new ideas and projects.

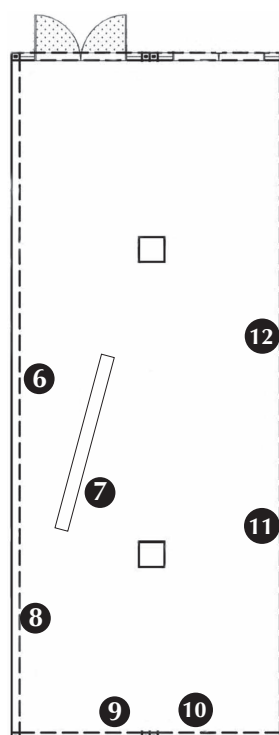
This is Liana's first residency in her artistic career spanning 7 years. Over the period of two months, Liana occupied the artist studio at DECK, where she worked in a conducive environment to produce new works. The showcase features installation and photographic works, which seamlessly switches between the personal and the sociological, examines the subtleties, nuances, contradictions and pitfalls of modern romantic relationships.



Gallery 1 Level 1
Forever Is a Long Time 2014

2 3 4 5

#4, #10, #11, #12
Site-specific installation
Digital print on polyester fabric,
standing fans, scented incense
140cm height x variable widths



Gallery 2 Level 2
Year 0 2015

6 8 11

Secrets #1, #2, #3, #4, #5
Digital print on artcard in acrylic frame
30 x 21cm

7

A Pinch of Salt installation
Acrylic metal frame stand, engagement ring, salt
240 x 90cm

9 10

Nightwatching #5 & #7
Acrylic lightbox, LED fluorescent light
100 x 64cm

12

Nightwatching #3 installation
Paint, acrylic lightbox, LED fluorescent light,
PVC sticker
120 x 180.5cm

Artist Studio Level 3
With Someone Like You 2015

13

Site-specific installation
Over 1,200 book pages, scented incense, LED
fluorescent lights
Overall dimensions variable



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