

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

**Postgraduate Workshop:  
Asian Art Research Now  
01 December 2023, 09.00 AM-04.40 PM AEST  
Online event (Zoom Meeting)**

2023 marks the sixth year of the establishment of Asian Art Research Now, the annual postgraduate symposium of the Australasian Network for Asian Art (AN4AA).

The postgraduate symposium has become a flagship event for the network, bringing together early-career Asian art researchers from Australia and New Zealand to share their research-in-progress among postgraduate peers and experts in the field.

The objective of the day-long symposium is to highlight and share the vitality and diversity of Asian art research being undertaken by current and recent postgraduate students and to foster supportive critique, feedback and conversations across institutions, as well as across the diverse geographies and temporalities of Asian art research.

The symposium serves as a platform for connecting with other scholars and emerging academics across Australia and New Zealand and for sharing research in progress among Asian art researchers from various backgrounds, including from MA (coursework or research) students to doctoral candidates, across the disciplines of art history, creative practice, arts management, museums and curatorship, and heritage studies.

# SCHEDULE

Session	TIME (AEST)
Welcoming/Acknowledge/AN4AA Info	09.00 - 09.15
<a href="#">AN4AA Organising Committee</a>	
<b>Keynote Panel</b>	
Reflection of Curatorial Practice: Home and Away: Eight Asian Australian Artists	09.15 - 10.00
<a href="#">Luise Guest</a>	
<i>Break</i>	10.00 - 10.10
<b>Panel 1: Collaboration &amp; Community</b>	
Ecological Art Practices in China: A Collaboration between Plants and Artists	
<a href="#">Liang Xiao</a>	10.00 - 11:10
Artist as social catalyst: mapping the transformation of community art from idealism to resistance, with a focus on contemporary Hong Kong	
<a href="#">Carey Choi Wan-Cheng</a>	
<i>Break</i>	11.10 - 11.20
<b>Panel 2: Decolonising South Asia</b>	
From This Ancient Land to The River Delta	
<a href="#">Mita Chowdhury</a>	11.20 - 12:20
Indian picture recitation at Australian Fringe Festivals	
<a href="#">Priyanka Jain</a>	
<i>Break</i>	12.20 - 13.00
<b>Keynote Panel</b>	
Photography for the Performative and Philosophical: In the case of a Nikkei Australian	13.00 - 13.45
<a href="#">Mayu Kanumori</a>	
<i>Break</i>	13.45 - 13.50

Session	TIME (AEST)
<b>Panel 3: East Asia Philosophical Approaches</b>	
Lean upon ren and sojourn in the arts: appreciation of the aesthetic dimension in the Confucian cultivation of ren (benevolence) in the Analects	
<a href="#">Kok So</a>	
Knock on void: a multidisciplinary practice on Taoism's emptiness	13.50 - 15:15
<a href="#">Yao Chen</a>	
Explore a new approach to creative meaning making by cross-fertilising Daoist philosophy and contemporary art practice.	
<a href="#">Sang Shen</a>	
<i>Break</i>	15.15 - 15.25
<b>Panel 4: Archival Interventions</b>	
Reflection on Woven Photographs as a Creative Method	
<a href="#">Patriot Mukmin</a>	15.25 - 16:25
Archiving Nikkei Australian identity in contemporary paper cutting arts practice	
<a href="#">Elysha Rei</a>	
Closing remarks	16.25 - 16.40
<a href="#">AN4AA Organising Committee</a>	

## **SPEAKERS**

### **Luise Guest**

Luise Guest is a Sydney-based writer, art educator, curator, and researcher focused on China and contemporary Chinese art. Her PhD at UNSW examined gender and Chinese identity in Chinese contemporary art through case studies of four female artists who subvert the conventions of ink and calligraphy. She is now working on a book that expands and develops that research.

### **Mayu Kanumori**

Mayu Kanamori is a Tokyo-born artist living sometimes in Eora Country, otherwise known as Sydney and sometimes in Shinshu Shinanomachi. She takes photographs, makes collages and films, edits art documentaries, creates performances, and writes plays and poems.

### **Liang Xiao**

#### **Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology**

Liang Xiao is an interdisciplinary artist and a PhD candidate at RMIT. She holds a master's degree in art and science from UAL. Her research and creative practice seamlessly blend personal experiences with insights from sociology and biology, allowing her to delve into the intricate connection between humans and the plant world. Liang's artworks have been showcased in prestigious venues, including the Venice Arsenale and the London Design Festival.

### **Carey Choi Wan**

#### **University of New South Wales**

Carey Choi Wan CHENG received her BA(Hons) in Creative Media from the City University of Hong Kong in 2012 and is a current student of Master of Curating and Cultural Leadership from the University of New South Wales. CHENG has project-managed and produced major local and international exhibitions, projects, and public programs in Hong Kong during her employment at the City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Arts Centre and K11 Concepts Limited. She was the Project Manager of ANiMAL: Art Science Nature Society Exhibition (Indra and Harry Banga Gallery, Hong Kong, 2018; Taichung City Seaport Art, Fo Guang Shan Buddha Museum, Taiwan, 2019) and Producer Leader of CITY IN TIME (Hong Kong, 2020-ongoing). Besides her project management, CHENG has participated independently in several exhibitions, performances, and art projects. She co-founded Murmuring in Closets, a community art collective based in Hong Kong that encourages the exchange of second-hand clothing and collects respective stories. Her current research interest lies in community art and public engagement.

### **Hasina Chowdhury (Mita)**

#### **Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology**

Hasina Chowdhury (Mita) is an interdisciplinary visual artist based in Naarm. Her creative practice explores her bi-culture and heritage through material practice. Her work has been showcased in multiple group exhibitions, including the 2022 Asian Art Biennial in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Mita has exhibited numerous solo exhibitions.

**Priyanka Jain**  
**Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology**

Priyanka Jain has recently passed her practice-led PhD at RMIT University on reviving and contemporising Indian picture recitation methods of narration. She has studied BFA in Kolkata, India and MFA in Stuttgart, Germany and works across multiple mediums, including illustrations and card games.

**Kok So**  
**University of New South Wales**

Kok So is undertaking a master's by research course at the University of New South Wales, School of Humanities, specialising in Confucian aesthetics. Beyond academia, Kok brings a decade's experience as a professional exhibition curator and designer. Kok has contributed to significant exhibitions in prominent Hong Kong and Beijing museums.

**Yao Chen**  
**Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology**

Yao Chen was born in China in 1999. She moved to Melbourne in 2017, and is a multidisciplinary conceptual artist specialising in multimedia installations encompassing sculptures, paintings, performances, and process arts. Yao's work draws profound inspiration from the ancient Taoist philosophy of "Emptiness," exploring the concepts of value, meaning, and time cosmology with a critical lens.

**Sang Shen**  
**Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology**

Sang Shen explores lyrical narratives by blending Daoist philosophy with magic realist paintings. Sang translated aesthetic experience to capture the flow of life and nature by creating boundless pictorials. The transient phenomena of nature, such as water, which permeate my painterly world, reflect my interpretation of Daoist impermanence.

**Patriot Mukmin**  
**University of Melbourne**

Patriot Mukmin is a PhD researcher at the Victoria College of the Arts, University of Melbourne. He is also an artist and lecturer at the Faculty of Art and Design, Bandung Institute of Technology, Indonesia. His research focuses on applying semiotics in reading and making visual art. The scope of his research includes history and social phenomena in Indonesia.

**Elysha Rei**  
**Queensland University of Technology**

Elysha Rei (pronounced eh-lee-sha ray) is a Japanese-Australian artist whose practice archives Nikkei's Australian identity through contemporary paper cutting. Rei has created and exhibited works, curated exhibitions, managed cultural spaces and been an invited artist in residence across Australia and internationally. In 2022, Rei became the inaugural Chair of Nikkei Australia. She is a current PhD Candidate at Queensland University of Technology.