

# Salty Xi Jie Ng 黄晞竭

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Xi Jie Ng (Salty) is an artist from the tropical metropolis of Singapore. Her work explores possibilities in the poetic, eccentric and infinite everyday. She makes collaborative encounters that are intimate, semi-fictional paradigms for the real and imagined lives of humans. Salty has an MFA in Art & Social Practice from Portland State University. Her work has been supported by the Singapore National Arts Council postgraduate scholarship, the Singapore Film Commission, the Arlene Schnitzer Visual Arts Prize and the Regional Arts and Culture Council (Oregon). She was the Artist In Residence at the Center for Visual & Performing Arts, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth 2019-20 and an Artist Fellow at the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park.

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## **The Alternative Moby Dick Marathon** (forthcoming)

New Bedford, Massachusetts, USA, 2021

## **Faculty Relations** (ongoing)

Collaborative project with publication, exploring relationships in academia

Center for Visual and Performing Arts, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, USA, 2020

## **82 Questions For Being The Artist-In-Residence At A University Art Department** (ongoing)

Document

Center for Visual and Performing Arts, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, USA, 2020

## **The People's Micro Climate Change Conferences** (ongoing)

Project with Eric John Olson, part of Green New Real ([thegreennewreal.com](http://thegreennewreal.com))

Presented at *Assembly*, Portland OR, USA, 2020

## **A Whaling Descendant Performs In Four Acts**

Collaborative film, 17 min

Supported by New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park's Artist Fellowship Program, USA, 2020

## **Words of Support**

Installation in collaboration with security and cleaning staff, Star Store Campus, Center for Visual and Performing Arts, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, USA, 2020

## **The Inside Show**

<http://crci.art/the-inside-show>

Variety show project made with prisoners at Columbia River Correctional Institution, Portland OR, USA, 2019

Co-creator, director, editor

## **Columbia River Correctional Institution Artist in Residence Program**

<http://crci.art>

Co-facilitator of AiR program at minimum-security prison, Portland OR, USA, 2017

## **The Grandma Reporter**

[thegrandmareporter.com](http://thegrandmareporter.com)

Publication on senior women's culture, in partnership with Hollywood Senior Center, Portland OR, USA, 2016-present (supported by Regional Arts & Culture Council grant, Oregon)

Issue 1- Style | Issue 2- Intimacy (Best Senior Lifestyle Magazine 2019, Willamette Weekly) | Issue 3 – Future (forthcoming, Taiwan)

## **It's Lucky When You Can Find Something**

Performance lecture, Hollywood Senior Center, Portland OR, USA, 2019

### **Canton Grill Degustatory Research**

Co-created with Eric J Olson, ten-course conceptual dinner combining culinary art, oral history, and reenactment, at Canton Grill, part of *Assembly*, Portland OR, USA, 2019

### **Grandparents Residency**

Project with grandparents Teo Siew Lan, Tam Cha Boo and Kuek Thiam Huak, Singapore, 2017-present

### **How are you? I'm good, how are you? I'm good.**

Project investigating greetings, East Portland Arts & Literary Festival, Portland OR, USA, 2018

### **Autumn Weaves**

Performance with Jiko & Ashi, East Portland Arts & Literary Festival and IntersectFest, Portland OR, USA, 2018

### **I would sit on his lap**

Film made at Rockland Residency, 9 min, WA, USA, 2018

### **The City Seal of Portland, Oregon**

Project to design, vote for and inaugurate new Portland City Seal at City Hall, Portland OR, USA, 2018

### **Long-Distance Calls**

Curator, films made about, by, with and for seniors, at Open Signal, Portland OR, USA, 2018

Exhibited at We're Still Here, Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History, USA, 2019

### **Portland Tropical Gardens**

<http://instagram.com/portlandtropicalgardens>

Indoor tropical garden featuring myriad explorations and programming on the tropical, with Ralph Pugay, Shawn Creeden, Erika Dedini & Artist Michael Bernard Stevenson Jr., at Director Park, Portland OR, USA, 2018 (As Tropical Correspondent, made videos and programmed Thinking About Home series, including panel discussion, food circle, performances)

### **Pickled 菜心相印**

Movement film made with Wen Lin Tan at the 6th No Borders Project, 4 min, Ampang, Malaysia, 2017

### **It has been suggested that more is known about the moon than the deepest parts of the ocean**

Performance, Astrology With Artists exhibition curated by Renee Sills, Works Progress Agency, Portland OR, USA, 2017

### **bunion2bunion**

[bunion2bunion.info](http://bunion2bunion.info)

Interdisciplinary exploration with collaborative projects, sculptures, events and performance, including World's First Bunion Panel Discussion and I Got My Bunions From You (performance), Arlene Schnitzer Visual Arts Prize exhibition, Autzen Gallery, Portland OR, USA, 2017

### **Funeral In 25 Objects**

[funeralin25objects.com](http://funeralin25objects.com)

Project symbolically gifting 25 Singaporean politicians an object from the recently shut down Sungei Road Market, along with a personalized haiku. With Michelle Tan, Singapore, 2017.

### **Naming Me 自己取名字**

Collaborative project with Mandarin immersion students of Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School, part of King School Museum of Contemporary Art ([KSMoCA](http://KSMoCA)), Portland OR, USA, 2017

### **Cafeteria Staff Exchange Program**

Collaborative project exploring nutrition, food systems and the relationship between food and care. Culminated in lunches of 15 dishes for 100 people, with a specially designed placemat from which the lunches were eaten. With Spencer Byrne-Seres, featuring Laura Booth, Monique Lopez & Irene Prasad from the Native American Youth & Family Center, and Ruby Sims-Suell & Virginia Mulbey from Martin Luther King, Jr. School. At Assembly, Portland OR, USA, 2017

## **How to play by the creek**

Costume, identity and performance project at [Creek College](#), Johnson Creek, Portland OR, USA, 2016

## **Bindi Roadside Spa**

<http://bindiroadsidespa.weebly.com>

Wellness platform advocating self-care, providing facials for migrant workers in Little India on off days, for [Octopus Residency](#), Little India, Singapore, 2016

## **Mimpi Manis**

Installation & performance, Field Day, Hong Lim Park, Singapore, 2016

## **Sab Kuch Milega**

Collaborative film with villagers of Sarecha, 16 mins, at Sowing Seeds residency, organised by Kaman Art Foundation, Sarecha village, Jodhpur, India, 2016

## **The Silence Experiments**

Interactive performance, at Post-Museum, 2011 | Arteles Creative Centre, Finland, 2014 | Elsewhere Museum, USA, 2015 | Sowing Seeds at Sarecha village, India, 2016 | Urban Ventures, Singapore, 2016

## **Falling in love with a stranger**

Interactive performance, at Performance Quinquennial organized by Panoply; Grace Exhibition Space, NYC, USA, 2015 | Prototype Thursdays, organised by Hyphen with Kult Kafe, Emily Hill, Singapore, 2016

## **Orbicularis Ouroboris**

Cinematography, editing, for juggling film featuring Luther Bangert, 5 mins, Haw Par Villa, Singapore, 2016

## **The Handbook of Everyday Secrets**

<http://handbookofeverydaysecrets.weebly.com>

Participatory project with Bendemeer neighbourhood community, in partnership with the People's Association, commissioned by the National Arts Council, Kallang Community Center, Singapore, 2015

## **Singapore Minstrel**

[singaporeminstrel.com](http://singaporeminstrel.com)

Feature film, 87 mins, Singapore, 2015

Director, producer, co-cinematographer, editor

Selected screenings: Kineforum, Jakarta, Indonesia | Chiayi International Art Documentary Film Festival, Taiwan | Art Science Museum, Singapore | Independent Art Archive, Singapore | Columbia River Correctional Institution, Portland OR, USA | Likewise, Portland OR, USA | 5th Ave Cinema, Portland OR, USA | St. Luke's Eldercare, Singapore | National University of Singapore Centre for the Arts | Jaipur International Film Festival, India. **Nominee: Best Documentary Feature** | Film Fest Dokumenter, Yogyakarta, Indonesia: Asian Doc Showcase | Indian Cine Film Fest, Mumbai. **Winner: Best Director of Documentary Feature** | The Projector, Singapore | Cebu International Documentary Film Fest, in competition, documentary feature | Singapore Film Festival, New Delhi, India | International Premier: Asian American International Film Fest, New York City: International Showcase. **Nominated for emerging director of documentary feature** | \*SCAPEMEDIA screen, Singapore | Objectifs Centre for Photography and Film, Singapore: Stories That Matter | World Premier: Official Selection, 26th Singapore International Film Festival, Singapore Panorama

## **Energy is always conserved, never created or destroyed**

Site-specific installation with embroidered textile, digital audio, and collaged secondhand/antique collection materials, on residency at Elsewhere Museum, North Carolina, USA, 2015

## **The Swan of Tuonela**

Co-director/producer/editor/performer, animated film, 4 mins, on residency at Arteles Creative Centre, supported by the National Arts Council (Singapore), Finland, 2014

Nominee, Best Editing & Best Experimental, 6th Singapore Short Film Awards (2015) | Winner, Best Experimental, CUNY Asian American Film Festival (2015) | 38th Asian American International Film Festival 2015, Art House Shorts | Tropfest South East Asia, Coffee Shorts (2015) | 12th Singapore Short Cuts (2015) | co:lab by Asian Film Archive

## **Lintukoto**

Series of images, on residency at Arteles Creative Centre, supported by the National Arts Council (Singapore),

Finland, 2014

### **I am a beautiful beached whale by the Straits**

Director, producer, editor, film, 19 mins, Commissioned by the National Arts Council (Singapore) for Silver Arts Festival, Singapore, 2014.

### **Museum of Things I Want to Forget**

[thingsiwanttoforget.weebly.com](http://thingsiwanttoforget.weebly.com)

Co-creator, virtual participatory art project, 2013

### **Oomoonbeings by Singapierrot**

Outdoor performance created with Roy Payamal, commissioned by National Heritage Board for Singapore Night Festival 2013, 30 mins, Singapore, 2013

### **Wishmoon by Singapierrot**

Interactive performance art created with Roy Payamal at Action Parties #3, Dbl O Art Space, Singapore, 2012

### **Leo XIII Dream**

Interactive performance-installation at *Re: Almost Left Behind* by Thespis (directed by Tan Liting and Thong Peiqin), The Substation, Singapore Arts Festival 2011

### **Post-Love**

Co- director/producer/editor/cinematographer, film, 19 mins, Singapore, 2011

Singapore Film Commission Short Film Grant | International Ethnographic Film Festival of Quebec 2011 |

Nominee, Best Documentary, Singapore Short Film Awards 2011 | OPEN show 2, Post-Museum, 2011 |

Singapore Indie Doc Fest 2011 | Sinema Showoff, Singapore, 2011

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### **Residencies, Awards, Fellowships**

Bamboo Curtain Studio Artist Residency, Taiwan, 2021

Artist Fellowship, New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, USA, 2020

Artist In Residence, Center for Visual & Performing Arts, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, 2019-20

Signal Fire residency, Portland OR, USA, 2019

Nominated for Emerging Artist residency at Centrum, USA, 2019

Rockland Residency, rural WA, USA, 2018

Arlene Schnitzer Visual Arts Prize, second place, Portland OR, USA, 2017

Grandparents Residency, Singapore, 2017-present

National Arts Council (Singapore) Postgraduate Scholarship, 2016

Octopus Residency, Singapore, 2016

Sowing Seeds by Kaman Art Foundation, Sarecha, Jodhpur, India, 2015

Elsewhere Museum, Greensboro, North Carolina, USA, 2015

Arteles Creative Center, Finland, 2014

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### **Teaching**

Instructor, Intro to Art & Social Practice, Portland State University, 2018

Teaching assistant, Intro to Art & Social Practice, Portland State University, 2017 (taught by Amanda Leigh Evans)

Teaching assistant, Museum in a Public School – King School Museum of Contemporary Art, Portland State University, 2017 (taught by Harrell Fletcher and Lisa Jarrett)

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### **Training**

I have attended workshops and intensives in movement, dance, contact improvisation, butoh and clowning with Mari Osanai, Giovanni Fusetti, Vangelis Legakis, Li Yongwei, Maureen Fleming, Tim O'Donnell and Carly Czach

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## Publications

### *Contributions*

Conceptual Art In Prison, 2020 (forthcoming)

Ginger, Issue 19, Winter 2020

Uncertain Patterns -Teaching & Learning Socially Engaged Art, les presses du reel, 2019

Social Forms of Art Journal, 2018

Social Objects: Essays, Interviews, Projects and Interventions, by Socially Engaged Craft Collective, 2017

### *Own*

Faculty Relations, 2020 (forthcoming)

The Grandma Reporter: Issue 2, *Intimacy*, 2019

Permanent Bruises, a bunion2bunion publication, 2017

The Grandma Reporter: Issue 0, *Style*, 2016

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## Writing

Creative non-fiction, poetry and short fiction published in POSKOD, *QLRS*, *Ceriph*, *Wallflower Mag*, *Balik Kampung* as well as Russian publications *textonly* & *To go to S'pore*

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## Selected Press

- [Practicing 'hoardiculture' at Elsewhere](#)- News & Record, Greensboro, USA, 11 October 2015
- [Production Talk with Ng Xi Jie on 'Singapore Minstrel'](#) - SINDie, 12 Dec 2015
- [A granny, a busker and a math genius at Singapore International Film Fest](#) - The Straits Times, 27 Nov 2015
- [Busk in Limelight: Singapore Minstrel in S'pore Intl Film Fest](#) - TODAY, 25 Nov 2015
- [Best Things In Life Are Really, Really Free](#) - The New Paper, 23 June 2016
- [Foreign workers get some tender loving care](#) - The Straits Times, 21 July 2016
- [Singapore On Celluloid](#) - Millenium Post, Delhi, India, 5 Aug 2016
- [Online project bids farewell to Sungei Road flea market](#) - The Straits Times, Singapore, 23 Aug 2017
- [A Portland Artist Started A Lifestyle Magazine Dedicated Entirely To Elderly Women](#), Willamette Weekly, Portland OR, USA, July 2019
- [Salty interviewed by Roz Crews](#), Corner Office, USA, 3 June 2019
- [The Inside Show](#), OR ArtsWatch, 22 Oct 2019
- [Inside "The Inside Show"](#), Think Out Loud, Oregon Public Broadcasting, 22 Oct 2019
- [What does an art school custodian think of the students' work? This exhibit tells all](#) - The Standard Times, 20 Feb 2020
- [Making Micro Utopias](#) - Brack, 9 April 2020
- [Inside Jokes: How a prison comedy program featuring Fred Armisen has helped transform inmates' lives](#) - The Progressive, 17 April 2020