

Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ArtScience Museum's latest exhibition showcases the timeless allure of analogue film

The month-long exhibition explores the transformative potential of everyday materials and unconventional techniques in filmmaking



Singapore (22 October 2024) – As technology continues to reshape the future of visual media, ArtScience Museum invites visitors to rediscover the tactile beauty of moving image. Opening on 16 November, *Altered States: Experiments in Moving Image* will showcase experimental analogue film, alongside immersive, large-scale installations.

Curated in-house by ArtScience Museum, *Altered States* explores material interventions in film that blur the lines between art, science and experimental cinema. Visitors will encounter a select group of local and international artists as well as filmmakers who push the boundaries of moving image by employing everyday materials, cameraless techniques, chemical and ecological processes in their experimental filmmaking practice.

“*Altered States* is a focused exploration of the creative power of experimental filmmaking. This small yet impactful exhibition features four striking installations by five local and international moving image artists, complemented by interpretative documentation on major figures in direct filmmaking, including Len Lye and Stan Brakhage. In the digital age, where the creative landscape is deeply influenced by artificial intelligence, *Altered States* seeks to redress the balance. The show invites visitors to rediscover the physical and material dimensions of film and see moving image through a new lens - as a bridge between art and science,” said Honor Harger, Vice President of ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands.

Press Release



Mothlight (1963) by Stan Brakhage

Organised into two sections, *Altered States* begins with a short overview of historical examples of material experiments in analogue film, featuring the groundbreaking work of legendary filmmakers like Stan Brakhage and Len Lye and other prominent artists. It includes rarely seen footage and close-ups of scanned analogue film strips that set the stage for the more immersive visual experiences in the next part of the exhibition.



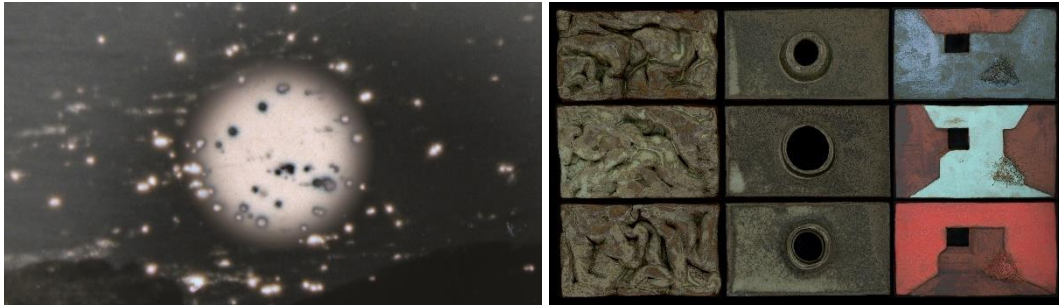
L to R: *Liquid Solid* (2015) by Nicky Assmann and Joris Strijbos; *Fallen Candles – Triplet* (2015) by Youki Hirakawa

At the heart of *Altered States* are four striking film presentations by international and local artists who have left a mark in the industry.

One highlight is *Liquid Solid* (2015) by the Dutch artist duo Nicky Assmann and Joris Strijbos, which showcases the mesmerising process of freezing soap in the sub-Arctic. The work explores the transformation of a liquid soap membrane, creating a visual spectacle that captures its iridescence and emergence of intricate fractal patterns. Accompanied by a soundscape of whale songs and electromagnetic signals from the Northern Lights, *Liquid Solid* invites visitors to witness the beauty of science in action.

Another significant work is *Fallen Candles – Triplet* (2015) by Japanese artist Youki Hirakawa, which offers a minimalist exploration of the passage of time through three candles, laid on their sides, burning at an accelerated pace. Affected by the Fukushima nuclear disaster in 2011, this artwork reflects humanity's self-destructive tendencies. Yet, amidst the somber theme, there is a glimmer of hope as the candles are restored to their original state when the video loops back to the beginning, suggesting the possibility of renewal and rebirth.

Press Release



L to R: *Revenants: Optographic Animation* (2023) by Sapphire Goss; *Dance of a Humble Atheist* (2019) by Toh Hun Ping

Additionally, visitors will be invited to explore the relationship between nature and experimental filmmaking techniques through *Revenants: Optographic Animation* (2023) by UK artist Sapphire Goss. By scratching and shooting on expired film stock over 80 years old, Goss creates surreal landscapes that emerge from the imperfections of the medium. The artwork also alludes to the 19th century belief of "optography", the idea that the eye records the final image seen before death.

Dance of a Humble Atheist (2019) by Toh Hun Ping, one of Singapore's most innovative filmmakers, is an experimental film crafted using stop-motion animation techniques. After meticulously sculpting 600 ceramic reliefs, which were then scanned and animated frame-by-frame, Toh presents a three-chapter film that explores themes of death, the afterlife and the natural world through the interplay of light and shadow. The rapidly changing ceramic reliefs create hypnotising patterns and forms, challenging viewers' perception of time and space. As approximately 50 to 60 of these ceramic tiles will also be displayed, visitors are invited to touch and feel the varied textural details that are captured in the film.

For more information on *Altered States: Experiments in Moving Image*, please visit <https://www.marinabaysands.com/museum/exhibitions/altered-states.html>. The exhibition will run from 16 November to 15 December 2024.

+++

About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

Marina Bay Sands is Asia's leading business, leisure and entertainment destination. The integrated resort features Singapore's largest hotel with approximately 1,850 luxurious rooms and suites, crowned by the spectacular Sands SkyPark and iconic infinity pool. Its stunning architecture and compelling programming, including state-of-the-art convention and exhibition facilities, Asia's best luxury shopping mall, world-class dining and entertainment, as well as cutting-edge exhibitions at ArtScience Museum, have transformed the country's skyline and tourism landscape since it opened in 2010.

Marina Bay Sands is dedicated to being a good corporate citizen to serve its people, communities and environment. As one of the largest players in hospitality, it employs more than 11,500 Team Members across the property. It drives social impact through its community engagement programme, Sands Cares, and leads environmental stewardship through its global sustainability programme, Sands ECO360.

For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com

Press Release



About ArtScience Museum

ArtScience Museum is a major cultural institution in Singapore that explores the intersection between art, science, technology and culture. It is the cultural component of Marina Bay Sands. Since its opening in February 2011, ArtScience Museum has staged large-scale exhibitions by some of the world's major artists, including Leonardo da Vinci, M.C. Escher, Salvador Dalí, Andy Warhol and Vincent Van Gogh, as well as exhibitions that explore aspects of science and technology – including particle physics, big data, robotics, palaeontology, marine biology and space science. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com/museum.html

Media Enquiries

Tan Jou Teng: +65 8380 4247/ jouteng.tan@marinabaysands.com

Julia Tan: +65 8380 4031/ julia.tan@marinabaysands.com

Sarina Pushkarna: +65 9298 5728/ sarina.pushkarna@marinabaysands.com

For hi-res images, please click [here](#). (Credit as indicated in the captions)