

YAVUZ GALLERY | PRESS RELEASE | 2 MAR 2018

The Incredible Frolic

Solo exhibition by Khairullah Rahim

Opening: 17 March 2018, 4-7pm

On view: 17 March to 1 April 2018

Yavuz Gallery is proud to present Singaporean artist **Khairullah Rahim** in *The Incredible Frolic*, his first solo exhibition with the gallery. The exhibition opens on 17 March 2018 and coincides with Gillman Barracks' Art Day Out! x Singapore Design Week event.

The Incredible Frolic brings together several autobiographical stories that take place in the most unexpected settings in Taipei and Singapore. It sees the continuation of the artist's exploration on gay cruising sites, and how specific communities transform public places, instilling them with their memories, histories, and symbolic significance. The exhibition features new sculptures, paintings and installations, including those developed during his recent artist residency at Taipei Artist Village, Taiwan.

During the period of his two-month residency, Khairullah took cue from Taiwan's first gay-themed novel *Crystal Boys* (1983) written by author Pai Hsien-yung as he navigated around popular cruising sites around Taipei, namely 228 Peace Memorial Park. Upon his return from the residency programme, the artist developed new works responding to several sites in Singapore, including heavy vehicle carparks, heartland swimming pools and public parks.

Keen observations and interactions with cruisers form a crucial component in Khairullah's process where he mixes fact and fiction to retell stories situated within the spaces of this thriving activity. Similar to cruising, he employs the act of searching into his artistic process as he sets out to gather urban fragments from these sites, which are subsequently incorporated as materials and found objects into his works. These fragments obtained carry metaphoric meanings that go deeper than the surface appearance of its original particular landscape. The intermingling of materials present new affinities that hint at another language, one premised on touch and texture, to consider stray acts of intimacy often obscured from the public eye, much like in parks, pools and carparks - everyday spaces where alternatives lie hidden in plain sight.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Khairullah Rahim (b. 1987, Singapore) graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting from LASALLE College of the Arts Singapore, in partnership with Goldsmiths, College of London in 2013. His works are motivated by engaging and challenging stories of the marginalisation of minorities and are often contextual analogies for human societies. Both factual events and personal experiences are fundamental in his works as he mixes fact and fiction to create a discourse. Khairullah's works have been showcased in numerous exhibitions and art fairs abroad, such as in Singapore, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, Turkey and USA. Artist-in-residencies include YOUKOBBO Art Residency Programme, Tokyo Japan (2013) and Taipei Artist Village, Taiwan (2017). Khairullah is the winner of the 2017 IMPART Awards, Singapore and has upcoming residencies at the Hubei Institute of Fine Arts, China and KulturKontakt, Austria.

For inquiries and more information, please contact Caryn Quek at caryn@yavuzgallery.com or tel: +65 6734 3262.

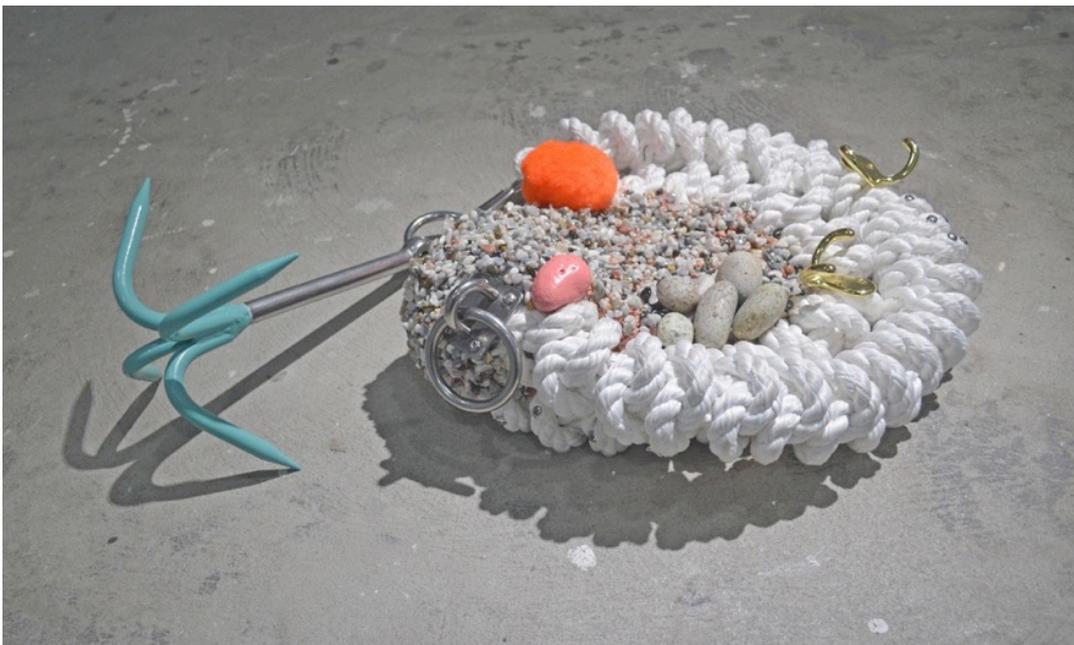
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9 Lock Road, #02-23, Singapore 108937 | Tel: +65 6734 3262 | info@yavuzgallery.com | www.yavuzgallery.com
Opening Hours: Tue - Sat: 11am - 7pm, Sun: 1pm - 5pm | Mon & public holidays: by appointment only

Selected Works



The Still Praying Mantis, 2017, cotton rope, coat hook, masonry fragments, reflective road signs, stainless steel chain, PVC hose, cable tie, metal pipe, sauna towel, festive balls, 90 x 60 cm



The Poisonous Snake, 2017, cotton rope, festive ball, gravel, coat hook, pebbles, stainless steel loop, boat anchor hook, epoxy resin, dimensions variable

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The Opportunist, 2017, manila rope, nylon rope, masonry fragments, screw, stainless steel chain, industrial tape, hose and nozzle, pool drain cover, cricket, ball, coat hook, cable tie, air brake coil fitting, 88 x 71 cm



This Yellow, So Warm and Mellow, 2017, acrylic on canvas, 27 x 41 cm

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