

HUMANITICITY

BY
SOH EE SHAUN



Humanity, 2016

Mixed media on cardboard | Variable dimensions

Humanity is a modular, public cardboard art installation of variable dimensions, depicting an assemblage of colourful blocks and cartoon faces joined together. As an art installation made of everyday materials, it can be assembled and dismantled quickly at will, and can be developed organically into a massive, complex cardboard structure.

It is about the interconnected nature of humanity – the idea that we are all bound together by our own past, present and future actions. The precarious structure, and near collapsible nature of cardboard, suggests that we are all accountable to each other; and need each other for support and sustenance. The importance of living harmoniously in a such a difficult time of global conflict cannot be understated.

Soh Ee Shaun (b. 1980) is a Singaporean artist, illustrator and educator. Eshaun's drawings and paintings explore non-linear, spontaneous and open-ended narratives that express the subconscious mind - as a reaction to the regularity and austerity of Singapore society. Often unplanned, his abstract, non-conceptual paintings are an experiential and experimental process; fraught with uncertainty and opportunity, and riddled with control and joyful abandonment, as he juxtaposes shapes, lines and planes into a complex, grid-like web of harmonious colours and playful forms.

Since 2005, Eshaun has created artworks and illustrations for Adidas, Nike, Disney, Facebook, Herman Miller and Lacoste. Eshaun is a Asian Kinetic Artist for Tiger Translate, and was featured in 20/20 BASE, celebrating 20 of Singapore's most creative talents at the 2007 Singapore Design Festival. In 2008, he was commissioned with FARM by the Design Singapore Council to design the Singapore Pavilion for the 11th Venice Architectural Biennale. His largest public art mural, 'Move!', was unveiled at the Bishan Circle Line station in 2009. He is a finalist and recipient of the Sovereign Asian Art Prize in 2011.

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Mulan Gallery is a contemporary art gallery that exhibits a diverse body of work that spans surrealist art, comic book and pop culture illustration, pottery, and of course, hyperrealist art. Working with a mix of emerging and mid-career artists, Mulan Gallery also places strong emphasis on cultivating and nurturing new talent from Singapore and Southeast Asia. The gallery has continued to stage novel and insightful exhibitions on a regular basis.