



## A Day Without A Tree

By Yeo Chee Kiong (Singapore) 2007

Singapore sculptor Yeo Chee Kiong's installation transforms the brick and plaster columns of the Museum's rotunda into a living body experiencing the ravages of climate change. In a world without trees, global warming has melted the solid forms of this building into a white fluid. The reality of global climate change has taken a long time to enter broad public consciousness and is still being debated today. Likewise, this installation also works through its exploitation of the slowness of human perception in detecting certain types of change. When one encounters the work, one first sees the huge 'spill' on the floor. It may take longer to notice the deformations and alterations in the columns surrounding the 'spill'. In a cheeky

comment on the futility of human ambition in the face of nature, the melting has even affected the historical plaques commemorating the development of the museum. The most subtle alterations are the silhouette water features surrounding the 'spill'. In comparison to the melting effects, they are almost hidden and have to be discovered by the visitor. The melted liquids are also found at the second level of the rotunda.

'A Day without a Tree' is the first installation under the National Museum's Art On-Site programme. Under this programme, the Museum invites artists to create installations that exploit the site specific qualities of its public spaces. Artists are encouraged to develop work that alters one's perception of the Museum environment.

## 《无树之日》

杨子强 (新加坡) 2007年

在新加坡雕塑家杨子强的装置艺术作品中，博物馆圆形大厅内的砌砖和石灰柱子化成了一个生命体，正体验着环球气候剧变所引发的效应。在这个连一棵树也没有的世界里，博物馆内的白色固态架构，熔化成一滩白色液体。经过一段漫长的时日，公众意识到全球气候变暖这个事实。尽管如此，它至今仍是具争论性的课题。与此同时，展品也以探究的方式来解读人们对于发生在身边周遭各种变化的不敏锐度。第一眼接触展品时，观众可能只注意到‘流泻’在地板上的一大片‘水’；仔细一看，才会发现四周石柱已经扭曲变形，甚至连印证博物馆发

展史的纪念铜牌也在熔化变形之中。作者似乎藉此隐喻大自然力量的伟大层面，同时以一种揶揄的方式来嘲弄人类单薄的野心。最细腻的变化存在于围绕着‘泻地之水’周遭，隐藏于人们惯性经验中的‘幽静水面’。与其他固体溶解式的直接表述手段相比较，它的间接呈现性更显得虚无缥缈，观众得自己去发现它的存在。‘幽静水面’也分置于大厅二楼。

《无树之日》是国家博物馆“现场艺术创作计划”下所呈献的首个装置艺术作品。在这项计划下，博物馆将邀请艺术家们在馆内的开放空间进行装置艺术创作。除了希望他们能借用现有的建筑特点进行创作之外，博物馆也鼓励各艺术家们通过作品试着改变人们对博物馆环境的印象。

Yeo Chee Kiong is a professional sculptor who has been practicing both traditional figurative sculpture and contemporary 3-D artwork for more than ten years. His research interest is on the ambiguous relation between object and space in the practice of contemporary visual art. A recent recipient of the prestigious Young Artist Award from the National Arts Council of Singapore in 2006, Yeo's achievements included receiving the Grand Prize in the 2nd CDL Singapore Sculpture Award in 2005 and several scholarships during his studies at the Glasgow School of Art, Scotland. Yeo holds a Master of Fine Arts Degree from the Glasgow School of Art and is currently the President of the Sculpture Society (Singapore) 2005 - 2009. He has extensive teaching experiences in both traditional and contemporary sculpture practice, and is currently teaching part-time at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts in sculpture, and

an adjunct lecturer at the Ngee Ann Polytechnic (Drawing) and Temasek Polytechnic (Sculpture).

杨子强，专业雕塑家，从事传统人物雕塑与现代三维艺术创作已有十年以上的经验。研究兴趣为现代视觉艺术实践中物像与空间之间的模糊关系。除了于2006年获颁新加坡艺术理事会青年艺术家奖之外，杨子强也是2005年度举办的第二届CDL新加坡雕塑奖大奖得主。在苏格兰格拉斯哥艺术学院深造期间，他也曾数次获颁奖学金。拥有格拉斯哥艺术学院纯美术系硕士学位的杨子强，现任新加坡雕塑学会会长（任期从2005年至2009年）。杨子强在传统和现代雕塑创作方面都有丰富的教学经验，目前受聘为南洋艺术学院兼职讲师，教导雕塑，兼任新加坡义安理工学院兼职讲师，负责素描。同时也任教于淡马锡理工学院，教导雕塑。

**ART  
ON-SITE**

Under the ART-ON-SITE programme, artists are invited to exploit the site specific qualities of its public spaces. Artists are encouraged to develop work that alters visitor perceptions of the Museum environment.

Exhibition Dates : 8 Nov 2007 - 27 Jan 2008

Exhibition Venue : Rotunda  
National Museum of Singapore  
93 Stamford Road  
Singapore 178897

Tel : 6332 3659

Museum Website : [www.nationalmuseum.sg](http://www.nationalmuseum.sg)

Artist Website : <http://cheekiongyeo.tripod.com>

**N S M**  
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