

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## *ON/OUT OF PAPER*

Group exhibition curated by Hermanto Soerjanto, featuring Ashley Yeo (SG), Irfan Hendrian (ID), Iswanto Soerjanto (ID), Ryan Villamael (PH), and Yudi Sulisty (ID)

4 May – 2 June 2019

Opening Reception: Saturday, 4 May 2019, 4pm – 7pm



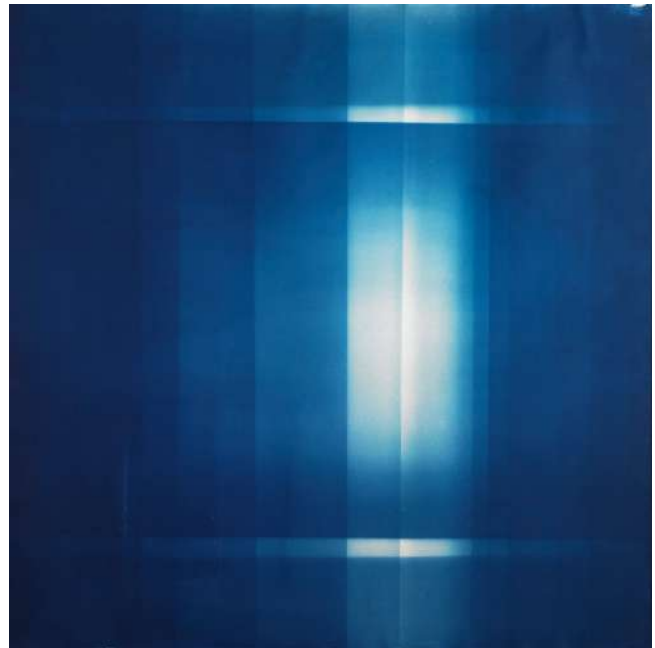
Mizuma Gallery is pleased to announce *ON/OUT OF PAPER*, a group exhibition curated by Hermanto Soerjanto, featuring five Southeast Asian artists: Ashley Yeo (SG), Irfan Hendrian (ID), Iswanto Soerjanto (ID), Ryan Villamael (PH), and Yudi Sulisty (ID).

Works on paper are often understood as less valuable and less significant as compared to sculptures and works on canvas, as they are commonly perceived as a study or a sketch for something bigger. This view may have been influenced by the Western art culture in which paper is seen only as a temporary medium for artists to organize their thoughts or ideas before they create their artworks.

Tracing back to thousands of years ago, paper was essential to Japanese and Chinese scroll paintings. Works on paper – whether made with ink, watercolour, pencil, or charcoal – have their own unique charm that is difficult to replicate with other mediums. In Chinese paintings, shaping forms through the use of ink and water on paper is a fluid and often uncontrollable process that requires the artist to understand the medium very well in order to work with it. This process attributes to the distinctiveness and the unique quality of Chinese ink paintings. However, the characteristics of Chinese paintings are often neglected due to the widespread influence of Western Art principles.

In this contemporary age, the use of mediums and materials for art creation has become quite versatile. This has unlocked a huge window of opportunity for artists to explore alternative mediums and unconventional techniques. In his works, Chinese artist Cai Guo-Qiang ignites gunpowder on paper, capturing burn marks left by the energy and fumes from the explosions. With paper as the sole medium, Japanese artist Tomoko Shioyasu employs traditional paper-cutting technique to form unique pieces of artworks. Paper, as a medium, has developed beyond ordinary means. It no longer serves only as a foundation for artists to lay their paint, ink, or pencils on; but also functions as an independent medium out of which artworks are created.

*ON/OUT OF PAPER* showcases artworks by Ashley Yeo, Irfan Hendrian, Iswanto Soerjanto, Ryan Villamael, and Yudi Sulisty. Beyond seeing paper merely as a tool, the artists in this exhibition approached the medium with an interest in its materiality and developed unconventional techniques of utilizing it in their works.



## About the Artists



Ashley Yeo (b. 1990, Singapore) graduated with a Master's Degree in Fine Arts from the University of Arts London, Chelsea College of Arts, London, United Kingdom in 2012 and a B.A. in Fine Arts from the LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore in 2011. She has held two solo exhibitions to date, *The haze in their eyes* at Becky Art Space, Jeonju, South Korea (2016) and *You must imagine Sisyphus happy* at FOST Gallery, Singapore (2015). She has participated in numerous group exhibitions in Singapore, Japan, South Korea, United Kingdom, and United States. She was the first Singaporean artist to be shortlisted for the LOEWE Craft Prize, London, United Kingdom (2018). Ashley Yeo lives and works in Singapore.



Irfan Hendrian (b. 1987, Ohio, United States) graduated with a Master's Degree in Fine Arts from the Institute of Technology of Bandung, Bandung, Indonesia in 2016 and a Bachelor's Degree in Graphic Design from the Whanganui School of Design, Whanganui, New Zealand in 2008. His solo exhibitions to date include the recent *SANS* at Sullivan + Strumpf, Singapore (2018); *Logical Aesthetic* at ViaVia, Yogyakarta, Indonesia (2012); and his first solo exhibition *Secular World* at Asbestos Art Space, Bandung, Indonesia (2011). He has exhibited in numerous group exhibitions in Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Philippines, China, and New Zealand. His works are in the collection of Jeonbuk Museum of Art, Jeonju, South Korea. Irfan Hendrian lives and works in Bandung, Indonesia.



Iswanto Soerjanto (b. 1967, Jakarta, Indonesia) graduated from the Brooks Institute of Photography, Santa Barbara, California, United States, with a major in Illustration and Advertising Photography in 1988. He had his first solo exhibition *Re-Definition* at Selasar Sunaryo Art Space, Bandung, Indonesia (2018). He has also been part of various group exhibitions, such as *From the Archives* at Mizuma Gallery, Singapore (2018); *Art On Paper Amsterdam* at Gallery Lukisan, Amsterdam, Netherlands (2018); *Beyond Photography* at Ciputra Artpreneur Centre, Jakarta, Indonesia (2011); and at Garis Art Space in both Jakarta (2008) and Bali (2004), Indonesia. Iswanto Soerjanto lives and works in Jakarta, Indonesia.



Ryan Villamael (b. 1987, Laguna, Philippines) graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Painting from the University of the Philippines, Quezon City, Philippines in 2009. He had his first solo exhibition *Cut Felt* at Silverlens, Manila, Philippines (2011) and since then has mounted numerous solo exhibitions such as the recent *A Paradise Lost* at Silverlens, Manila, Philippines (2019) and *Locus Amoenus* at Ateneo Art Gallery, Manila, Philippines (2018). He has participated in numerous group exhibitions in Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, France, and Australia; including the 2018 Biwako Biennale in Japan and the 2016 Singapore Biennale. He is the recipient of the Ateneo Art Award in 2015. Ryan Villamael lives and works in Quezon City, Philippines.



Yudi Sulistyo (b. 1972, Yogyakarta, Indonesia) graduated from the Indonesia Institute of Arts, Yogyakarta, Indonesia with a Degree in Design and Visual Communication in 1994. He had his first solo exhibition *Metal Drama* at Art:1 New Museum, Jakarta, Indonesia (2017). He has participated in numerous group exhibitions, such as *PLUGGED* at Pearl Lam Galleries, Singapore (2016); *After Utopia* at Singapore Art Museum, Singapore (2015); *Shout! Indonesian Contemporary Art* at Museum of Contemporary Art of Rome, Rome, Italy (2014); and *Close The Gap: Indonesia Art Today* at Melbourne International Fine Art Gallery, Melbourne, Australia (2011). Yudi Sulistyo lives and works in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

### About the Curator



Hermanto Soerjanto (b. 1970, Indonesia) went to Palin School of Arts & Design in Singapore and Akademi Teknik Desain Interior (ATDI) in Jakarta, Indonesia, before joining Cipta Citra advertising agency in 1994. Since then, he had built his career in the field of advertising and currently holds a position at Pantarei Communications as Chief Creative Officer. As an art collector, Hermanto Soerjanto is familiar with Indonesian artists, having spent much time conversing with them and visiting their studios. In 2008 he established GARIS Artspace, an art gallery in Jakarta showcasing works by contemporary Indonesian artists, where he organizes and curates the exhibitions on regular basis. To date, Hermanto Soerjanto has organized several exhibitions, most notably *Noodle Theory* by Angki Purbandono at GARIS Artspace (2010), *Ethnicity Now*, a group exhibition at Galeri Nasional Indonesia, Jakarta (2010), and *Unveiling Fundamentals in Contemporary Art Through Asia* at OHD Museum, Magelang, Indonesia (2015). Hermanto Soerjanto lives and works in Jakarta, Indonesia, and is one of the co-founders of Rumah Kijang Mizuma alongside Executive Director of Mizuma Galleries, Sueo Mizuma, and artist Angki Purbandono.

### About Mizuma Gallery

Executive Director Sueo Mizuma established Mizuma Art Gallery in Tokyo in 1994. Since its opening in Gillman Barracks, Singapore in 2012, the gallery aims for the promotion of East Asian artists in the region as well as the introduction of Southeast Asian artists to the international art scene. In 2014, the artist residency space “Rumah Kijang Mizuma” opened in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, to create a new platform for dialogue by supporting exchanges between East Asia and Southeast Asia.

### About Gillman Barracks

Set in a former military barracks dating back to 1936 and surrounded by lush tropical greenery, the Gillman Barracks visual arts cluster was launched in September 2012. Gillman Barracks' vision is to be Asia's destination for the presentation and discussion of international and Southeast Asian art. Today, Gillman Barracks is a place for art lovers, art collectors, and those curious about art. The cluster is a focal point of Singapore's arts landscape, and anchors the development of visual art in the region and beyond.

For more information: [www.gillmanbarracks.com](http://www.gillmanbarracks.com)

**Press Contacts**

Teo Cai Yun  
caiyun@mizuma.sg

Theresia Irma  
theresia@mizuma.sg

**Mizuma Gallery**

22 Lock Road #01-34  
Gillman Barracks  
Singapore 108939

## Gallery hours:

Tue - Sat: 11am - 7pm

Sun: 11am - 6pm

Closed on Mondays &  
Public Holidays

[www.mizuma.sg](http://www.mizuma.sg)

[www.mizuma.shop](http://www.mizuma.shop)

[www.mizuma-art.co.jp](http://www.mizuma-art.co.jp)

**Copyright and Image Credits**

Ashley Yeo

*Study of a Pyramid* (2018)

hand-cut paper

4.6 x 4.6 x 3.7 cm

© Ashley Yeo, courtesy of Mizuma Gallery

Iswanto Soerjanto

*Untitled* (2019)

cyanotype on paper

112 x 112 cm (unframed)

118.5 x 118.5 cm (framed)

© Iswanto Soerjanto, courtesy of Mizuma  
Gallery

Iswanto Soerjanto

*Untitled* (2019)

cyanotype on paper

114 x 114 cm (unframed)

117 x 117 cm (framed)

© Iswanto Soerjanto, courtesy of Mizuma  
Gallery