

SINGAPORE BIENNALE 2019

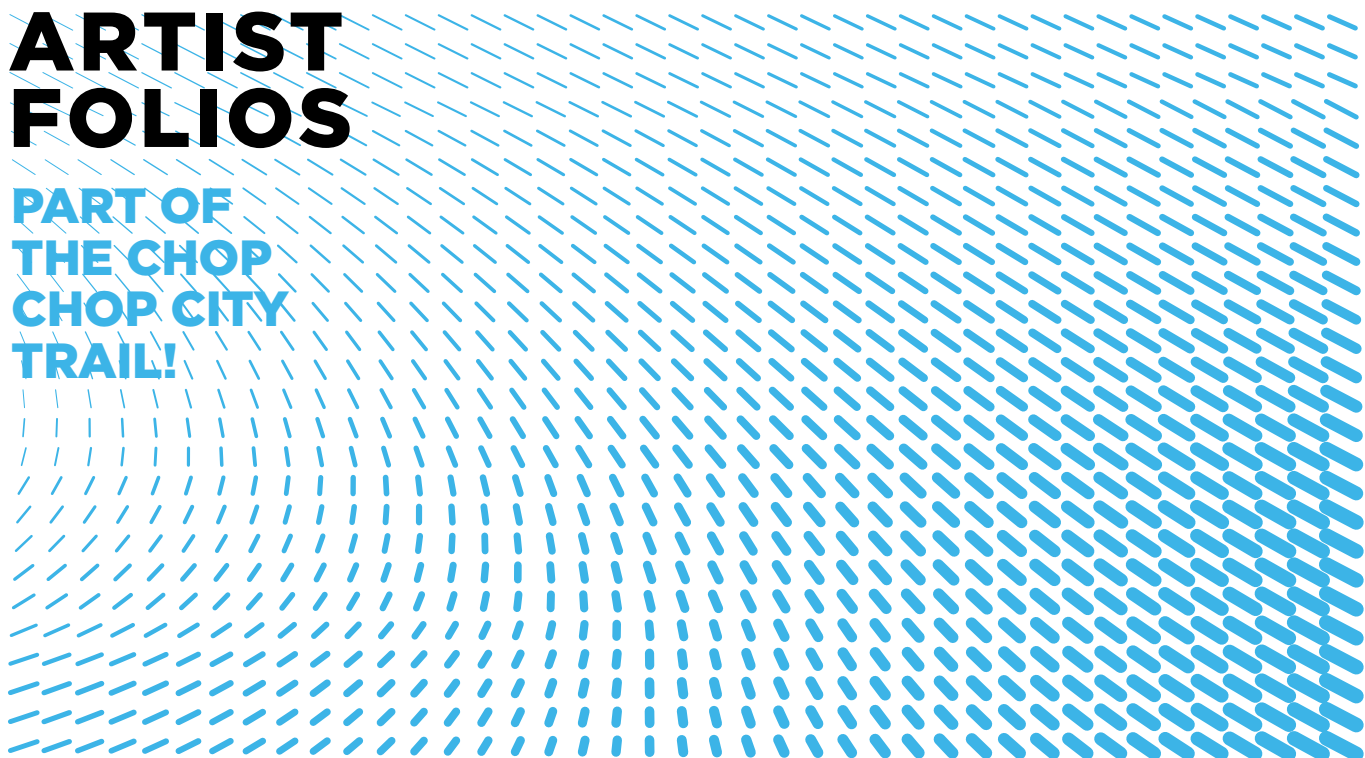
22 Nov 2019 –
22 Mar 2020

EVERY
STEP
IN THE
RIGHT
DIRECTION

EDUCATION KIT

ARTIST FOLIOS

PART OF
THE CHOP
CHOP CITY
TRAIL!



LANI MAESTRO

*SITSIT SA KULIGLIG.
(WHATEVER CIRCLES FROM THE CENTER)*

2019

PHILIPPINES

ORGANISED BY



COMMISSIONED BY



SUPPORTED BY





THE ARTIST
LANI MAESTRO

- (b. 1957, Manila, Philippines) Filipino-Canadian artist, Maestro started her career in the late 1970s in the Philippines and immigrated to Canada in 1983. Currently, she lives and works in Canada, France and Manila.
- Maestro received a BFA from the University of the Philippines, an MFA from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD) in Halifax and an honorary doctorate in Fine Arts from NSCAD University (2018) and the Hnatyshyn Foundation Visual Art Award for outstanding contribution to the arts (2012).
- She has participated in several international biennials and was one of the two artists selected to represent Philippines in the Venice Biennale 2017. In her expanded art practice, Maestro creates installations and sculptures that incorporate various mediums such as writing, drawing, videography, photography, sound and film.

THE ARTWORK

***SITSIT SA KULIGLIG. (WHATEVER
CIRCLES FROM THE CENTER)***
2019

**Mixed media installation: wooden structure,
capiz shells, marble and metal**

300 x 500 cm; marble balls: 30.5cm (diameter)

Collection of the Artist | Singapore Biennale 2019 commission

- **MEDIUM:** A mixed media installation that uses a hundred cut *capiz* shells strung together with nylon strings that are hung from a structure's ceiling and are supported by wooden posts. *Capiz* shells are from the Windowpane oyster and are widely found in the province of Capiz in the Philippines. These shells are commonly found in decorative items such as jewellery and lamps due to its translucent silvery colour and extremely flattened shape. The shells are light and when moved by a slight amount of wind, they knock into each other repeatedly as though there is a strong wind. Near the structure lies rounded white marble balls (the size of tennis balls) that are engraved with letters that spell "psst".
- **TECHNIQUES / PROCESSES:** Her process of art-making is a blend of architectural installation, soundscape and text.
- **IDEAS / INSPIRATIONS / CONTEXT:** In the Philippines, the locals often use "psst" to call the attention of others. The artist liked the quality of the sound and the playfulness it creates. The sound of the *capiz* shells brushing against each other captures life in the moment and the concept of what is unseen.



DID YOU KNOW?

The gender of the Windowpane Oyster can be differentiated based on their shell colour! Do you know of any other creatures you can identify their gender based on their colours?

STEP BY STEP

PRIMARY:

ART / ENGLISH



STEP 1 :: PRE-VISIT

PONDER:

What are the different ways we call for someone's attention? Does it change depending on who we are calling and where we are calling them from?

Try out the following:

- Call someone by their name
- Tap someone on the shoulder
- Wave frantically in someone's face
- Whistle loudly for someone to hear you



STEP 2 :: AT THE ARTWORK

THINK:

How do you feel about the artwork/object? What does it remind you of?

- What material do you think the artist used?
- Close your eyes and listen to the *capiz* shells brush against one another during a light breeze or a swooping wind. Are there differences in the sounds produced?
- How do you feel when you hear the sounds? Do they soothe you or do they clang loudly and irritate you?

WHISPER:

Sit in a line and whisper "Psst, Psst, Psst" to your classmate in front of you. After you are done, do you still hear it ringing in your ears?

SHARE:

Onomatopoeia is a type of word that sounds like what it describes. Eg. Boom, Pow, Oops. Share with your friends other types of words that create sounds.

STEP 3 :: POST-VISIT

EXPAND:

Recreate your version of this artwork by making a wind chime. Use found objects or recycled materials to create different sounds!

Consider the following:

- Do you want to produce a loud or soft sound?
- How the different materials will create different sounds.

SHARE:

What materials did you use and why? How would you describe the sound produced? Hang your wind chime in your classroom or bring it home to to be displayed!



FIND OUT MORE

THE ARTIST

- <https://www.mutualart.com/Artist/Lani-Maestro/44002EB78254ECE4>
- <https://www.revolvy.com/page/Lani-Maestro>

OTHERS

- <https://www.mutualart.com/Exhibition/Lani-Maestro--L-oubli-de-l-air/C7E0ABAB466231E4>
- <https://www.cobosocial.com/dossiers/language-subverting-violence-lani-maestro-at-venice-biennale-2017/>
- <https://canadianart.ca/features/lani-maestro-venice-biennale/>
- <https://www.mo-space.net/strange-thirst>