



Public Art Walking Trail
Form, Shape, Colour & Line: Abstraction In Public Art

Very often, people find abstract art difficult to understand and appreciate due to the lack of realistic elements and recognisable forms. However, while abstract art does not represent realistic figures, it is still capable of evoking emotions and sparking the imagination. This public art trail will introduce some prominent abstract sculptures in Singapore that span from the early 20th Century when many artists began experimenting with different styles of art and exploring forms, to today.

Located mostly around the Central Business District, these sculptures are a mix of both Singapore and international artists and represent a wide spectrum of styles and materials. It is interesting to see how abstraction is treated by both foreign and local artists alike. Despite coming from different backgrounds and at different points in time, we are able to trace a common thread in the desire to use form, shape, colour and line to reflect identity and values, and express concepts and emotions of the community and the environment in which the artwork is a part of.

- Starting Point**
This tour starts at the St. Regis Singapore hotel along Tanglin Road. At the end of Route 1, you may wish to take the Train from Bras Basah MRT station (Circle Line) to the next location on Route 2, alighting at the Esplanade MRT station (Circle Line). Please note that this is only a suggested route. You may wish to start and stop at any point in the trail. Along the way, feel free to wander off-course and explore nearby landmarks and destinations in the city!
- By Bus**
The nearest bus stop is Aft Tomlinson Road (Bus Stop No. 09159).

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- By Train**
The nearest MRT Station is Orchard Road MRT (Accessible via North-South Line).
- Major Landmarks**
Esplanade, Asian Civilisations Museum, Cavanagh Bridge, Fullerton Hotel, One Raffles Place, Lau Pa Sat, Capital Tower.
- Precautions**
Keep an eye on your belongings and watch out for traffic and other pedestrians while walking. We recommend bringing along a water bottle to stay hydrated!
- More Information**
To find out more about the featured artworks and other public art trails:
www.publicarttrust.sg
www.facebook.com/publicarttrustsg





1 Sense Surround
Artist Anthony Poon | Material Painted aluminium | Year 2006
Location St. Regis Hotel

Singaporean artist Anthony Poon's sculpture *Sense Surround* was specially commissioned for St. Regis Hotel in 2006. It features geometric shapes and a specific use of colour that are highly characteristic of abstract art. Although the geometric shapes are repeated many times in this sculpture, there is a great deal of variety and difference in the way they appear to viewers. Playing with simple qualities like form, shape and colour, Poon's abstract sculpture strikes a balance between being complex and universal.



2 Endless Flow
Artist Tan Teng Kee | Material Brass | Year 1980
Location Dhoby Ghaut Green, opposite YMCA

This abstract metal sculpture by acclaimed artist, Tan Teng Kee, also features many geometric shapes. Commissioned by OCBC Bank, *Endless Flow* is made out of cut-out pieces of steel and represents a desire for continued good fortune. Tan received similar public art commissions in the 1970s that made his artworks highly visible and accessible to the public. Originally situated in front of the OCBC Bank building, the sculpture was moved to its current location in 1983, underscoring the artwork's reference to constant shifts and transformations.



3 The Rising Moon
Artist Han Sai Por, Kum Chee Kiong | Material Granite, corten steel, boulders | Year 2015
Location Esplanade Park

The Rising Moon is a Public Art Trust commission that reinterprets our national symbols: the five stars and crescent moon. If you look carefully, the five stoic grey stone blocks are symbols of the five white stars on our national flag. Try deciphering other symbols! By rendering highly recognisable national symbols in new forms and materials, the artists use abstraction to reflect on the timelessness of national values.



4 Large Reclining Figure
Artist Henry Moore | Material Bronze | Year 1983
Location OCBC Centre

This sculpture blurs the line between abstraction and figuration. It is made by the famous sculptor, Henry Moore, whose work often features suggestive female figures in recline. Utilising the play between positive and negative space, Moore distorts what looks to be a female figure, reducing it to a fluid form that reclines in quiet contemplation by the water. Measuring over 10 metres in length, it is one of the largest sculptures that Moore has ever created.



5 Points of View
Artist Tony Cragg | Material Bronze | Year 2012
Location One Raffles Place

This 10-metre-tall sculpture comprises two blocks of irregular stacked shapes that offer a different view depending on which angle you are looking from. Cragg's sculptures often take human profiles or familiar objects as a starting point. He then distorts these into abstract sculptures that encourage imagination and playful interactions. Take a walk around the sculpture and try to spot the changes in the artwork!



6 Dual Universe
Artist Charles O. Perry | Material Bronze | Year 1994
Location Singapore Land Tower

This large abstract sculpture by American artist, Charles O. Perry, appears to resemble two figure "8" forms intertwining to become one. Devoid of any literal figurative form, Perry's elegant and organic sculpture is in fact an abstract result of his close study of mathematics and art.



7 Harmony
Artist Yu Yu Yang | Material Metal (Chrome & Steel) | Year 1993
Location Republic Plaza

This reflective silver sculpture represents culture and identity through unlikely abstract motifs. The semi-circular elements on the top of the sculpture represent the Chinese character for Man "人" (ren). It is joined to the round sphere beneath which represents Earth. Together, the elements resemble the Chinese character for cooperation "合" (he). This image of Man joined to the Earth is thought to represent harmony and boundless energy. This sculpture also symbolises a young dragon and phoenix joined together, embodying similar traits of fortune, elegance, and beauty.



8 Tall Tree in the Eye
Artist Anish Kapoor | Material Stainless steel | Year 2013
Location Ocean Financial Centre

This monumental sculpture by acclaimed British artist, Anish Kapoor, comprises 29 polished stainless steel spheres that appear to float upwards. Measuring 8-metres tall and weighing over 6 tonnes, it is one of a handful of stainless steel works the artist has produced in the past decade. The sculpture resembles a house of mirrors that cheekily distorts reflections of passers-by. It creates a kaleidoscopic effect that also makes the surrounding buildings seemingly "disappear", giving viewers a sense of fantasy and illusion.



9 Progressive Flow
Artist Han Sai Por | Material Granite | Year 2004
Location NTUC Centre

In *Progressive Flow*, six curved sculptures in abstract shapes stretch across the NTUC Centre's walkway. The dynamic forms and lines are symbolic of NTUC's progress and contribution to the development of labour movements in Singapore. Despite being carved from solid granite and collectively weighing over 55 tonnes, the sculpture evokes the effortless fluidity of movement. It demonstrates Han's expertise with her signature material of granite. Passers-by are encouraged to interact with the artwork, sit on the pieces or walk through the spaces in between.



10 Tropical Leaf
Artist Han Sai Por | Material Marble | Year 2012
Location One Raffles Quay

Singapore artist Han Sai Por is drawn to Nature and her artworks are often inspired by natural themes and forms. The outdoor setting of One Raffles Quay is home to another of Han's artworks, *Tropical Leaf*. This pristine marble sculpture captures the essence of tropical flora and fauna in an urban environment like the Central Business District.



11 above below beneath above
Artist Olafur Eliasson | Material Painted steel, stainless steel, coloured glass | Year 2014
Location CapitaGreen

In keeping with the theme of Nature around the CapitaGreen building, celebrated artist Olafur Eliasson's *above below beneath above* evokes the image of 'aerating roots' that grow above rather than beneath the ground, hence the paradoxical title. To create this work, Eliasson surprisingly used 56 grey steel tubes to twist and turn between the floor and ceiling of the CapitaGreen office lobby. Walk between these unlikely 'roots' to interact with Eliasson's abstract artwork and experience the awe of Nature's majesty.



12 Wall Drawing #915, Arcs, Circles, and Irregular Bands
Artist Sol LeWitt | Material Acrylic paint | Year 1999
Location Underground pedestrian network connecting Marina Bay Sands to Bayfront MRT

Sol LeWitt's wall drawings demonstrate the intersections between abstract and conceptual art. Although they embody abstraction's geometric shapes and colours, they also redefine traditional concepts about discreet, original artworks. LeWitt believed that a concept or idea could be an artwork, and that an artist could retain authorship of an artwork even though proxies made copies of the work. Therefore, each drawing is accompanied by directions and a signed certificate that authenticates the work. Four local artists chosen by the Singapore Tyler Print Institute helped to execute these drawings.



13 Artificial Rock #71 and #86
Artist Zhan Wang | Material Stainless steel | Year 2010
Location Marina Bay Sands, Lions Bridge

Artificial Rock #71 and #86 are abstract sculptures inspired by The Scholar's Rock, which has for generations been held in high regard in China for its complexity and beauty. However, Zhan's *Artificial Rocks* are highly reflective, allowing them to capture the rapid changes of their contemporary surroundings. Zhan's mirror-like abstract rocks are not detached from the greenery, places of quiet contemplation, and modern buildings that surround them. In fact, their reflective surfaces embody the ever-changing views and developments around them.

