



Press Release
13 August 2012

Guilty Pleasures Listening Party by Artist Ang Song Ming
Kicks Off Spring Workshop's Inaugural Season and
Launches *Moderation(s)*



Photo: Jan Rothuizen

Date: Saturday, 18 August, 2012

Time: 7–10pm

Location: Spring Workshop

3/F Remex Centre, 42 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong

FREE ADMISSION

Spring Workshop, a new non-profit arts residency program in Hong Kong, is proud to present *Guilty Pleasures*, a performative platform developed by Singaporean artist Ang Song Ming, that will mark the start of Spring Workshop's inaugural season and also serve as a teaser for the upcoming *Moderation(s)* project. *Guilty Pleasures* engages the audience as performers in the setting of a listening party hosted by the artist. Having brought along a song they consider to be a guilty pleasure, audience members take turns 'confessing' to why they find their song enjoyable and incriminating, before playing it for all to listen. The event, open to the public and free of charge, will take place at Spring Workshop from 7–10pm on Saturday, 18 August, 2012.

As in many of his works, Ang does not play the role of creator, but rather that of a facilitator and orchestrator of bizarre situations, relying on participants to finish them. He explores the points of convergence between two separate streams of cultural production – pop music and conceptual art – by opening up the depersonalized, institutional worlds of the museum and of commercial music to personal participation and temporary communities. In this work,

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everybody gets his 15 minutes of 'fame and shame.' *Guilty Pleasures* has been shown in Singapore, London and Berlin.

The *Guilty Pleasures* Listening Party is the inaugural event of Spring Workshop in Hong Kong, and acts as a teaser for the upcoming *Moderation(s)* project. *Moderation(s)* is a year-long multi-faceted collaborative platform which will run from January to December 2013 between Spring Workshop, a new non-profit arts residency program in Hong Kong, and Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art in Rotterdam, Netherlands. At the center of this project stands 'the Moderator', incarnated by Singaporean artist Heman Chong. Closely relating with a group of artists and curators from across Asia and Europe, 'the Moderator' brings together many different voices to generate fruitful ground for dialogue, discourse and documentation. Following from this exchange, 'the Moderator' will conceive two parallel exhibitions that open simultaneously in Rotterdam and Hong Kong in the winter of 2013. *Moderation(s)* is initiated by Spring Workshop Founder Mimi Brown and Witte de With Director Defne Ayas.

The performance is open to the public and free of charge.
Fried chicken and beer will be served.

High-resolution images can be downloaded from
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/qrq4l64k8k58mft/LR3k20rAoW>
Photos: Jan Rothuizen

About Ang Song Ming

Ang Song Ming uses music as his starting point to produce artworks and performances. His works are mainly rule-based compositions, in which materials such as record covers, music posters, school songs, and mix-tapes are each remade with an internal logic or recontextualised with its own narrative. Ang has participated in residencies with Künstlerhaus Bethanien (Berlin), Gertrude Contemporary (Melbourne), and ARCUS Project (Japan).

About Heman Chong

Heman Chong is an artist, curator and writer. His art practice involves an investigation into the philosophies, reasons and methods of individuals and communities imagining the future. He has participated in numerous international biennales including Asia Pacific Triennial 7 (2012), Performa 11 (2011), Momentum 6 (2011), Manifesta 8 (2010), 2nd Singapore Biennale (2008), SCAPE Christchurch Biennale (2006), Busan Biennale (2004), 10th India Triennial (2000) and represented Singapore in the 50th Venice Biennale (2003).

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About Spring Workshop

In August of 2012, Spring will open as a non-profit arts space committed to an international cross-disciplinary program of artist and curatorial residencies, exhibitions, music, film and talks. Anchored in the Wong Chuk Hang industrial neighborhood of Hong Kong, Spring serves as a platform and laboratory for exchange between the vibrant artists and organizations that define Hong Kong's rich cultural landscape and the emerging and established artists and organizations around the world that seek to engage in far-reaching dialogue. www.springworkshop.org

About Witte de With

Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art is an international public institution with Rotterdam as its home base. Established in 1990, Witte de With explores developments in contemporary art worldwide and presents this through exhibitions, theoretical and educational programs, public events and publications. www.wdw.nl

For enquiries and media interviews with artists Heman Chong and Ang Song Ming, please contact Athena Wu at +852 2110 4370 or athena@springworkshop.org.

For more information about Spring, please visit www.springworkshop.org

Please also check back in autumn 2012 when a new website featuring future programs will be online.

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