

Conversation Pieces

An interactive and engaged public art project by Jay Koh in collaboration with Chu Yuan, Seri Kembangan, Malaysia, 2008

This work employs a process of art making that considers sustainable engagement with residents of Seri Kembangan. From Fri 15 Aug to Wed 20 Aug, 9 am to 1 pm, Jay Koh and collaborators stationed themselves in the Maxi Tasty coffee shop in Seri Kembangan, within an installation of art objects. Seri Kembangan residents were invited for a drink, have a chat with the artist about contemporary art and their life in Seri Kembangan; after which, Jay gave them each an art object or kitsch item of their choice as a present.



The pieces of artwork are pieces of a puzzle that form the map of Seri Kembangan village

These art objects were created especially for Seri Kembangan residents. Through the artwork, the artist opened up conversations with residents, to understand their daily life and their views on art. Through such interactions, he hoped to create a broader understanding of art and its connection to people in their daily lives. The work spans over a longer timeframe to allow unorchestrated development of relationships with participants, initiated through the art work, installation and performance, but further built up through conversations and interactions that follow. All these relational activities are intended to create an inter-subjective foundation for shaping experiences and mindsets.



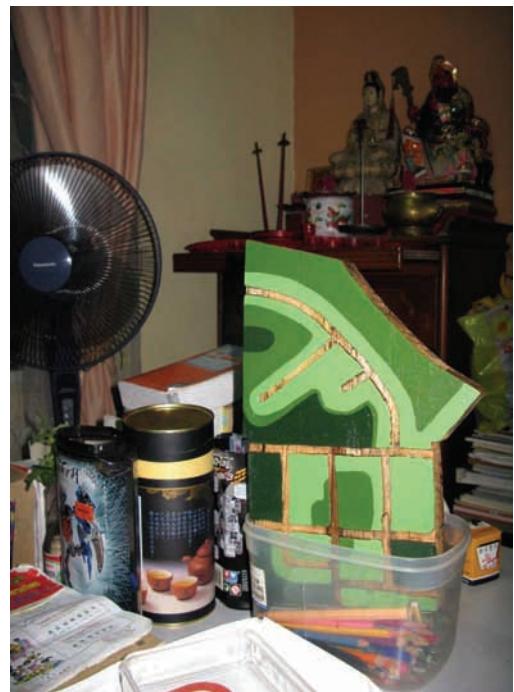


Composite image: Interactions in Maxi Tasty coffee shop in Seri Kembangan, Malaysia



Exhibition of Conversation Pieces project documentation in 1948 Artspace, Seri Kembangan, Malaysia

Photos of art objects and kitsch items contributed by participants.



2nd phase of project, 3 to 12 months, interactions with participants

