



ArtinTransit

N O R T H E A S T L I N E M R T - S I N G A P O R E



Art in Transit

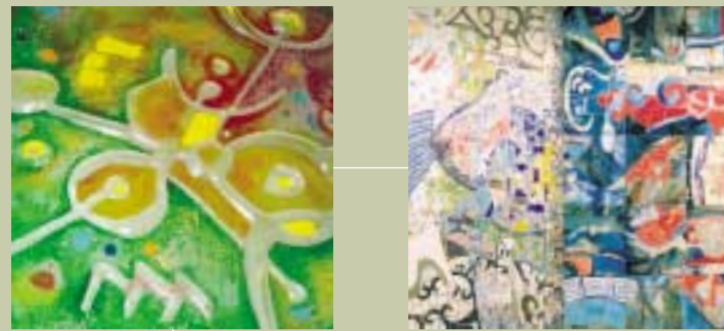


Enigmatic Appearances by Ian Woo
Abstract images on blue vitreous enamel panels evoke a sense of open seas and ocean-bound vessels. This maritime theme is depicted through clean, uncluttered line drawings of nature, water and symbols of the marine industry rendered in the artist's fluid, minimalist style. A pair of footprints located at platform level adds a gentle touch of humour to the southernmost station of the North East Line.

The Phoenix-Eye Domain by Tan Swie Hian
This outstanding collection of artworks comprises a resplendent wall mural depicting the arrival of Singapore's early Chinese immigrants and three sets of rhyming couplets in semi-cursive Chinese calligraphy. The richly coloured mural, featuring the mythical phoenix, is located at concourse level while the poems are rendered as floor calligraphy at concourse and platform level.



Universal Language by Sun Yu-Li
This artwork is a good example of how art can help guide commuters through a complex interchange station. Floor tiles that employ a universal language of symbols such as the hunter and the fish line the six routes leading towards the trains. At the heart of the station, these symbols come together in a large floor mural and stunning wall panel.



Interchange by Milenko & Delia Prvacki
Located in the linkway of the Interchange, the work of this husband and wife team salutes the Asia's rich artistic legacy. Working in mosaic, Milenko created a lush, floor design that fans out at the foot of the escalators and four sets of column rings. A vibrant, tactile wall mural sees Delia's refined work in ceramics fusing seamlessly with Milenko's earthy mosaics.

Rhythmic Exuberance by Poh Siew Wah
The sporting activity of Farrer Park's glorious past is captured through paintings that combine figurative drawings and abstract expression. Sports as varied as soccer and swimming and athletics, are depicted through expressive brush drawings in black ink alternated with paintings of abstract shapes and lines in pastel colours.



Point of View by Matthew Ngui
Striking and contemporary, this work sees text messages recording the aspirations of ordinary people being embedded into familiar images of urban life like clock faces and high-rise flats. Installed at carefully chosen spots in the station, the pictures and words come together to form images of surprising detail and depth.



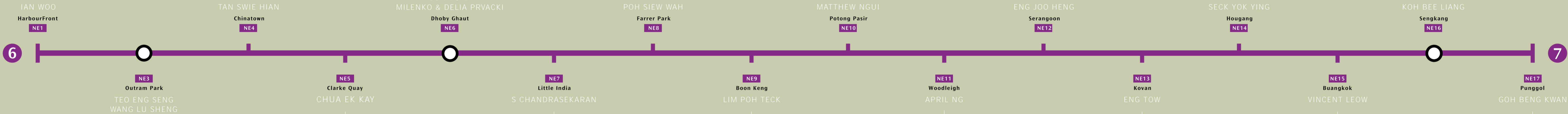
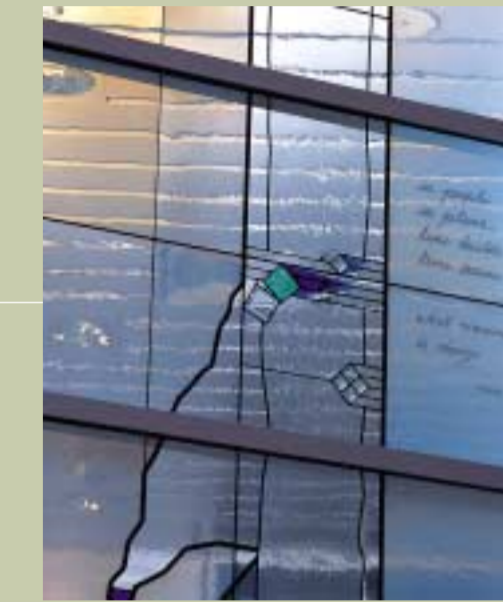
Note: Matthew Ngui's artwork for Potong Pasir station is currently in production. The work is expected to be installed at the end of 2003.

Memories of Childhood by Eng Joo Heng
This heart-warming work offers a joyful look back at childhood in the rural villages of Singapore's past. The artist, a printmaker, created these colourful images of children at play from woodcuts which he cut by hand. The final work, produced in silkscreen on vitreous enamel panels eloquently captures the innocence and wonder of childhood.



Hands Up for Hougang by Seck Yok Ying
Hougang station showcases community art at its best with a work made from the handprints of 3,000 people from babies to grandmothers, foreign workers to community leaders. Originally imprinted in wet clay, these handprints were later transferred onto concrete wall panels and arranged in a seamless sequence by the artist. An informal yet artistic cluster of seats reinforces the friendly feel of the station at platform level.

TRANSITION.S. by Koh Bee Liang
The changes in Sengkang, once a simple rural community are reflected in the warm glow of art on stained glass windows. The work comprises two contrasting glass murals. The mural of Old Sengkang shows warm nostalgic images of the past while the mural of New Sengkang, in black and white, depicts the skyscrapers that are now part of the area's landscape.



The Commuters by Teo Eng Seng
One of the most thought provoking artworks on the North East Line, these rich and varied wall reliefs of people in motion reflect the thoughts and inner-most feelings of commuters. These images seem to emerge from the wall and disappear into it, inviting commuters to pause and contemplate their meaning. The work was originally fashioned in clay by the artist before being transferred onto concrete wall panels.



Memories by Wang Lu Sheng
The pageantry of Chinese opera and the symbols of law and medicine come together in this vibrant artwork that exalts in Outram Park's unique heritage. Bold, graphic and deliberately large, the works respond to the size and scale of the interchange station. Mounted on vitreous enamel panels, they serve as colourful visual signposts for the station's different entrances.



The Reflections by Chua Ek Kay
A multi-faceted portrait of Singapore River today and in years past is presented through artworks in different mediums. On the station walls, four Chinese brush paintings depict Singapore River as the city's lifeline throughout its history while an abstract brass panel in rich, warm colours portrays the river in all its moods. Floor tiles of the painted eyes found on tongkangs or Chinese junks help guide commuters through the station.



Memoirs of the Past by S Chandrasekaran
These evocative, sepia-toned works celebrate all that is unique about Indian culture in Singapore. The influence of traditional Indian folk art comes through in the distinctive metal grilles at the station entrances and the elaborate floor works in bronze and granite inside the station. Animal paintings allude to the buffalo stables that used to be in the area in the past.

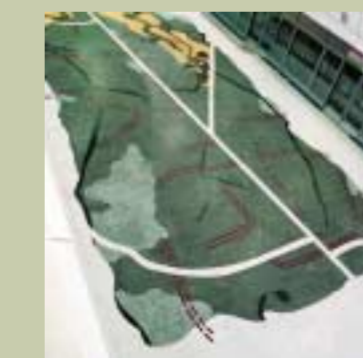
Metamorphosis by Lim Poh Teck
In this sunny, tropical painting, icons of everyday life offer a glimpse of Boon Keng's fascinating past and vibrant present. The works are replete with details that tell of the changes in Boon Keng over the years. In a lively example of interactive art, some of the more charming details from the paintings are reproduced on the station walls and subways where the young and old may find them.



Slow Motion by April Ng Kiew Ngior
These etched metal panels takes a slice of urban life in Singapore at the start of the Millennium and translates it into prints of commuters etched on zinc plates on the station walls. Candid, casual and unpretentious, these black and white images of family, friends and colleagues will serve as visual commentary of our lives and times for future generations.

Note: Woodleigh station will not open with the rest of the North East Line.

The Trade-Off by Eng Tow
Progress and what it has meant for Kovan - this is the theme of this intriguing work that juxtaposes topographical maps from 1945 and the present day. These maps of Kovan, one largely agricultural and the other depicting expressways and new developments, are made from granite inlays set on the station floor. The maps are complemented by cartographic symbols on the station's floor.



Water, Nature and the Contemporary by Vincent Leow
Exuberant and experimental, this contemporary work speaks for the vitality of Buangkok New Town. Selected images and archival photos of life in Singapore are embellished with dots, graphic motifs and bands, all in bold primary colours. Hard to miss when going up or down the escalators, the works add vitality and splashes of colour to the station.



Water, Landscape and Future by Goh Beng Kwan
This stunning work in glass catches the natural light in the station, evoking a sense of sea, sky and languid days spent on Punggol beach in years past. The deep, intense colours and fine, tactile textures of the work were achieved through an exciting firing process that fused thin layers of glass hand painted by the artist. Fragments of materials are embedded in the glass, creating a shimmering effect that changes with the viewing angle.

Interchange Station

Singapore's mass rapid transit system is acknowledged as one of the world's best. Passengers travelling on the MRT have every assurance of a safe, smooth, fast and comfortable ride with seamless onward connections to buses or light rail systems.

The North East Line, the latest extension to the city's mass rapid transit network, sets new engineering and technological benchmarks in land transport. However, what really sets the North East Line apart is the

artworks that are to be found in each of its 16 stations, reinforcing the individual identity of each station and adding vitality and colour to the transit experience of every commuter.

The Land Transport Authority took an all-encompassing approach to commissioning the artworks for the North East Line. Every effort was made to integrate the artworks created by 19 distinguished artists with the station's architecture. As a result, the artworks you will see as

you travel along the North East Line are presented as the architectural finishes to the stations' interiors.

Some artworks such as those at Dhoby Ghaut interchange take the form of mosaic wall murals; others are rendered as floor finishes as in the Chinese calligraphy on the platform of Chinatown station. Then there are the artworks that we enjoy as images on vitreous enamel wall panels such as Serangoon station's paintings of children at play; or works that are seamlessly integrated into stained

glass wall panels as at Sengkang station. At Little India station, the artworks take the form of ornate metal grilles while at Hougang station, art created with active community participation, is to be found imprinted on glass reinforced concrete walls. Placed at platform and concourse levels inside the stations and in the stations' linkways and entrances, the artworks of the North East Line showcase the best of Singapore art in accessible locations along the routes used by commuters on the way to the trains.

The artworks also function as imaginative visual signposts. Certain station entrances will be identified by their artworks such as the Chinese Opera Mask at the entrance of Outram Park station. In other stations such as Kovan and Clarke Quay, the artworks take on a wayfinding element, helping you to find your way around the station.

While there are other fine examples of public art in Singapore, the North East Line's art programme is

Singapore's single, largest public art project to date and certainly it's most geographically extensive.

We encourage Singaporeans to look carefully at the art in the stations they use every day; you may be surprised to find that some of the artworks have something fresh and new to offer you each time you travel. We also want you to make time to view the artworks in the stations you are less familiar with; you may well chance on a work that earns a special place in your heart.

We invite visitors to our city to add the art on the North East Line to their lists of places to visit while in Singapore. In this unique art gallery on the move, you will glimpse a collection of artworks that captures the spirit of Singapore and its people in a civic environment traversed by millions every day.

All you need is your MRT card and this guide to experience the art of travelling well in Singapore.