

Art Strings Attached



DT21: Bencoolen

Tracing Memories

Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA)

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“The artwork celebrates the effortless bonding of people who have never met before in this temporary space of a station. It is a conversation between the public and the artists; a reflection of the public and community involvement.”

- Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts

About the Artwork

The students of NAFA used an unwinding string to give a sense of direction; which is what a train does. It has the quality of being flexible in its movement and the ability to tie things together. The string is therefore used in the artwork as a metaphor that connects the public together.

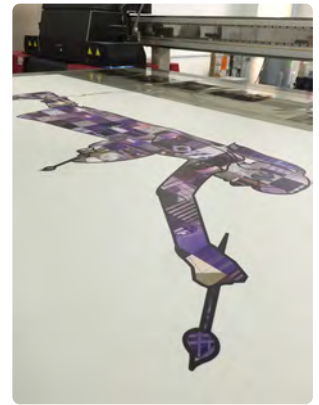
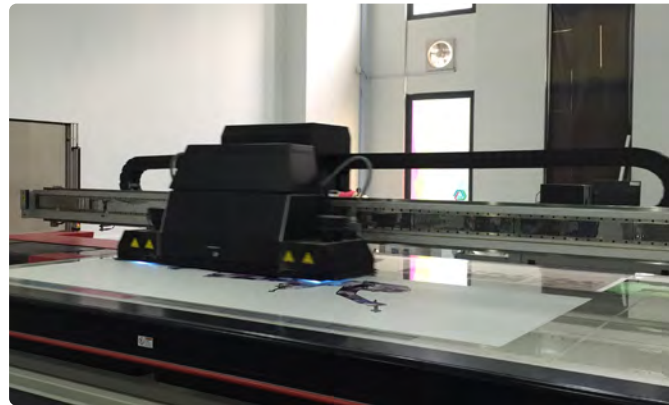
Silhouettes for the artwork were obtained from still-videos of students performing activities representing the educational institutions – Singapore Management University (SMU) and NAFA. These silhouettes are connected with a string leading towards each of the exit for SMU and for NAFA.

Each stop-motion silhouette is formed by a photo collage of iconic images symbolising history and life of Bencoolen submitted by the community. These photos uniquely and visually captured the station's surroundings as it features patterns, decorative elements, buildings, trees and more. Each collage is colour coded to ensure that photos used for each silhouette will have a distinctive character.



Trivia

Serving as a form of wayfinding in the station, you will find silhouettes at the NAFA exit holding paint brushes & palettes, and Silhouettes holding laptops & books at SMU exit.



About the Artist

Established in 1938, the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) is Singapore's pioneer arts education institution, well-known for grooming diverse artistic talent. Through research-based practice and experiential learning, NAFA nurtures creative talent who lead at the forefront of both traditional and contemporary art practices. The academy offers full-time diploma and degree programmes across three schools: the School of Art and Design, the School of Music and the School of Arts Management, Dance and Theatre. NAFA has nurtured 13 Cultural Medallion Award recipients and 14 Young Artist Award winners among prominent alumni who play integral roles in the arts and creative fields, in Singapore and abroad.

