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STORY

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***CONSTELLATION* debuts the distinctive art practice of legendary  
New York street artist Futura in Singapore**

*Futura's first solo show in Southeast Asia will present 30 new works created specially  
in Singapore during a residency at The Culture Story*

**2 April 2019, Singapore** – Futura, dubbed the godfather of contemporary street art, will make his Southeast Asian debut in Singapore come 30 May 2019. Presented by The Culture Story and curated by Singapore's leading pop artist Jahan Loh, *CONSTELLATION* marks the street culture legend's first ever solo exhibition in the region.

Hailing from the birth of the graffiti art movement, in the early 1970's Futura began 'bombing' trains in his hometown of Brooklyn, New York. Alongside his contemporaries, including iconic names such as Keith Haring and Jean-Michel Basquiat, he later took his distinctive abstract graffiti style from the streets and onto the canvas, showing in galleries around the world. Over the past forty years, Futura continuously pushed the boundaries of street art and painting, and has earned recognition internationally for his authentic style which has evolved beyond traditional forms of graffiti.

The exhibition will showcase 30 specially commissioned pieces created during a two week-long residency at The Culture Story. *CONSTELLATION* delves into Futura's inner universe and celebrates his pioneering spirit for inventing new spraying techniques, including his most iconic and signature move, the inverted spray. Utilising a range of materials coupled with finely tuned techniques, this unique series of works demonstrates that Futura's visual style transcends cultural and physical boundaries - where expression and style, restraint and spontaneity, splatters and control, provide poetic contradiction. The bold, vibrant compositions are marked by a repertoire of forms and iconic motifs he has come to be known for – characters, atoms and cranes.

*CONSTELLATION* is a nod to Futura's first encounter with Singapore in 1974. As a young Navy petty officer, his maiden voyage to Southeast Asia took place onboard the Kitty Hawk-class supercarrier USS 'Constellation', and saw him passing through the harbours of Singapore.

Ning Chong, Founder of The Culture Story commented, "We are thrilled to collaborate with Futura, an iconoclast in the world of design and street culture, and to witness his extraordinary creativity come to life. Being able to present new works by a living legend who continues to inspire so many today is a real honour. We are also excited to give fans in Singapore and the region the rare opportunity to admire Futura's paintings up close, and meet the icon in person."

Futura said, "I'm getting super excited about my upcoming project in Singapore. The exhibition of my new work, entitled *CONSTELLATION*, is not just a reference to the stars in our universe, but also the mystery of my personal history and experiences in such a tropical paradise. I very much look forward to interacting with a new audience and sharing stories both past and present."

During the exhibition, a limited-edition catalogue stashed in custom designed ammo boxes will be available for purchase. In addition, The Culture Story will also be organising a fringe event to complement the exhibition on Saturday, 1 June 2019. "*Futura: 60 minutes with the street art legend*" will feature a debut screening of a new mini-documentary on Futura's career, followed by a dialogue session and after-party at The Projector and Intermission Bar.

Presented by The Culture Story, *CONSTELLATION* will run from 30 May to 9 June 2019 at Gillman Barracks, Lock Road, Block 9 #02-21.

**Supported By**



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INTERMISSION  
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**About The Culture Story**

Based in Singapore, The Culture Story is a private art space and salon founded by father-daughter duo Chong Huai Seng and Ning Chong in 2017. This boutique art gallery was birthed from their passion for collecting contemporary art. Having amassed a collection comprising paintings, sculpture, photography and prints over four decades, the two aim to share their love of art and nurture new collectors with this unique platform.

Some recent exhibitions presented by The Culture Story include *Flesh Matters* which charted the artistic career of Wong Keen; as well as a solo show *Genesis: God's Terrarium* by Jahan Loh.

More information available at [www.theculturestory.co](http://www.theculturestory.co) and [www.futuraconstellation.com](http://www.futuraconstellation.com)

**Follow us on social media:**

Instagram: @the.culture.story

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#FuturaConstellation

Hi-res images can be downloaded at the following link. Please credit all images to The Culture Story: <http://bit.ly/FuturaConstellation>

**For further details, please see:**

1. Annex A – Exhibition & fringe event details
2. Annex B – Biography of Futura
3. Annex C – Biography of Jahan Loh

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## **Annex A – Exhibition Synopsis & Related Programmes**

### ***CONSTELLATION***

***30 May – 9 June 2019 | Gillman Barracks, Blk 9 #02-21***

Presented by The Culture Story, *CONSTELLATION* is the South East Asian debut solo show of Futura, legendary New York contemporary street artist. Featuring 30 specially commissioned works, produced on-site in Singapore during a two-week long residency, the exhibition will showcase Futura's distinctive abstract graffiti style in a series of bold, vibrant compositions marked by a repertoire of forms and iconic motifs he has come to be known for.

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#### ***Exhibition venue***

Gillman Barracks  
Lock Road, Blk 9 #02-21  
Singapore 108937

#### ***Opening hours***

30 May, Thursday: 6.30pm till late  
31 May to 9 June: Daily 12pm – 8pm

#### ***Admission Fees***

Free

#### ***Enquiries***

[www.futuraconstellation.com](http://www.futuraconstellation.com)

[admin@theculturestory.co](mailto:admin@theculturestory.co)

+65 6924 9742

#### ***How to get there***

##### **By MRT**

Nearest MRT Train Station: Labrador Park (Circle Line station CC27)

Walking Directions from Labrador Park Station (~10 mins):

1. Exit Labrador Park station via Exit A and walk towards Alexandra Road.
2. Stay on the opposite side of the road from Alexandra Retail Centre (ARC) Shopping Mall.
3. At the first bus stop, take the sheltered walkway on your right into Gillman Barracks.

##### **BY BUS**

*Nearest Bus Stop:*

Along Alexandra Road

Opposite Alexandra Point (Bus Stop Number 15059)

*Available Buses:*

51, 57, 61, 83, 97, 97e, 100, 166, 175, 408, 963 or 963E

Walking Directions from Bus Stop:

1. Turn left as you alight from the bus and walk along Alexandra Road.
2. Turn right onto Malan Road.

**BY CAR OR TAXI**

Gillman Barracks is accessible via 2 entrances:

1. Malan Road (turn in from Alexandra Road) [Main Entrance]
2. Lock Road (turn in from Depot Road)

Gillman Barracks is near key landmarks such as The Interlace condominium and Alexandra Retail Centre (ARC) Shopping Mall.

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**RELATED PROGRAMMES**

**“FUTURA: 60 minutes with the Street Art Legend”**

Artist talk, documentary screening and after-party

**Date:** 1 June 2019, Saturday  
**Time:** 9.00pm till late  
**Venue:** The Projector, 6001 Beach Road, #05-00, Golden Mile Tower  
**Tickets:** \$13.50 (General Access) | \$25 (Meet and Greet Access)

Ticket purchase and more info: <http://theprojector.sg/>

## **Annex B – Biography of Futura**

A pioneer when graffiti met contemporary art, Futura was known as early as the seventies for his radical approach in the street, introducing abstraction to an entirely letter-based discipline. His work caught attention in the 1980's, and Futura (then Futura 2000) found himself as part of a wider art movement that included the likes of Jean-Michel Basquiat, Keith Haring, Kenny Scharf and Julian Schnabel. Entirely self-taught in what he calls "the subway school", Futura has been compared to Wassily Kandinsky and Paul Klee for his master of color, movement, and line.

Radical then, his methodology can now be viewed over a span of decades as something consummately pure. When compared to the many street artists who have come along since, Futura's work still stands apart for its subtlety, use of white space, and elemental quality. Over the years, Futura has lent his trademark abstract graffiti style to numerous collaborations and projects with major brands and artists, including the likes of global apparel labels such as Supreme, Chanel, Uniqlo, Converse and Nike, to musicians like The Clash and more recently, The Weeknd.

In January 2019, Virgil Abloh c/o Louis Vuitton commissioned Futura for a multifaceted, site-specific installation at the Louis Vuitton Men's Fall-Winter 2019 Fashion Show in Paris. The collaboration included a variety of original hand-painted elements across the show's interior and facade, in tandem with fellow artists Jim Joe and Lewy, as well as a solo mural in the show's foyer. In February 2019 Futura unveiled three site-specific large murals inside the Supreme flagship boutique in New York City.

Futura's work has been exhibited at notable art institutions such as the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) in Los Angeles, MoMA PS1 in New York, the Boymans Museum in Rotterdam and the Gallery Du Jour in Paris as well as at premier exhibitions on graffiti and street art including the 2018 Beyond the Streets show in LA.

## **Annex C – Biography of Jahan Loh**

Born in 1976, Jahan Loh is Singapore's leading Pop artist and one of Asia's most successful street artists. His oeuvre revolves around street art and pop iconography and has exhibited internationally in New York, Melbourne, Beijing, Shanghai, Taipei, Hong Kong and Singapore.

Over the last decade, Jahan had successful collaborations with major lifestyle brands in China, Singapore and Taiwan, such as Vans, CASIO G-SHOCK, Adidas and Puma. In 2016, he completed two site-specific murals for the new Zouk Club at Clarke Quay. Recently, Subcrew presented "*STASH x Jahan Outside-In*" at Yo'hood, Shanghai – China's premier street wear fair, where Jahan collaborated with popular New York street legend STASH for a live showcase.

In 2018, Jahan was appointed by the Singapore Tourism Board as their official Passion Ambassador for their current campaign Passion Made Possible.