

# ART PLURAL GALLERY

PRESS RELEASE  
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EMERGING ARTISTS PROGRAMME

## Siddhartha Tawadey: Sans Souci Emerging Artists Programme at Art Plural Gallery

Singapore, July 2012 - Art Plural Gallery is pleased to launch its **Emerging Artists Programme** with the solo exhibition of Indian artist Siddhartha Tawadey. Titled **Siddhartha Tawadey: Sans Souci**, the exhibition comprises twelve fine art photographs and some installation works. The exhibition will run from **7<sup>th</sup> August to 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2012**.

Art Plural Gallery established the Emerging Artists Programme in early 2012 to promote the work of Young Asian Artists at an early stage of their career. The selected artist is offered his first solo show in the unique space of the gallery, the publication of an exhibition catalogue in his namesake, and the possibility of fringe events in partnership with educational or social institutions. The Emerging Artists Programme is inclined towards artists with a distinctive identity, and who have a unique visual language to put forth critical content in their oeuvre. Art Plural Gallery's commitment to emerging artists is made possible thanks to the support from corporate partners **Gereje Corporate Finance** and **Vandaalen Wealth Managers**, private partner **Ian Dunderdale**, as well as official sparkling partner **Chandon**.

"We see it as our commitment to the regional arts scene to propel the careers of up-and-coming artists," comments Frédéric de Senarclens, CEO of Art Plural Gallery. "Siddhartha Tawadey is a talented artist and we are very proud to share his compelling and evocative works with a larger audience."

Siddhartha Tawadey is the first artist to be exhibited under this programme. Hailing from Calcutta, India and educated in London's Central Saint Martins, Tawadey's multicultural experiences are the primary fodder for his photography. Though rooted in the ordinary, his images evoke the realm of memory, desolation and existentialism. His oeuvre is a multi-faceted contemplation on the relationship between our physical environment and internal psyche, across boundaries of space, time and cultures.

At Art Plural Gallery, Tawadey will be premiering his photography series *Sans Souci*, literally translated from French as 'without worries'. Shot in an abandoned mansion on an undisclosed location, *Sans Souci* creates an ambiguous space in which to explore notions of beauty, memory and history. The series of twelve prints present a compelling portrait of a place in time and a way of life at once fading and being reinvented with each new season. Poetic focus on relics of an indelible past draws from the viewer a sensation or memory, allowing fluid narratives to form in a visual setting of stasis and decay.

Making historical reference to the summer palace of the same name of Prussian King Frederick the Great, who wished to live out his personal and artistic interests there '*sans souci*', Tawadey wanted to create his own palace of artistic interest and illusion through this inspiring residence.

"I have an inclination in my art to delve into history and recover the old, the tarnished, the rusted, the unnoticed and bring it back to life. To claim a ruin is often to exalt it," says Tawadey. "Beauty is often hidden in the most unlikely of spaces and the series wants to uncover it, through the imagery of the mansion as an art object."

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The artist will be revealing the conceptual details of *Sans Souci* at the Artists' Talk, **Space for Conversation**, on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> August at the exhibition space. He will be discussing the "sabi" notion of beauty, and ideas of space, history, memory and transience that underlie the mystery of *Sans Souci*.

## Exhibition Details:

**Siddhartha Tawadey: Sans Souci**  
**7<sup>th</sup> August to 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2012**

Art Plural Gallery  
38 Armenian Street, Singapore 179942  
Monday - Saturday from 11 am to 7 pm

## About Siddhartha Tawadey

Siddhartha Tawadey was born in Calcutta, India in 1975, and studied art and photography at St Martins School of Design and at City University in London. He has gone on to have several solo exhibitions in India and New York, his works also featured in notable international group shows such as the Contemporary Masters Photography Show in London. Tawadey has also made his mark in competitions in India and around the world; in 2010 he won the first prize for portraiture in the International Award for Digital and Photographic Art. He has most recently completed a residency in the School of Visual Art in New York City, where he then had a solo exhibition of the series *Transparent Hallucinations* at Bose Pacia Gallery, NY. The artist lives and works in New Delhi and London.

## About the Emerging Artists Programme

Art Plural Gallery established the Emerging Artists Programme in early 2012 to promote the work of promising artists at an early stage of their career. The selected artist is offered his first solo show in the unique space of the gallery, the publication of an exhibition catalogue in his namesake, and the possibility of fringe events in partnership with educational or social institutions. Art Plural Gallery's commitment to emerging artists is made possible thanks to the support from corporate partners **Gereje Corporate Finance** and **Vandaalen Wealth Managers**, private partner **Ian Dunderdale**, as well as official sparkling partner **Chandon**.

Partners of the Emerging Artists Programme:



**Ian Dunderdale**

Official Sparkling Partner:



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## **About Gereje Corporate Finance**

GEREJE Corporate Finance is a Euro-Asian M&A firm with a “boutique” culture providing both strategic and financial Advisory services. Trusted & solid professionals able to structure and execute tailor-made mandates, drawing upon experience not only as financial advisers but also as executives with prior leadership roles at MNC’s or as entrepreneurs. Our multicultural team combine cross-border Euro-Asian expertise with sector specialization ensuring an in depth understanding of our clients’ requirements, ranging from family offices, HNWI, private equity funds to large multinationals. We listen to our client challenging them positively to optimize our chances to successfully close the transaction. We are governed by a strict policy of confidentiality and independency to provide conflict-free advisory services.

## **About Vandaalen Wealth Managers**

Vandaalen is an asset management company independent of any financial institution with over twenty years of international experience offering exclusive and comprehensive wealth management services to clients globally.

[www.vandaalen.sg](http://www.vandaalen.sg)

## **About Ian Dunderdale**

Based in Singapore for over eight years, Ian Dunderdale is a collector of South East Asian art and a member of the Singapore American Club’s Fine Arts Committee. He is active in the early stage growth of new organizations including responsibility for business development, corporate structure and investment. He works primarily with private equity backed energy companies with responsibility for portfolio development. Ian Dunderdale is a graduate of the University of Sheffield and a member of the University’s Firth Circle of donors.

## **About Chandon**

Founded by the champagne legend Moët & Chandon, **Chandon** has a 250-year legacy of high-quality sparkling winemaking that holds true to the centuries-old méthode champenoise. The brand’s pioneering spirit and passion for local craftsmanship has led itself across New World domains from Australia, USA and Argentina, to Brazil, China and India. Chandon continues to rise as the leading prestige sparkling wine that promises people moments of genuine connection, vibrancy and spontaneity in their everyday life.

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## About Art Plural Gallery

Art Plural Gallery is a unique space dedicated to Modern, Contemporary Art and Design in the heart of Singapore's cultural district. This innovative platform nestled in a four-storey Art Deco heritage building presents solo and group exhibitions, installations, public art projects, conferences, and art publications. Art Plural Gallery had past solo exhibitions of Pablo Reinoso and Turner Prize-nominee Ian Davenport, and had also held group exhibitions titled Avant Premiere and Regard Croisés.

## For more information, please contact:

### **Carole de Senarclens** **Director**

T: +65 6636 8360

M: +65 9002 3638

[carole@artpluralgallery.com](mailto:carole@artpluralgallery.com)

[press@artpluralgallery.com](mailto:press@artpluralgallery.com)

### **Veronica Neo** **Press and Communication**

T: +65 6636 8360

[veronica@artpluralgallery.com](mailto:veronica@artpluralgallery.com)

[press@artpluralgallery.com](mailto:press@artpluralgallery.com)

### **Andrea Quek** **Emerging Artists Programme**

T: +65 6636 8360

[andrea@artpluralgallery.com](mailto:andrea@artpluralgallery.com)

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

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