

WHY I COLLECT

9 Sep - 12 Nov 23


FRI SAT SUN

12pm - 7pm

Andrea Büttner
Manon de Boer
Haegue Yang
Tarek Atoui
Tehching Hsieh
Wolfgang Tillmans


BLANK
CANVAS

 blankcanvas.my

 2 Argus Lane, 10200 George Town, Penang

WHY I COLLECT

Overview

Inspired by Descartes's famous dictum, "I think, therefore I am", Why I Collect draws from the personal collection of the founder of Blank Canvas. It presents art works by six contemporary artists, with each work a representation of a major art form – film, painting, performance, photography, sculpture, sound. For this particular collector, collecting is a pathway to thinking. In this exhibition, he shows us what he collects, which gives us a glimpse of what and how he thinks.

Fittingly, the works shown in Why I Collect challenge the conventions of what these art forms are or should be. A painting that literally demands to be stepped on; a sculpture that is activated by the audience's touch; a film which does not play; photographs which draw their power not only from the image itself but also from the manner in which they can be viewed; literal year-long performances captured in a single instance; a sound work which is as visual as it is auditory, as well as interactive.

These works upend, and extend, our conceptions of the different media of art. But beyond their ostensible manifestations and their questioning of form, these works also offer for contemplation other layers of issues about art, such as the preciousness (or not) of art works, the democratization of art, and the relationship between the art work and the audience. These works, as interrogations of form and issues, were collected in pursuit of understanding. By sharing these works with the public, the exhibition invites each visitor to Blank Canvas to also embark on their own journey of questioning and understanding.

Floor Plan

01 MANON
DE BOER

A Pause (24 Seconds), 2022

02 ANDREW
BÜTTNER

Untitled (Painted Floor), 2022

03 HAEGUE
YANG

Blank Rotating Notes, 2012

04 WOLFGANG
TILLMANS

Plant Life, 2005

05 WOLFGANG
TILLMANS

Schulterblatt (a), 2010

06 TEHCHING
HSHIEH

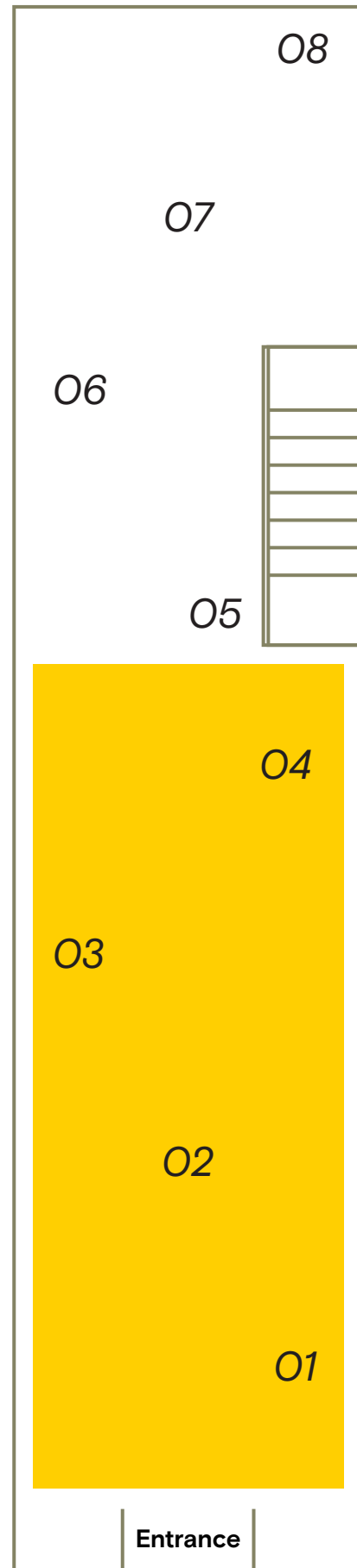
One Year Performance, 1978 – 1999

07 TAREK
ATOUI

The Whisperers / Module 7, 2021

08 WOLFGANG
TILLMANS

Anders (Brighton Arcimboldo), 2005
Ushuaia Digitalis, 2010



01 MANON DE BOER

A Pause (24 Seconds), 2022



16mm film, b/w, metal
150 x 282cm



02 ANDREW BÜTTNER

Untitled (Painted Floor), 2022

Yellow paint
Instruction piece,
dimension variable

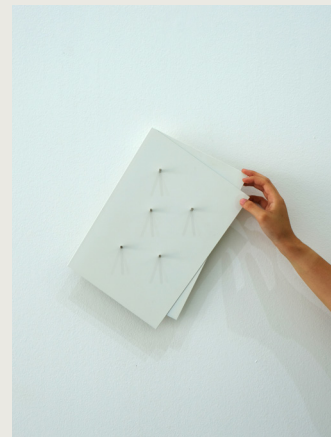


03 HAEGUE YANG

Blank Rotating Notes, 2012

Blank Rotating Note DIN A3 – Asymmetric Fold I
Blank Rotating Note DIN A3 – Asymmetric Fold II
Blank Rotating Note DIN A4 – Asymmetric Fold I
Blank Rotating Note DIN A4 – Asymmetric Fold II
Blank Rotating Note DIN A5 – Asymmetric Fold I
Blank Rotating Note DIN A5 – Asymmetric Fold II

Powder-coated steel sheet,
ball bearings, magnets,
6 parts
DIN A3: 46.6 x 34.6cm
DIN A4: 32.6 x 24.3cm
DIN A5: 23.4 x 17.3cm



04 WOLFGANG TILLMANS

Plant Life, 2005

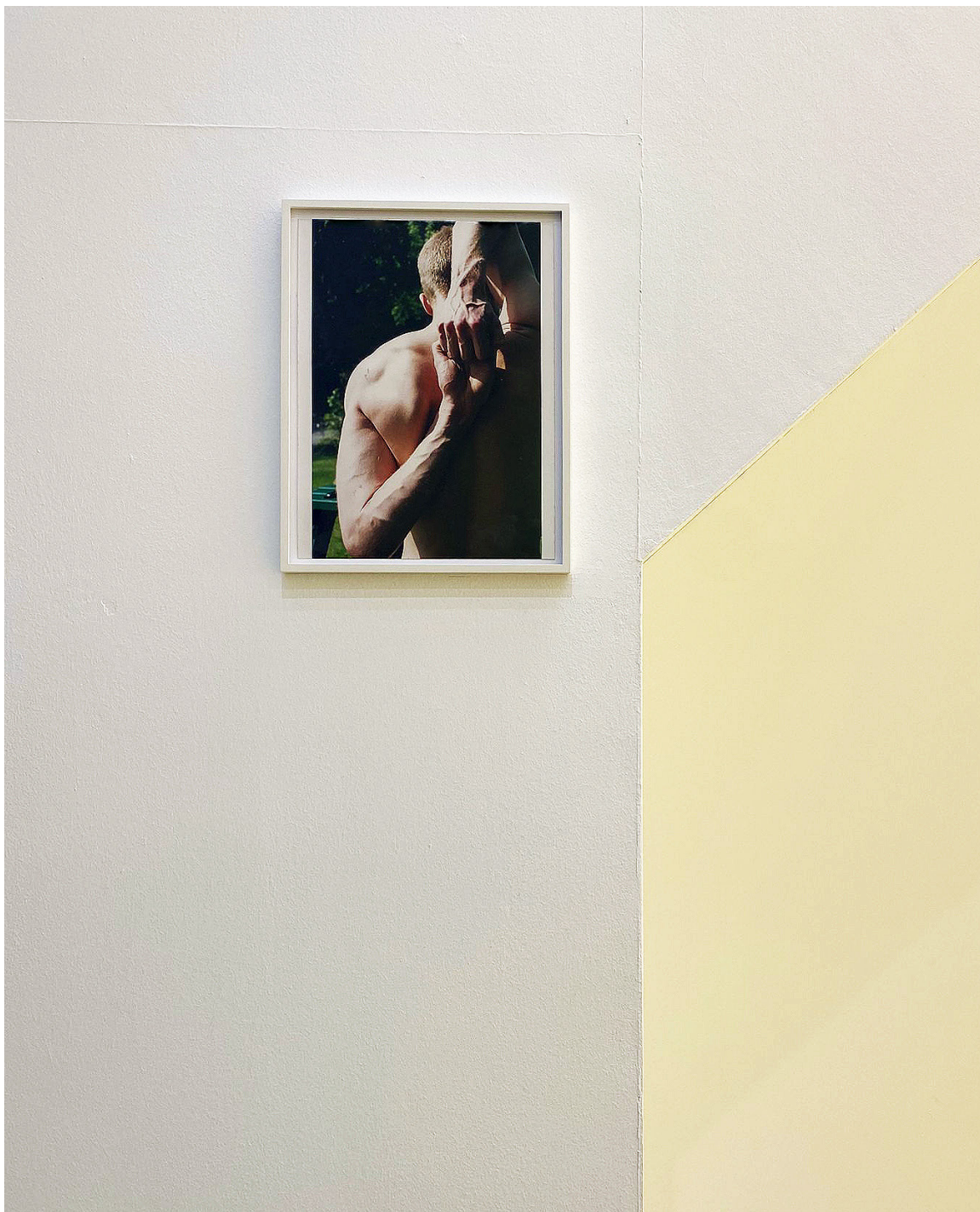
Chromogenic print
34.6 x 44.8cm



05 WOLFGANG TILLMANS

Schulterblatt (a), 2010

Chromogenic print
44.5 x 34.3cm



06 TEHCHING HSHIEH

One Year Performance, 1978 – 1999

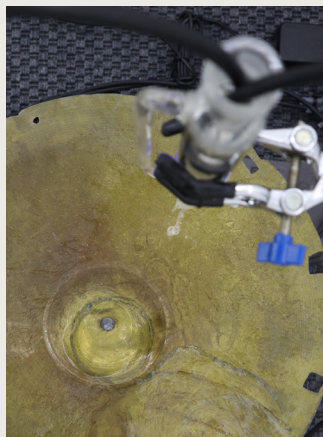
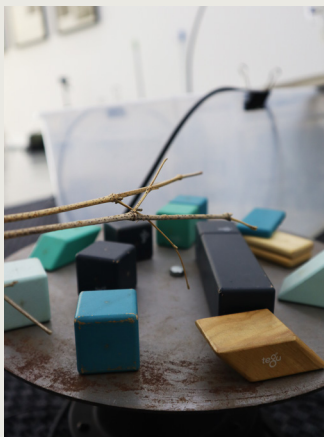
Posters and statements mounted on boards in 6 parts
55.9 x 66cm each



07 TAREK ATOUI

The Whisperers / Module 7, 2021

Drum, portable turntable, vinyls, Hexbug Nano, stethoscope, mixing consoles, metal bucket, headphones, magnetic wood, beaker, hydrophones, brass bowl, transducer, amplifier, dropping funnel, cymbal, plastic box, water, timer, rotating table, micro piezo, bamboo, cables, carpetDrum, portable turntable, vinyls, Hexbug Nano, stethoscope, mixing consoles, metal bucket, headphones, magnetic wood, beaker, hydrophones, brass bowl, transducer, amplifier, dropping funnel, cymbal, plastic box, water, timer, rotating table, micro piezo, bamboo, cables, carpet



Approx. 85 x 300 x 200cm



08 WOLFGANG TILLMANS

Anders (Brighton Arcimboldo), 2005
Ushuaia Digitalis, 2010



Anders (Brighton Arcimboldo), 2005
Chromogenic print
44.5 x 34.3cm

Ushuaia Digitalis, 2010
Chromogenic print
44.5 x 34.3cm



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Manon de Boer

Haegue Yang

Tarek Atoui

Tehching Hsieh

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Wei Kang Beh

Cover Photo Credit: Nathan Ng



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Free Admission
FRI SAT SUN

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