# i light singapore

Open Call 2026

Invitation for Asian artists to submit proposals

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### 1.1 About the Festival

# i Light Singapore

i Light Singapore, previously known as i Light Marina Bay, was first held in 2010 to inject vibrancy to the area and reinforce Marina Bay's position as a sustainable precinct. The Festival is co-organised by the Urban Redevelopment Authority and Pico Art International Pte. Ltd.

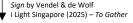
As Asia's leading light festival, the festival aims to be the region's premier platform for discovering, nurturing, and showcasing the next generation of light artists—sparking creativity, collaboration, and cultural exchange. i Light Singapore will return for its 12th edition in 2026.

Festival Period: 5 to 28 June 2026
For more information about the Festival, visit: <a href="https://www.ilightsingapore.gov.sg">www.ilightsingapore.gov.sg</a>

#### **About the Urban Redevelopment Authority**

The Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) is Singapore's land use planning and conservation agency. Our mission is 'to make Singapore a great city to live, work and play'. We strive to create an endearing home and a vibrant city through long-term planning and innovation, in partnership with the community.

URA's multi-faceted role includes being the main government land sales agent. We attract and channel private capital investments to develop sites that support planning, economic and social objectives. We also partner the community to enliven our public spaces to create a car-lite, people-friendly and liveable city for all to enjoy. In shaping a distinctive city, URA also promotes architecture and urban design excellence. Visit <a href="https://www.ura.gov.sg">www.ura.gov.sg</a> for more information.





### 1.2 Curatorial Theme

# **Movement**

#### Curatorial Theme of i Light Singapore 2026: Movement

**Movement** shapes how we experience the world. It is the quiet passage of energy from one form to another, the invisible force that stirs both matter and meaning. This energy moves through nature, riding the ebb and flow of tides, gliding with drifting clouds, and floating in the airy dance of seeds. It pulses within us, in every breath, in the rhythm of bodies, and in the slow turning of thoughts and feelings.

**Movement** has shaped the human story across cultures and histories, guiding how we grow, adapt and connect. It carries people across lands and ideas through generations, transforming individuals, communities and societies.

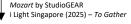
**Movement** calls upon us to observe more closely, to feel more deeply, and to respond to the world around us. It draws us into a realm beyond the visible, where light becomes a guide through the intangible flows. This edition of the festival invites works that embody this spirit of motion and transformation, inspiring us to move with intention toward a more conscious and connected future.

Let there be *movement* in light, in thought, and in the way we live.

#### Keywords

Flow, Energy, Motion, Transformation, Journey

Interested parties are encouraged to present an artistic interpretation of the theme rather than a literal translation.





### 2.1 The Open Call

# **Open Call for Artistic Proposals** - For Asian Artists

The Open Call invites artists and collectives whose country of representation or legal residence is within Asia, including architects, designers of various disciplines (lighting, product, industrial, etc.), and multimedia specialists, to submit proposals for light art installations for i Light Singapore 2026.

Selected proposals will be realised and presented at i Light Singapore 2026.

### **Submission of Proposals**

Complete the Application Form on or before 11 December 2025: https://forms.gle/qneCrSK5KZvgTRVA6

Submission requirements are detailed in the following pages.

For more information on the Open Call and the Festival, please contact:

Ms. Kexin Sun Mr. Ben Yap ben.yap@pico.com

kexin.sun@pico.com

The Guardians by Matthew Aberline & The Beautiful and Useful Studio i Light Singapore (2025) - To Gather



### 2.2 The Open Call

# **Submission Requirements**

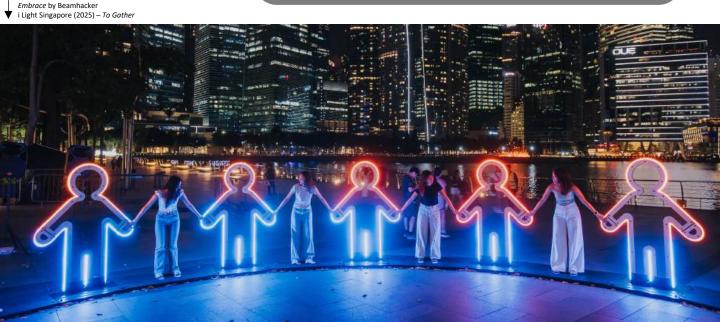
Complete the Application Form:

In the form, you will need to provide the following information:

- 1. Brief description of artwork concept and design (max 350 words).
- One artwork proposal board containing graphics, sketches, renderings, drawings, images and/or photographs of the proposed design in PDF format – Download the template <u>here</u>.
- 3. Proposed location for artwork.
- 4. Overall project timeline and deliverables.
- 5. Detailed budget proposal in Singapore dollars (SGD) Download the budget template here.
- 6. Technical drawings of your proposal in PDF format. It would be helpful to include a layout plan, elevation plan, sectional view(s), installation/mounting method, power requirements and a schedule of materials.
- 7. Profile(s), CV(s) or portfolio(s) of participating artist(s).
- 8. Any supporting documents as deemed fit such as, but not limited to, operational guidelines, AV/lighting specifications, shipping information (crate dimension, weight, location), etc. Videos, if any, should be uploaded onto hosting sites (e.g. YouTube, Vimeo) and the links shall be shared via the Application Form.

### **Submission Process**

- Complete the Application Form (link) on or before 11 December 2025, 23:59h Singapore time (UTC +8:00). Entries submitted after this date will not be accepted.
- Only digital submissions will be accepted for this Open Call.
- If you are submitting more than 1 entry for the Open Call, please put in a separate online application for each entry.



### 2.3 The Open Call

[1] This may include, but is not limited to how the rtwork:

- Delivers narratives/messages related to the concept of sustainable living
- Features sustainable aspects through design and production (e.g. choice of materials and how they were sourced, use of energy-saving lights and other technologies, steps taken to minimise waste generated upon artwork de-installation)

payment(s) of a specified nature (e.g., Royalty, Interest, Technical Service Fee etc.) to a non-resident company or individual, it is required to withhold a percentage of that payment and pay the amount withheld to IRAS. The amount withheld is called the Withholding Tax. For more information on filing of withholding taxes and forms, please refer to Section 14 of the FAQs in Annex E, or visit https://bit.lu/30H0ilit

### **Evaluation Criteria**

Submissions will be evaluated and selected by the Festival Organising Committee and an interdisciplinary Curatorial Advisory Panel of professional experts from diverse backgrounds including art, design, architecture and education. Proposals will be assessed according to the following criteria (in no particular order):

- 1. Response to the theme Movement
- 2. Reflection on Sustainability in the artwork [1]
- 3. Extent of public interactivity and/or community involvement
- 4. Creative use of light, technology and materials
- 5. Impact and originality
- 6. Appeal to the masses with a sense of delight through illumination
- 7. Technical feasibility of the proposed site
  - · Potential locations can be found in Annex C.
  - Please note that the Festival Organising Committee reserves the right to propose alternative locations for selected installations at a later stage, where deemed necessary.
- Do note that the provided budget should include artist fees, production costs and Withholding Tax (only for overseas artists). [2] More details are in Annex E, FAQs.
- 9. Production method and timeline
  - · Design and production must take into consideration:
    - 1. Ease of maintenance and servicing up to 4 weeks
    - 2. Wear and tear under tropical weather conditions
    - 3. Protection against the risk of damage due to public mishandling
    - 4. Feasibility of touring the artwork to other locations within or outside of Singapore

#### Things to take note of

- The footprint of the proposed artwork must be at least 4m x 4m.
- Selected artists will be required to sign an agreement with the Festival Organising Committee for budget disbursement and the timely delivery of the light art installations. During the selection process, only shortlisted artists will be notified via email.
- The Curatorial Advisory Panel and the Festival Organising Committee also reserve the right to propose modifications to the artwork to comply with local regulations and requirements.

Piano Walk by Amigo & Amigo

i Light Singapore (2025) - To Gather

### 2.4 Artwork Budget

# **Costs covered by the Artwork Budget**

The budget available to selected artist(s) to produce and deliver the light art installations is capped at \$18,000 each, which will cover the following:

- 1. Artist and design fee
- 2. Artwork production costs, including:
  - a. Supply of all materials and support structures required.
  - Supply and installation of all necessary electrical cabling, wiring, testing, and maintenance for the light art installation compliant with Singapore safety and health regulations.
  - c. Supply of light fittings compliant with Singapore regulations.
  - d. Assistance in light programming, if required.
  - e. Supply of spare parts sufficient for at least one month of maintenance and operation.
  - f. Weatherproofing. Do consider Singapore's tropical climate and potentially strong winds in your design and use of materials.
  - g. Relevant certification to ensure installation is fit for outdoor display for up to one month, compliant with the regulations in Singapore. These may include, but are not limited to, electrical certification, structural certification, Professional Engineer's endorsement (for artworks of height 3m and above) and health and safety work methods (risk assessment and method statement).

#### 3. Shipping

- a. Packing and crating of artwork that is suitable for international shipping and storage.
- b. Warehouse space for off-site preparation and pre-assembly if required.
- Additional logistics cost (e.g. air freight, local logistics), if required. Round trip, door-to-door sea freight will be covered by the Festival (see next page).

#### 4. Manpower

- a. Manpower for off-site preparation, on-site assembly, and dismantling.
- b. Manpower for installation of lights in the artwork.
- c. Briefing of the Event Management Company to maintain the light art installation and equipment (such works should include programming issues and structural issues that are specific to the installation and its equipment) during the festival period.
- Applicable for overseas artists only: Additional artist airfare and accommodation outside of what is provided by the Festival (see next page).
- 6. Any other special maintenance and operation cost.

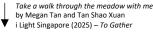


### 2.4 Artwork Budget

# **Costs covered by the Festival**

- 1. Venue costs, liaison and site management
- 2. Local regulatory approvals
- 3. Transportation of artwork
  - For artworks not in Singapore Return sea freight from/to a single location including a single transfer to/from the installation site in Singapore.
  - For artworks in Singapore Round trip door-to-door transportation for local artworks/materials from/to a single location in Singapore to/from the installation site in Singapore.
  - Transportation of the artwork via air or sea freight will be at the discretion of the Festival Organising Committee.
- 4. Insurance coverage:
  - · Transit insurance for artwork and materials.
  - · Artwork insurance during the festival period.
  - · Public liability insurance for the festival.
- General maintenance of the artwork during the festival period (e.g. daily switch on/off of lights). This does not include the upkeep of the artwork such as parts replacement & reprogramming, etc.
- 6. General security during set up, tear down, and during the festival period.
- Airfare and accommodation for 1 pax only, up to a maximum of 5 days, for the purpose of installing the
  artwork and attending the festival opening. The final amount will be determined by the Festival
  Organising Committee.
  - Any additional trips required by the artist and all other associated travel expenses should be considered as part of the overall production budget to be borne by the artist (see previous page).





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### 2.5 Other Information

### **Additional Information**

#### Artwork Specifications

The Festival will provide a power supply of up to 3 x 16 Amp with CEEform connectors. Artists are to ensure that all electrical components are placed in waterproof housings and all connectors are IP67-rated. Artists are also required to cater for 10-20% more spare parts for maintenance purposes. For inflatable artworks, it is recommended to utilise recycled polyester fabric (rPET) to ensure durability of the artwork for the duration of the festival. Any additional supplies required should be included as part of the Artwork Budget.

#### **Additional Artwork Budget**

If the artwork requires a production budget beyond that provided by the Festival, the artist is required to update the Festival Organising Committee on the matter and is welcome to seek, propose, and secure accompanying sponsors. The artist must then highlight the contractual agreement made between the artist and the sponsor in the budget estimate template in the Application Form.

The Festival Organising Committee will take into consideration the profile of the sponsor in alignment with i Light Singapore's objectives and reserves the right to factor this into the final selection process.

#### Artwork Ownership

Ownership of the artwork shall be vested with the respective artists. However, the conditions of the selected artists require that all images of the artwork to be permitted for use by the Festival Organising Committee and its appointed agents. Images and videography of the installations shall indicate that the installations are commissioned for i Light Singapore 2026.

### **Marketing and Publicity**

Selected artists and their respective installations will be included in a comprehensive marketing and publicity campaign which includes:

- · Profiling artists and their installations on the official festival website.
- · Publicity through local print, radio and digital media for the festival.
- Local and international PR campaigns for the festival.
- Artists and sponsors will be acknowledged on the installation's signage during the festival period.

### Artists' Obligations

All installations selected through the Open Call shall form part of i Light Singapore 2026 and selected artists may be invited to participate in other official functions and programmes of the Festival. These may include the Festival's opening ceremony, media, and/or press activities, talks, as well as workshops. As such, all artists are strongly encouraged to keep the period of end-May to June 2026 reserved for the Festival's functions and activities. Artists who reside in Singapore should be physically present at least from 1 – 8 June 2026, in anticipation of any setup and rectification works required. As part of the Festival's sustainability efforts, artists shall cooperate with the Festival Organising Committee to provide the information required to determine the carbon footprint of their artwork.

### **Helpful Tips**

- Please note that although this is a creative challenge, technical and budget feasibility are important factors to keep in mind.
- 2. The artwork needs to incorporate sustainability as a basic principle. [3]
- 3. The artwork should present an artistic interpretation of the theme rather than a literal translation.

[3] Please ensure no new plastics are used in the creation of the artworks, however, it is acceptable for an artwork to be created with new plastics if it has been showcased in other festival(s) or event(s) before

# **Annexes**

<u>Annex A – Festival Artwork Schedule</u>

Annex B – Map of i Light Singapore

<u>Annex C – Potential Locations</u>

<u>Annex D – Key Milestones and Submission Checklist</u>

<u>Annex E – Frequently Asked Questions</u>

# i light singapore

### Annex A

# **Festival Artwork Schedule**

	Item	Period
1	Open call period	13 November – 11 December 2025
2	Open call submission deadline	11 December 2025, 23:59h Singapore time (UTC +8:00)
3	Finalisation of Artist line-up	January 2025 – February 2026
4	Signing of Artist contracts	February 2026
5	Production – confirmation of artwork requirements, details and siting	February - March 2026
6	Final submission of technical drawings and installation methodology	March 2026
7	Finalise shipping arrangements	End March 2026
8	Artwork installation on site	Mid May 2026 onwards
9	Festival Media Preview	Week of 1 June 2026 (EXACT DATE TBC)
10	Festival Opening Ceremony	5 June 2026
11	i Light Singapore 2026 – Festival Period	5 – 28 June 2026
12	Artwork de-installation on site	End June 2026 onwards

 $st\!$  All dates are subject to change at the discretion of i Light Singapore.

### Annex B

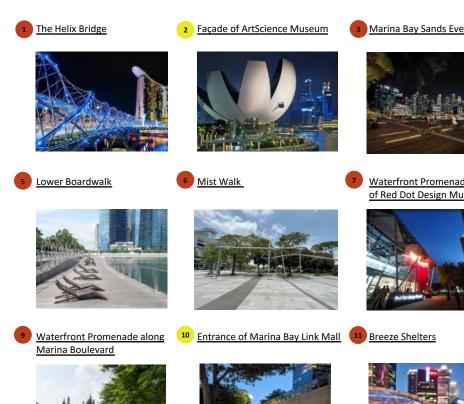
# Map of i Light Singapore's Main Festival Ground

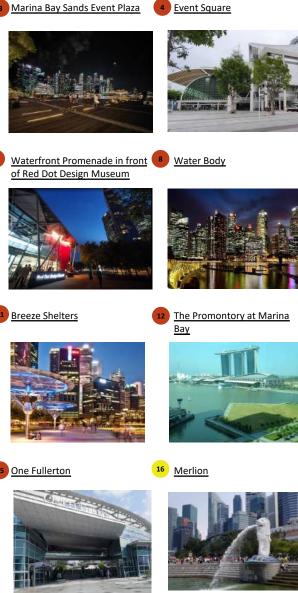


- Façade of Art Science Museum Marina Bay Sands Event The Helix Bridge **Event Square** Plaza Lower Boardwalk Mist Walk Waterfront Promenade in front Water Body of Red Dot Design Museum Waterfront Promenade 10 Entrance of Marina Bay Link Mall Breeze Shelters The Promontory at Marina Bay along Marina Boulevard Lawn beside NTUC One Fullerton 16 Merlion Clifford Square <u>Building</u>
  - Jubilee Bridge Cavenagh Bridge

### **Annex C**

# **Images of Potential Locations**









Clifford Square









Lawn beside NTUC









### **Annex D**

# **Key Milestones and Submission Checklist**

### 1. Key Milestones After Submission

Please refer to the following schedule outlining the key milestones after submission. The Festival Organising Committee sincerely appreciates your time, effort, and commitment in preparing your proposal. Please note that only shortlisted artists will be notified. If you have any questions or require clarification regarding the submission process, please contact us.

Milestone	Indicative Timeline	Description
Open Call Launch	13 November 2025	Official release of submission documents and guidelines to invited artists and studios.
Submission Deadline	11 December 2025	All completed submission templates, visuals, and supporting materials to be received by the Festival Team.
Evaluation & Shortlisting	December 2025 – January 2026	Proposals reviewed by the Curatorial Advisory Panel and Festival Organising Committee. Shortlisted proposals may be contacted for clarification or refinement.
Online Meeting with Shortlisted Artists	January – February 2026	Virtual discussions with the first- round shortlisted artists to review feasibility, technical requirements, production approach, and shipping plans.
Selection Announcement	February 2026	Successful proposals will be officially notified and invited to proceed to contracting and detailed design phase.

### 2. Submission Checklist

Please ensure that all required information and materials are complete and included:

Item		Remarks
	ngapore 2026 Open Call* Form: https://forms.gle/qneCrSK5KZvgTRVA6]	Only submissions successfully completed through this Google Form will be accepted as final. Please ensure all required information is provided and the necessary files are uploaded before submission.
*Required files to complete the Google Form:		
1	Filled Submission PPTX file & PDF file iLSG26_Open Call Submission_[Artist Name]_[Artwork Title].pptx & its converted PDF file	
2	Filled Budget Table: iLSG26_Budget_[Artist Name]_[Artwork Title].xlsx	

# **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

#### 1. Can I submit an existing light art installation?

Yes, you can submit an existing work, provided it responds well to the theme for i Light Singapore 2026 and fulfils most, if not all, of the evaluation criteria.

#### 2. What should be included in the budget?

The proposed budget should include all production and associated costs for the construction of the light art installation, e.g. parts and components, equipment, shipping, artist's airfare and accommodation charges, etc. Please refer to the 2.4 Artwork Budget for details.

#### 3. Can I propose other locations beyond those highlighted?

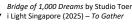
The <u>Potential Locations in Annex C</u> are locations along the i Light Singapore 2026 route. However, if the artists feel that there are other locations that are worth exploring, kindly propose these other locations and state how the artwork relates to them. Please note that the artworks should be located in public spaces for everyone's enjoyment. Location approval will be subject to availability and endorsement by the Curatorial Advisory Panel and the Festival Organising Committee.

4. If I am selected as a Open Call artist and would like to be in Singapore for a site inspection before I start working on my light art installation, can I claim my travel expenses as separate items?

No, all additional trips required by the artist and all other associated travel expenses should be considered as part of the Artwork Budget to be borne by the artist.

5. If my light art installation is selected, am I required to attend all promotional events for the festival?

No, it is not compulsory for the artists to attend all events. However, artists are strongly encouraged to attend the Festival's Media Preview and Official Opening Ceremony as both occasions are good publicity opportunities for the artists and their light art installations.





# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

6. If I am selected as a Open Call artist and need more information to ensure that my light art installation is properly installed for the Festival, how can I go about this?

You may wish to enquire with the Festival Organising Committee (see page 5) who will address all questions to the best of their ability and knowledge in order to support the artists in the realisation of the artworks.

# 7. If I am shipping my light art installation from another country, do I need to include the costs for packing of light art installation or materials as part of the budget submission?

Yes, the proposed Artwork Budget should include the cost for packing the light art installation, preventing the artworks from damage while in transit or when it arrives in Singapore. If any specialised packing is required for the return of the light art installation, the cost should also be catered for in the proposed Artwork Budget. The packing materials used for the Country of Origin-Singapore shipment should be reused, where possible, on its return trip. Therefore, the Festival Organising Committee will need the artist to advise on the artwork packing methodology to ensure that the light art installation can be returned safely without damage.

Should the artist intend to dispose of or sell the light art installation in Singapore, a change in import permit fee will apply and be borne by the artist. Please note that all light art installations not disposed of or sold in Singapore will be shipped into Singapore via a temporary import permit.

# 8. Do I need to maintain my work throughout the duration of the event, or can someone help to manage the small issues on site?

The Festival Organising Committee can undertake basic maintenance of the artwork. However, should a more serious malfunction occur, such as mechanical failure, the artist will be consulted and may be required to be on-site for the maintenance and repair of the light art installation. If any artwork parts need replacement, the artist will be consulted prior to any maintenance work and the fee will be borne by the artist.

#### 9. Can I be present during the de-installation of the artwork?

Yes, artists are welcome to be present during dismantling. For overseas artists, the associated travel costs should not be factored into the Artwork Budget and instead should be borne by the artist. There is a tight schedule for de-installation which will be highlighted by the Festival Organising Committee to all selected artists.

# **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

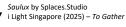
### 10. Will my light art installation be covered by insurance for damages?

The Festival will provide overall insurance coverage for the entire festival and all artworks. This will cover public liability and other event-related matters. More information can be provided upon request or if your light art installation is selected. Artists shall pay for any additional insurance premium, that has to be accounted for in the Artwork Budget, should they feel that the Festival's insurance value is insufficient to cover the value of the artwork.

### 11. What is the payment schedule for all confirmed artists?

Payment Phase	% of total fee	Artists	
First	40	All Artists  Upon signing of agreement within 60 days of receipt of invoice and submission of technical drawings.*	
Second	30	Local Artists Upon installation of artwork at exhibition site and/ or within 60 days of receipt of invoice, whichever is later.	Overseas Artists Upon collection of artwork from the Festival Organising Committee's appointed logistics company together with proper documentation and/or within 60 days of receipt of invoice, whichever is later.*
Final	30	Local Artists Upon complete dismantling and removal of artwork from exhibition site and/or within 60 days of receipt of invoice, whichever is later.	Overseas Artists Upon end of the Festival, and receipt of confirmation letter on payment of Withholding Tax from IRAS and/or within 60 days on receipt of invoice, whichever is later.*

<sup>\*</sup>For overseas artists, withholding tax will be deducted on each payment to avoid potential late fees fined by IRAS. For more information, please visit <a href="https://bit.ly/3QHQjUc">https://bit.ly/3QHQjUc</a>.





# **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

#### 12. Can I choose my preferred mode of payment?

Yes, confirmed artists may indicate their preferred mode of payment, subject to the agreement of the Festival Organising Committee. Do note that all payments will be made in Singapore dollars (SGD).

#### 13. Is the Withholding Tax applicable to all artists?

No, Withholding Tax is only applicable to overseas artists. Please see next point (14) for details.

14. For international and regional artists, is the Goods and Services Tax (9%, subject to changes depending on prevailing rates) applicable for the light art installation and Withholding Tax for the flights, accommodation and artist fees?

**Goods and Service Tax (GST)** is only applicable to **local artists** and is chargeable according to prevailing rates (currently 9%) by Singapore GST-registered businesses on all sales of goods and services made in Singapore. For example:

Assuming a local artist is a GST-registered company:		
Total cost of light art installation (artist fee + production)	SGD 18,000	
GST (9% of SGD 18,000)	SGD 1,620	
Final Invoice Claim (GST Inclusive)	SGD 19,620	

Withholding Tax (WHT) is only applicable to overseas artists. WHT of 15% - 24% of gross income will be imposed on services performed in Singapore for both individuals and companies. Gross income refers to both monetary and non-monetary payments, which include, but are not limited to, artist fees and allowances e.g., per diem, benefits-in-kind. For example:

**Disclaimer:** Please note that the Singapore tax law may be subject to changes, please refer to the IRAS website for more details: https://bit.ly/3QHQjUc

For Individuals		
Items	Cost (SGD)	Notes
Artist Fee	4,000	Net Income
Artwork Production Fee	3,000	Net Income
Logistics & Transportation	1,000	Net Income
Installation/De- installation of Artwork	1,000	Net Income
Hospitality	1,000	Benefits
Total Fees/ Gross Income	10,000	
Withholding Tax *Either or, whichever is lower	1,500*	15% of gross income
	2,160*	24% of net income
Final Amount Received	8,500	Based on 15% of gross income as the amount is lower

For Companies		
Items	Cost (SGD)	Notes
Artist Fee	4,000	Net Income
Artwork Production Fee	3,000	Net Income
Logistics & Transportation	1,000	Net Income
Installation/De- installation of Artwork	1,000	Net Income
Hospitality	1,000	Benefits
Total Fees/ Gross Income	10,000	
Withholding Tax	1,530	17% of net income
Final Amount Received	8,470	

Kindly note that some countries might be able to get an exemption from WHT. Please refer to the following links to assess your eligibility:

- Non-resident individuals: https://www.iras.gov.sg/docs/default-source/individual-income-tax/non-residents/dta-calculator-for-nrp.xls?sfvrsn=f32d2058 9
- $\bullet \textbf{Non-resident companies:} \ \underline{\textbf{https://mytax.iras.gov.sg/ESVWeb/default.aspx?target=S45TaxTreatyCalculator} \\$

Artists are advised to factor this amount within their overall artwork fee, in the event that the request for WHT exemption is rejected by tax authorities. The Festival reserves the right to withhold the required WHT amount until required documentations are furnished. The withheld amount would be released/refunded to artists when the application is successful, and amount has been refunded by the tax authorities.

End ————