

CHRISTIAN TAN HELD IN THE MIDDLE

01.10—11.10.26
OBJECTIFS CENTRE
CURATED BY JOHN TUNG

CO-ORGANISED BY

ART:DIS
ARTS & DISABILITY
SINGAPORE

UOL
华业集团



THE ARTIST



CHRISTIAN TAN

Christian Tan (b. 1994) is an autistic artist and printmaker with ART:DIS. An observant and expressive artist, his practice draws inspiration from the everyday. With a discerning eye for line and form, he transforms ordinary objects into images that are at once direct and resonant. He demonstrates fluency across both wet and dry techniques, employing reduction processes that lend his works a layered depth. His art resists ornamentation, opting instead for clarity and strength of imagery that speaks to personal experience and the textures of daily life.



Christian Tan has cultivated a distinctive visual language marked by bold outlines, vivid colours and a sensitivity to the objects and figures that shape everyday life. Working primarily through linocut printmaking, a medium he first encountered in 2019, he draws the things around him: cleaning tools, workstations, chairs and the pop stars whose music and image animate his world. Often placed at the centre of his compositions, these subjects are held with care and attention — revealing how ordinary objects and familiar icons carry deeper associations of labour, rest, aspiration and joy.

Christian's first solo exhibition forms part of his prize following his win in the second edition of the UOL X ART:DIS Art Prize in 2025, which included a \$20,000 grand prize. It celebrates his achievement, alongside UOL's continued commitment to creating platforms where artists with disabilities are recognised across all stages of their journey. The show brings together a selection of



Christian's works across three areas of his practice, marking a new chapter for him as he continues to deepen a medium and visual language that have become distinctly his own.

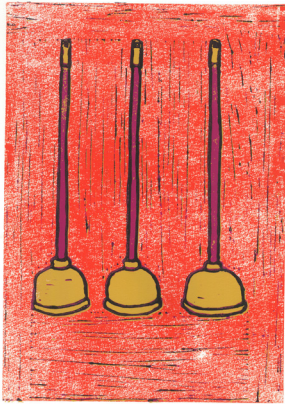
Held in the Middle invites audiences to consider the patterns of daily life that often go unnoticed. His images of cleaning supplies — spray bottles, mops, pails, plungers, brooms and scrubbers — reflect a close relationship with the tools of his profession, transforming everyday implements of work into images of colour, rhythm and quiet dignity. His chair and seating works turn towards rest, presenting stools, rocking chairs, office chairs and urban chairs as objects of pause and support. His portraits of pop stars extend into the realm of entertainment and leisure, where music, performance and fandom become part of the visual language through which Christian maps his interests and affections.

John Z.W. Tung

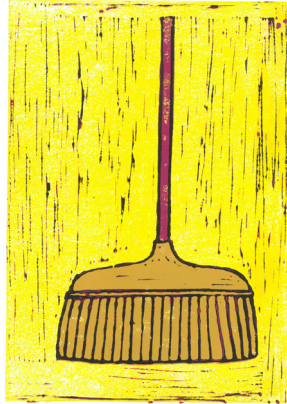


Cleaning Station (Pink), 2026
Lino print on paper, 42 x 30 cm

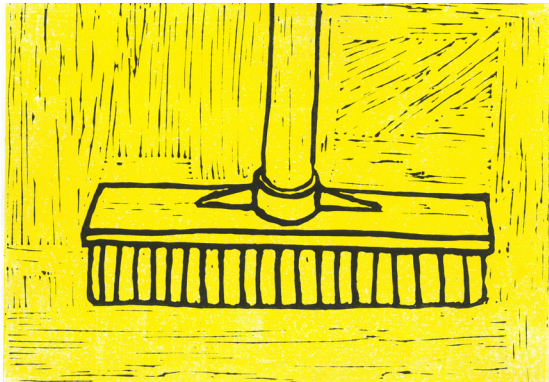
Winning Work UOL × ART:DIS Art Prize 2025



Red Plumbing Set, 2025
Lino print on paper, 29.7 × 42 cm



Yellow Broom, 2025
Lino print on paper, 29.7 × 42 cm



Floor Scrubbing, 2025
Lino print on paper, 42 × 29.7 cm

In this series, Christian transforms everyday cleaning tools into emblematic forms through layered reduction printing. Rendered in bold palettes, these familiar objects take on a quiet dignity, affirming the value of ordinary gestures while inviting reflection on the overlooked textures of daily life.



Urban Chair, 2024
Lino print on paper, 42 x 30 cm



A Rocking Chair, 2024
Lino print on paper, 42 x 30 cm



Bench of Seats, 2026
Linocut, vinyl print installation
HarbourFront MRT Station, Singapore

Presented at Singapore Art Week 2026, Christian Tan's first public artwork, *Bench of Seats*, extends his longstanding interest in depicting mundane objects of everyday life. Drawing from memories of resting on MRT benches after long working days, he turns his attention to the familiar station bench, exploring its form from multiple perspectives and in bold primary colours.



Roxette — Joyride, 2026
Lino print on paper, 28 x 42 cm



Jon Bon Jovi - Blaze of Glory '94, 2020
Lino print on paper, 42 x 30 cm



Cyndi Lauper - Girls Just Want to Have Fun, 2026
Lino print on paper, 50 x 35 cm