



## THE SPACES BETWEEN US

RUNTIME: 19 MINUTES 31 SECONDS

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH, TAMIL, BENGALI, HOKKIEN

GENRE: DOCUMENTARY

DIRECTOR: ADAR NG | DAVE LIM

STILLS & SUPPORTING CONTENT: <https://bit.ly/3izIHXP>

CONTACT: [davelimphotography@gmail.com](mailto:davelimphotography@gmail.com)

# SCREENING LINKS

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/wUjRFPQLtg>

Full Film: <https://youtu.be/0BdTPjQ-jPc>



## LOGLINE

Investigating the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on contemporary Singapore society, the film excavates the delicate balance between the interior lives of citizens and the society.

## SYNOPSIS

In a video survey of a multitude of existences in Singapore, *The Spaces Between Us* stumbles into an attempt of society that reckons with the effect of the pandemic. In the polarising effect of the pandemic, the disruption of everyday routines has differing outcomes for the privileged and the marginalised. For a nation whose pandemic population consists of 90% of foreign workers; *The Spaces Between Us* uncovers two distinct populations of Singaporeans and otherwise that are working apart, but in tandem to understand Singapore in the new normal.

# DIRECTORS' BIOGRAPHY



Adar Ng and Dave Lim are an artist duo that we have worked together since 2018 through multiple artistic, curatorial and research projects. Their notable projects include *The Spaces Between Us* (2021) and *ON/OFF/SCREEN 2021*, a moving image exhibition. Collectively, their work has travelled internationally in film festivals and exhibitions such as Cannes Film Festival, Singapore International Film Festival and Athens Digital Arts Festival. Their artistic concerns circle around the quotidian visual poetry of life, the need to bear witness and an insatiable questioning of social paradigms.

# DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

The Spaces Between Us is an accidental film.

It is an overly engineered documentary. It attempts to slice up society into neat piles of bureaucratic understanding; ranging from age, ethnicity, religion, socio-economic standings. In this clumsiness of profiling and segmentation, the vicariousness of real life embellishes itself with the smallest of actions, actions of hope, actions of resistance and actions of longing. These expressions serendipitously mirror the attempt at controlling the virus in Singapore, as bureaucrats move around to define the war on COVID.

We are now, after many years of dependence on migrant labour, having to label workers down with COVID-19 as 'non-community cases'. As of 01 November 2020, at least 50000 of 58019 cases has been a foreign worker in a dormitory.

For a good month or two, all news of COVID-19 felt unreal, as we hear of ravaging cases in dormitories just a mere kilometer or two away from the government housing units that we reside in. Ironically, these units are built by the very people whose lives and bodies are ravaged by the virus.

But, we've been brought up to know that Singapore is a small nation. How much plurality could possibly co-exist?

The Spaces Between Us attempts to reconcile this physical disjoint; the disjoint being the multitude of existences, livelihoods and being. It is to that degree that the film offers a mere glimpse of an even smaller section of time in Singapore's history.

Hopefully in embellishing these different existences, the audience reckons with the discomfort as Singapore surges onto dizzying new economic heights, dreams, aspirations amidst a ravaging pandemic locally and globally.



# CREDITS

## Commissioning Body

National Museum of Singapore

## Contributors

Alexandra Hospital  
Association of Women for Action and Research  
AVS Printing  
Bubbly Petz  
Central Sikh Gurdwara Board  
Chua Family  
Church of The Immaculate Heart of Mary  
Citiponics  
Clementi Primary School  
dnata Singapore  
Formwerkz Architects  
HOPE Technik  
Land Transport Authority  
Lee & Yeo Family  
Lim Family  
Majlis Ugama  
Islam Singapura  
Masjid An-Nur  
Ministry of Defence  
Ministry of Education  
Ministry of Manpower  
Mr & Mrs Goh  
Mr Tan Chuan Jin  
National Environment Agency  
National Museum Singapore  
National Parks Board  
National Youth Council  
NUHS Centre for Innovation in Healthcare

O&G The Women's Medical Specialist: Dr Tan Thiam Chye  
Outward Bound Singapore  
Port of Singapore Authority  
PUB, Singapore's National Water  
Sembcorp Industries  
Solar Energy Research Institute of Singapore  
Tower Transit  
Westlite Toh Guan Agency

## Special Thanks

|                      |                                       |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Alexander Lee        | Jeth Heng                             |
| Amrakajona Zakir     | Kazau & Mauricio Family               |
| Blade Fencing        | Malcolm Chen                          |
| Brian Teo            | Mustafa Centre                        |
| Bugs Bunny Haircut   | Nor                                   |
| Callysta Thony       | NovaHealth TCM                        |
| Chow & Lin           | PCF Sparkletots (The Pinnacle@Duxton) |
| Delane Lim           | Pregnancy Singapore                   |
| FLUTES               | Singapore Mass Rapid Transit          |
| Food For Thought     | Singapore Symphonic Orchestra         |
| Gladys Ng            | Teo Family                            |
| Grace Constance Song | Zhao Wei Films                        |
| ISCOS ReGen Fund     |                                       |



## PREMIERE STATUS

WORLD PREMIERE: NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SINGAPORE, FEB 2021

## INFOSHEET

TITLE: THE SPACES BETWEEN US

DIRECTOR: ADAR NG | DAVE LIM

COUNTRY: SINGAPORE

FORMAT: 2.39:1

GENRE: DOCUMENTARY