

## *Long Distance*

### Alvin Ong

**Exhibition dates:** 14 May – 6 June 2020  
**Location:** Yavuz Gallery Sydney  
86 George Street, Redfern, NSW 2016 Australia

Yavuz Gallery Sydney is proud to present *Long Distance*, Singaporean-artist **Alvin Ong**'s debut exhibition in Australia. Steeped in Western and Asian painting traditions, as well as the narrative structures of painting within the art history canon, his figurative paintings playfully combine a diverse range of visual vocabularies. He repositions the local within a global context, considering various forms of connection, attachment and longing in relation to physical and emotional distance, situated within a broader understanding of "belonging".

Based between London and Singapore, Ong's latest body of work explores the accentuated emotional longings that accompany prolonged periods of isolation, distance and displacement. Released from the limitations of time and space within the physical world, his figures merge and collide across different perspectival planes in fragmented yet intimate scenes, emphasising dislocation over location. Planes of pattern and colour intersect the spaces and their respective inhabitants, never cleaving them from the site nor each other, but rather, providing them opportunity to dwell in a multitude of locations simultaneously.

#### ABOUT THE ARTIST

Alvin Ong (b. 1988, Singapore) is a graduate from the Ruskin School of Art, University of Oxford (UK), and the Royal College of Art (UK). At the age of 16, he became the youngest winner of the UOB Painting of the Year Award, Singapore (2005). He was awarded a residency in 2017 with the Royal Drawing School, as well as the 2018 Chadwell Award. His works have been exhibited at the Singapore Art Museum (2007, 2012, 2013), Asian Civilizations Museum, Singapore (2010), Peranakan Museum, Singapore (2015), Northampton Contemporary, UK (2017), National Portrait Gallery, UK (2018), and Royal Academy of Arts, UK (2019). His works are collected by the ILHAM Gallery, Malaysia, the Ingram Collection, UK, and the Victoria & Albert Museum (Print Collection), London, UK.

For inquiries and more information, please contact Sarah Hibbs at [sarah@yavuzgallery.com](mailto:sarah@yavuzgallery.com).

## YAVUZ GALLERY

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## Selected Works



*Quarantine*, 2020, oil on canvas, 175 x 200 cm



*Milk Lover*, 2020, oil on canvas, 76 x 90 cm

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*Long Distance, 2020, oil on canvas, 175 x 150 cm*



*Rempah, 2020, oil on canvas, 175 x 145 cm*

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