



Annual Report

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THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE

Honorary Patron

Mr Mah Bow Tan

PSS Board

Chairman

Mr Tan Soo Nan *Hon.FPSS*

Members

Mr David Tay Poey Cher *JP, BBM(L), Hon.FPSS, Hon.EFIAP, FRPS, MFIAP*

Mr Willy Shee *Hon.FPSS*

Mr Lim Geok Khoon *Hon.FPSS*

Dr Oh Soon Hwa *Ed.D, MFA*

Mr Sin Boon Ann *PBM*

Council for 2015—2017

President	Mr. Goh Kim Hui <i>Hon.FPSS, Hon.EFIAP, AFIAP</i>
Vice President	Mr. Lim Chu Teik <i>Hon.FPSS, ARPS</i>
Vice President	Mr. Goh Koon Peng <i>Hon.FPSS, FPSS, ARPS</i>
Honorary Secretary	Mr. Vincent Liew <i>Hon.FPSS</i>
Honorary Asst. Secretary	Mr. Jack Goh Kok Leong <i>ESPSS, APSS, AFIAP, GPU CR2, GPU APHRODITE</i>
Honorary Treasurer	Mr. Leslie Tan <i>Hon.EPSS, LPSS</i>
Honorary Asst. Treasurer	Mr. Lim Leong Kiat , <i>PBM, FCA</i> <i>Hon.FPSS, BEPSS, FPSS, AFIAP, EPSA, GPU CR3</i> <i>GPU VIP1, GPU APHRODITE</i>
Council Members	Mr. Goh Thien Chee <i>APSS</i> Ms. Liz Liew <i>SPSS, LPSS</i> Mr. Phua Chong Tian <i>SPSS, LPSS</i> Ms. Zhu Lin <i>SPSS</i> Mr. Paul Chin
Legal Advisors	Mr. Lie Kee Pong <i>SPSS</i> Ms. Connie Loo

Eu Kwok Hoong tendered resignation as Council member on December 2016 due to his other commitments. The Council did not seek to fill his position as it was near to AGM and the next election.

Annual Report 2016

1. Introduction

The proliferation of social media had eased and encouraged the formation of many pockets of photography enthusiast groups. The scarce number of passionate individuals who willingly devote their time to lead these groups on a voluntary basis are spread wide and thin across the entire photography landscape. PSS had been undergoing a volunteer crunch for some time. It has always been difficult to find dedicated and passionate volunteers who are team players at the same time. They are hard to come by. However, we are extremely glad that we have a current team of dedicated volunteers whom had sacrificed a tremendous amount of time to serve our members and the community at large. These are the people who had worked silently behind the scenes to bring you activities and programs.

As we continue to contend with change and transformation, the year 2016 had not been easier than 2015. Nevertheless, we are quite amazed by what we have accomplished in this short time. Aside from establishing Standard Operating Procedures for our administrative processes to improving our governance, we did a major clean-up of the clubhouse. We also participated in photo festivals and partnered with academic institutions on joint projects. The PSS annual dinner had resumed and we managed three successful international photography salons. Most of all, our members now have their own Members' Room to chat, chill and relax. We are also happy to share that we made headways in engaging academics as well as reaching out to the youth groups.

The world of photography continues to evolve with advancements in technology resulting in gadgets like GoPro, drone photography, as well as new lifestyle trends like taking Selfies. Like many mature photographic societies in the world, PSS is also undergoing a continuous transformation phase to adapt to the rapidly changing landscape. Part of the change involves the constant activity to raise the quality and standard of our process and services.

As the popular saying goes, "Change is the only constant" and we hope the members will continue to support the Society, regardless of whom or who is managing it, in all its future endeavours.

For the financial year ended 31 December 2016, PSS recorded a surplus of S\$47,950 for the year as compared to the surplus of S\$36,005 recorded in the previous year. The increase in surplus was mainly due to higher income from member and lower operating expenses.

2. Overseas Engagements

PSS participated and presented members' works depicting Singapore in the Kuala Lumpur Photography Festival 2016 (KLPF). The KLPF is the only annual photography festival in Malaysia with a collection of members works. Our board member Dr. Oh Soon Hwa, was invited as a key dialogue-panel member of the festival. Our President Mr Goh Kim Hui also presented his talk on "Wu Xing in Photography".

PSS initiated a Japan-Singapore Cultural Exchange Exhibition in partnership with the Japan International Photographic Federation. This exhibition project is aimed at building closer ties with our overseas counterparts. The cross-country exhibitions are scheduled to take place in Singapore on February 2017 and in Japan on May 2017. The exhibition has been granted FIAP Auspice.

3. Art Photography, Mentorship and Exhibition Program

Art Photography Mentorship & Exhibition is a programme targeted at young amateur photographers from the ages of 17 to 35. It is a joint project between the The Photographic Society of Singapore and LaSalle College of the Arts to identify and develop young budding photography artists. The program is conducted between October 2016 to December 2016 and varies from one-to-one and group mentoring sessions with selected mentors.

At the end of the mentorship, an exhibition was held at the Loke Wan Tho gallery and the library@orchard to showcase their progress as well as the eventual outcome produced by these participants.

This program is the first of its kind in PSS to reach out to youths. The exhibition opening at the Loke Wan Tho gallery attracted more than 100 youths from art institutions and their friends/families.

4. Service Distinctions

The Council reviews and recognizes the services rendered by hard-working volunteers.

The recipients of Service Distinctions are listed below:

Lim Geok Khoon	Hon.FPSS	Goh Thien Chee	Service Cert
Goh Koon Peng	Hon.FPSS	Paul Chin Yong Tong	Service Cert
Lim Leong Kiat	Hon.FPSS	Heng Zee Kek	Service Cert
Vincent Liew Weh Siang	Hon.FPSS	Kevin Ng Eng Gee	Service Cert
Low Poh Ai	ESPSS	Goh Teck Leong	Service Cert
Gho Lay Tin	ESPSS	Jennifer Koh Suat Eng	Service Cert
Kennedy K K Lim (Qingfu)	SPSS	Marcus Ng Chai Hee	Service Cert
Phua Chong Tian	SPSS	Guek Peng Siong	Service Cert
Joseph Mak	SPSS	Michael Tam Keng In	Service Cert
Zhu Lin	SPSS	Vanessa Cheong Lay Kuen	Service Cert
Dong Yan Qin	SPSS		
Yong Chee Khang	SPSS		
Hilarion Goh Seng Heng	SPSS		

5. Member Engagements

We continue to host our regular monthly outings. The exciting outings are organised by our Outings and Program Chair Liz Liew Yit Yen and had attracted notable participation by members.

We also organised interesting talks on Fashion Photography, Photography Pathways, Commercial Photography and etc.

PSS partnered with Pentax and Sigma distributor Audio and Photo Distributor (FE) Pte Ltd to offer members a hands-on experience with Pentax medium format cameras and Sigma lenses.

PSS made an Open Call for a curated members' exhibition. Some of the members' works will also be exhibited in Kuala Lumpur Photo Festival as well as Kyoto-Japan in May 2017.

6. The Board

The Board is currently chaired by Mr Tan Soo Nan. The Board continues to be a valuable resource for the Council to address both long and short term challenges.

The following are members of The Board:

Chairman -	Mr Tan Soo Nan
Member -	Mr David Tay Poey Cher
Member -	Mr Lim Geok Khoon
Member -	Mr Willy Shee Ping Yah
Member -	Dr Oh Soon Hwa
Member -	Mr Sin Boon Ann
Member -	Mr Goh Kim Hui President, PSS
Member -	Mr Vincent Liew Honorary Secretary, PSS
Member -	Mr Leslie Tan Honorary Treasurer, PSS

7. **Clubhouse**

The clubhouse facilities and equipment were well maintained to support the Society's activities. The Loke Wan Tho Gallery, located on the third level of the Society's Clubhouse at Selegie Arts Centre, has been well utilized with a number of exhibitions. It was also a venue for workshops, product talks, Photo Clinic and our regular program nights.

The clubhouse continues to undergo changes. Our Admin Office had moved to a location where it better served members' needs. The previous office has been converted into a members' room where members can gather, relax and create meaningful relationships.

We continued to clean-up the clubhouse and some light paint works were carried out. The Hon. Secretary would like to offer a special thanks to our part-time Admin Staff Serene Yong, for her dedication in helping to oversee the overall clean-up of the clubhouse.

8. **Finance**

As noted in the introductory remarks, the Society generated a surplus of S\$47,950 for FY 2016 as compared to the surplus of \$36,005 recorded for FY2015.

The increase in surplus was mainly due to higher income from member and lower operating expenses.

9. **International Federation of Photographic Art (FIAP)**

PSS continues to be recognized by FIAP as the national body representing photographic art in Singapore and retains its Operational Member status of FIAP. PSS manages all applications for FIAP distinctions by local photographers, who have achieved a good track record in international salons. PSS also manage applications for FIAP patronages by local institutions or photographic societies holding international exhibitions in Singapore.

The Council would like to congratulate the following members who achieved various FIAP distinctions in 2016.

EFIAP/b	:	Teo Giap Chiu
AFIAP	:	Jack Goh Kok Leong
		Lim Leong Kiat
		Low Poh Ai
		Vincent Liew

For the year under review, PSS continued to maintain close ties with FIAP through the Society's immediate past President Mr David P C Tay, who is currently a Member of the FIAP Directory Board, and President Mr Goh Kim Hui who is the Society's FIAP Liaison Officer.

The Council would like once again to record its appreciation to Mr Tay and Mr Goh for enhancing the ties between PSS and FIAP, and serving the interests of local photographers.

10. **PSS Distinctions**

The Society recognizes its members' achievements in photography with the award of PSS Distinctions. During the year under review, the numbers of successful applications for PSS Distinctions are as follows:

Licentiate (LPSS)

For competence in practical photography based on a set of 10 monochrome or colour prints or digital images submitted by the applicants.

Successful LPSS applications:

1. See Chin Foo
2. Ranjani Perera
3. Ramesh Letchmanan

Associateship (APSS)

For high degree of proficiency and the demonstration of a high technical and visual competence; based on a set of 12 monochrome or colour prints or digital images submitted by the applicants.

Successful APSS applications:

1. Anton Gautama
2. Chung Yuk Kong John
3. Pyi Soe Tun
4. Sandy Wijaya
5. Wong Weng Sang Nelson

Fellowship (FPSS)

Only Associates of The Photographic Society of Singapore may apply for this Distinction which consists of 18 monochrome or colour prints or digital images. Successful criteria are based on originality and advance techniques. The materials must also show the applicant's creativity, individuality and treatment of subject.

There were no successful FPSS applications.

11. **Photography Courses**

The take-up rate for photography courses conducted at the clubhouse had remained dull. The Council continues to review measures to reach out to potential candidates.

The Council would like to record its appreciation to the photography instructors, PSS staff for their time and effort in ensuring the effective running of the courses.

12. **Photographic Competitions**

During the year under review, PSS had collaborated and supported the following organizations in their photo competitions. Below are some of the events we organized and/or supported.

1. Housing and Development Board – Celebrating Life in the Heartlands, in support of 50 years of Public Housing.
2. National University of Singapore – Montage “Connection”, in support of the university’s promotion of aspiring artist.
3. Nanyang Technological University – NTU, in support of archiving images of the university compound.
4. Singapore Land Authority – Celebrating Places & Memories in Singapore, in support of archiving images of our major landmarks.
5. Singapore Environmental Council – Asian Environmental Journalism Awards in support of conserving the environment.
6. Singapore Environmental Council – The Sustainable Singapore Blueprint (SSB) Photography & Short Film Competition, in support of sustainability of resources.
7. Singapore National Co-operative Federation – Hot Shots, in support of capturing meaningful moments in our community
8. Tanjong Pagar Community Club – Our Singapore, Our Home. In support of community spirit in our homeland.
9. Art Photography Mentorship & Exhibition Program – A national project in collaboration with LaSalle College of the Arts.
10. Kuala Lumpur Photography Festival – PSS Members exhibited at KLPPF
11. PSS organised the 1st Lion City International Salon (LCIS) in Singapore.
12. LCIS attracted more than 8,400 entries and set a new benchmark in the region’s history of salon exhibitions;

13. **63rd Singapore International Photography Award**

The 63rd Singapore International Photography Awards (SIPA 2016) was chaired by Jack Goh Kok Leong. The 63rd SIPA achieved a historical high number of entries received. We received a total of 6,375 entries by 483 authors originating from 54 Countries.

The photo exhibition featuring all the winning works was held at the Loke Wan Tho Gallery, Selegie Arts Centre. Dr Oh Soon-Hwa, PSS Board Member, launched the exhibition on 18th November 2016.

SIPA 2016 received patronages from FIAP, the Photographic Society of America (PSA) and the Global Photographic Union (GPU).

The PSS Exhibitor Distinctions continues to be well received locally and internationally. We have a notable amount of applications from overseas applicants and distinguished exhibitors.

14. 1st Lion City International Salon 2016

PSS organised the 1st Lion City International Salon (LCIS) in Singapore. LCIS attracted more than 8,400 entries and set a new benchmark in the region's history of salon exhibitions.

15. 1st Pacific-Atlantic International Circuit 2016

In the same year, PSS co-hosted an international salon exhibition circuit. Along with partners, the Photographic Society of New Jersey & Atlantic Institute of Photography of the USA and Greek Artistic Photography of Greece, the 1st Pacific-Atlantic International Circuit was conceived. The circuit attracted close to 10,000 entries from more than 800 exhibitors worldwide, setting another notable record in the region.

16. PSS Staff

The Society would like to record its appreciation for its staff in their effort to sustain the daily operations of the Society and to ensure that members' needs are fulfilled.

17. Membership

The total membership of the Society was 1089. The breakdown is as follows:

Honorary Life Members	9
Life Members	232
Ordinary Members	787
Junior Members	10
Overseas Members	50
Corporate Members	1

Our social media membership had reach about 25,000 members.

18. **People's Association Corporate Membership**

For the year under review, PSS continued to be an active Corporate Member of the People's Association (PA). As a record, PSS is also a Founding Corporate Member of PA. Our President, Mr Goh Kim Hui, was appointed as PSS's representative to PA.

19. **Community Engagements**

PSS participated in the People's Association's (PA) member community fair event aimed at reinvigorating the values of racial harmony, social cohesion, resilience and how PA's founding corporate members like PSS contributes to these values since the 1960s.

PSS also participated in the People's Association's Passion Fiesta, Grassroots community engagement event for a constituency in the North.

PSS members volunteered as event photographers for the Society of the Physically Disabled charity golf event.

20. **Publicity**

The Society continued to inform members through PSS Facebook page, PSS website at www.pss1950.org as well as email updates on the latest PSS events for those members who are in the Society's email database.

21. **Acknowledgement**

The Council would like to thank the following companies for their support for the Society during the year under review:

- AVS Printing Pte Ltd
- Audio & Photo Distributor (F.E.) Pte Ltd
- Canon Marketing Pte Ltd
- Epson Singapore
- First Media Supplies Pte Ltd
- KHL Printing Co Pte Ltd
- Lim Sing Piling Pte Ltd
- Photogenie Pte Ltd
- Singapore Pools Ltd
- Sigma Marketing (Singapore) Pte Ltd
- SLR Accessory Pte Ltd
- Travellution
- Unusual Expedition Pte Ltd

The Council is also grateful to the local newspapers, magazines, radio and television stations for their support in publicizing the Society's events and activities.

22. **Conclusion**

The Council would also like to take this opportunity to thank all PSS volunteers and well-wishers who have devoted considerable amount of their time and efforts in ensuring that the Society's events, programs and activities are carried out successfully. You were key to making 2016 a solid year for PSS.

For and on behalf of the Council

Vincent Liew
Honorary Secretary
The Photographic Society of Singapore