

Lap-See Lam

Lap-See Lam (b. 1990, Stockholm, Sweden) draws on experiences of the Cantonese diaspora, delving into migratory movement, generational loss, speculative history, and the otherization of cultural symbols through video installations, sculptures, and live performances. Her works blend contemporary techniques with traditional storytelling forms and references, taking inspiration from shadow play puppetry and Cantonese opera, as well as the aesthetics of Western Chinese restaurants. Her work creates mythical imaginations of Chinoiserie as defined by imperialist history, while reflecting on her personal family history of migration, to convey the complexities of cultural heritage.

Lam was recently the recipient of The Lise Wilhelmsen Art Award 2025. In 2021, she was the winner of Dagens Nyheter Culture Prize and was shortlisted for the Future Generation Art Prize. Lam also received the Maria Bonnier Dahlin Foundation Grant in 2017.

Lam presented a Gesamtkunstwerk at the Nordic Countries Pavilion during the 60th Venice Biennale in 2024, in collaboration with Kholod Hawash and Tze Yeung Ho. Her recent solo exhibitions include Moderna Museet (Stockholm, 2025 & 2018), Hammer Museum (Los Angeles, 2025), The Power Plant (Toronto, 2024) (Vega Foundation), Studio Voltaire (London, 2024), Buffalo AKG Art Museum (New York, 2023), Swiss Institute (New York, 2023), PORTIKUS (Frankfurt, 2023), Lidköping Konsthall (Lidköping, 2023), Bonniers Konsthall (Stockholm, 2022 & 2018), and Trondheim Kunstmuseum (2021). She has taken part in group exhibitions at Sammlung Philara (Düsseldorf, 2024), KINDL – Centre for Contemporary Art (Berlin, 2022), Blindspot Gallery (Hong Kong, 2022), Power Station of Art (Shanghai, 2021), PinchukArtCentre (Kyiv, 2021), Uppsala Konstmuseum (Uppsala, 2020), Performa 19 (New York, 2019), Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain (Paris, 2019), Luleå Biennial (2018), Kópavogur Art Museum (Kópavogur, 2018), and Kunsthall Charlottenborg (Copenhagen, 2017).

Lam currently lives and works in Stockholm, Sweden.

Selected Solo Exhibition

- 2025 “Begin Again, Begin Again”, Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden
 “Shadow Play”, PHI Foundation Montreal, Canada (Organized in partnership with the Vega Foundation)
 “Hammer Projects: Lap-See Lam”, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, USA
- 2024 “Floating Sea Palace”, The Power Plant, Toronto, Canada (Organized and developed in partnership with the Vega Foundation)
 “Floating Sea Palace”, Studio Voltaire, London, UK
 “The Altersea Opera”, the Nordic Countries Pavilion, the 60th International Art Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy

- 2023 "Tales of the Altersea", PORTIKUS, Frankfurt, Germany
 "Tales of the Altersea", Swiss Institute, New York, USA
 "Dreamers' Quay", Buffalo AKG Art Museum, New York, USA
 "Phantom Banquet", Lidköping Konsthall, Lidköping, Sweden
 "Tales of the Altersea (Prologue)", Galerie Nordenhake, Berlin, Germany
- 2022 "Det regnar drakfjäll", Röhsska Museet, Gothenburg, Sweden
 "Dreamers' Quay, Dreamers' Key", Bonniers Konsthall, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2021 "Lap-See Lam", Trondheim Kunstmuseum, Trondheim, Norway
- 2020 "Phantom Banquet", Galerie Nordenhake, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2019 "Horizontal Landscape, Vertical Ghost (part 2)", Skellefteå Konsthall, Skellefteå, Sweden
 "Horizontal Landscape, Vertical Ghost (part 1)", Erik Nordenhake, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2018 "Mother's Tongue", Moderna Museet, Malmö, Sweden
 "Table, Mirror, Waiter & The Ghost", Maria Bonnier Dahlin Grant Recipients Bonniers Konsthall, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2017 "Mother's Tongue", Mossutställningar, Stockholm, Sweden
 "Like the Eight Immortals", L'Ascensore, Palermo, Italy
- 2015 "Room with a View", Galleri Mejan, Stockholm, Sweden

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2024 "Setting the Tone of the Exhibition – The Anatomy of Exhibition Openings", Malmö konstmuseum, Malmö, Sweden
 "Cutting the Puppeteer's Strings", Sammlung Philara, Düsseldorf, Germany
- 2023 "ARS Fennica 2023", Kiasma, Helsinki, Finland
 "Shades of Daphne", Kasmin Gallery, New York, USA
- 2022 Ghost 2565 Biennial, Bangkok, Thailand
 "The Corona Collection – Public Art Agency Sweden's acquisitions 2021", Skissernas Museum, Lund, Sweden
 "Soy Dreams of Milk", Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong
 "A Home", the Thiel Gallery, Stockholm, Sweden
 "Landscapes of Belonging", KINDL, Berlin, Germany
- 2021 Future Generation Art Prize, PinchukArtCentre, Kyiv, Ukraine
 "Artsy Vanguard 2021", Miami, USA
 "Death-Ray on the Coral Island, Power Station of Art, Shanghai, China

- 2020 Commissioned work, Magasin III, Stockholm, Sweden
 "MMXX", Konstakademien, Stockholm, Sweden
 "Mother's Tongue", CPH:DOX, Copenhagen, Denmark
 "Unhomed", Uppsala Konstmuseum, Uppsala, Sweden
- 2019 Performa 19 Biennial, Jeffrey Deitch Gallery, New York, NY, USA
 "Metamorphosis. Art in Europe Now", Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, France
 "SoftCity", Chopsticks, coyote, Stockholm, Sweden
 "Cartography of Memory", Pina, Vienna, Austria
- 2018 The Luleå Biennial 2018 – "Tidal Ground", Luleå Konsthall, Luleå & Ajjite Museum, Jokkmokk, Sweden
 "Exclusively Inclusive", Cycle Music and Art Festival Gerdarsafn – Kópavogur Art Museum, Kópavogur, Iceland
 "Four as One and Three", Gallery Kendra Jayne Patrick, New York, NY, USA
 "Space is Only Noise part 2", Erik Nordenhake, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2017 "After School Special", Kunsthalle Bergen, Bergen, Norway
 "Front List Art Launch", Alma, Stockholm, Sweden
 "Charlottenborg Spring Exhibition 2017", Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2016 "Aperto", Villa Grumello, Fondazione Antonio Ratti, Como, Italy
 "Kungl. Kandidatutställningen", Mindepartementet Art & Photography, Stockholm, Sweden
 "Rundgång", Royal Institute of Art, Stockholm, Sweden
 Bitch Club Exhibition, Galleri Mejan, Stockholm, Sweden

Awards

- 2025 The Lise Wilhelmsen Art Award
 2022 The Swedish Arts Grants Committee, 1-year Working Grant
 2021 Dagens Nyheter's Culture Prize
 2021 IASPIS Studio Grant
 2021 Future Generation Art Prize (shortlist)
 2020 Forbes 30 Under 30 Europe, Art & Culture
 2020 CPH:DOX, NEW:VISION Special Mention
 2017 Maria Bonnier Dahlin Grant Recipient
 2017 IASPIS, Assistant Grant for Wu Tsang
 2016 Fondazione Antonio Ratti, Como

Collections

Buffalo AKG Art Museum, USA
 KADIST Foundation, France & USA
 L'Ascensore, Italy

M+, Hong Kong, China
Malmö Konstmuseum, Sweden
Maria Bonnier Dahlin Foundation, Sweden
Moderna Museet, Sweden
Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma, Finland
Public Art Agency, Sweden
Röhsska Museet, Sweden
Stockholm Stad, Sweden

Selected Publications

- 2024 *The Altersea Opera, Lap-See Lam med Kholod Hawash och Tze Yeung Ho* - Exhibition catalog
for the Nordic pavilion at the Venice Biennale 2024, Moderna Museet & Verlag der
Buchhandlung Walther und Franz König, Köln, Sweden & Germany
- 2022 *Dreamers' Quay, Dreamers' Key*, Bonniers Konsthall & Lenz Press, Sweden