

## *Your Guide to* **Sculpture** Trail in Fort Canning Park

The Sculpture Trail will take you through the sculptures that can be found around the National Museum of Singapore and Fort Canning Park. Admire the beauty of sculpture pieces, completed by various artists, located amid the lush greenery of the park. Visit the ASEAN Sculpture Garden and find out more about the sculptures contributed by each member country for the ASEAN Sculptures Symposium held in Singapore in 1981. Along the way, appreciate the different styles of 19th-century art through the artefacts left behind by the British.



Difficulty level: Moderate



Distance: 2km



Walking time: 45min



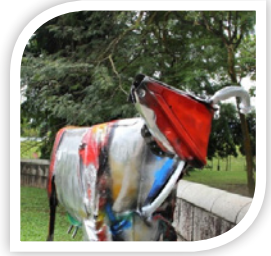




13 Fort Gate



20 Meditation Site



10 Incarnation



11 Spring of Life



23 Balance



27 Fredesvinda



6 Pedas Pedas



7 Gothic Gates

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in Fort Canning Park







1. 20 Tonnes

## START POINT

### NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SINGAPORE

#### ► 1 20 Tonnes 2002

By **Han Sai Por** (Singapore)

Six ridged granite slabs line up in front of the National Museum of Singapore. Walk up to the sculpture and feel the texture of the granite slabs. Take some time to reflect on its relation to the path of life that one goes through.

#### ► 2 Seeds 2006

By **Han Sai Por** (Singapore)

Two giant seeds sit outside the National Museum. These brown kernels were carved from sandstone excavated from Fort Canning Park during the development of the museum.

At 1.5m wide and 1m tall, these seed sculptures are frozen in a state of germination – indicated by their highly contoured surfaces – reflecting the transformation of the museum from past to present, and even future.

#### ► 3 Living World 1987

By **Ju Ming** (Taiwan)

In support of the growing arts and culture scene in Singapore, Trans-Island Bus Services (TIBS) took on a project in 1987 to promote art appreciation by acquiring this brightly painted bronze sculpture for the National Museum. The four bronze figures settled in just in time for the museum's centennial celebrations.



2. Seeds



3. Living World



4. Transformation

#### ► 4 Transformation 2004

By **Tan Teng Kee** (Singapore)

A spiky, twisting stainless steel sculpture stands in juxtaposition to the green grass patch beneath it. As you shift the pipes around and change their placements, the sculpture morphs into a new structure each time. The numerous alterations bring forth even more possibilities when viewed from different perspectives – reflecting the transformation of Singapore's art and cultural scene over the years and in the ones to come.

#### ► 5 Let There Be Peace 2003

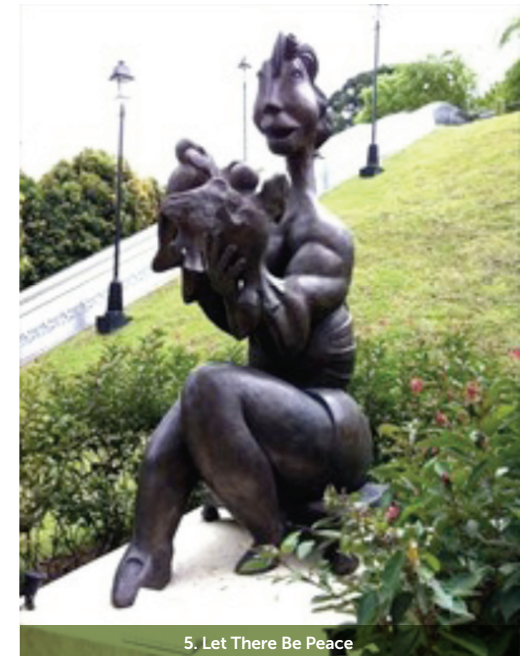
By **Alexandra Nechita** (Romania)

Outside the National Museum stands the 3m tall United Nations Peace Monument for Asia. This bronze sculpture is part of the Global Peace Initiative that seeks to promote international harmony and peace.

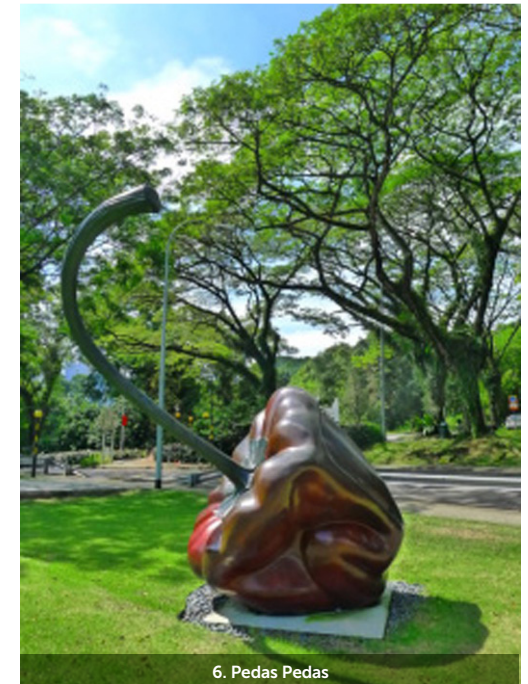
#### ► 6 Pedas Pedas 2006

By **Kumari Nahappan** (Singapore)

Aptly named *Pedas Pedas*, meaning 'spicy' in Malay, this giant, dirty-red chilli pepper sculpture lies on the ground behind the National Museum as if it had just fallen from its plant. This wax-covered bronze (bronze with patina, a greenish film caused by corrosion) sculpture is located near the Fort Canning Park entrance along Canning Rise. It was commissioned by the museum in 2006 and represents Singapore's rich blend of cultures, customs, cuisines and artworks.



5. Let There Be Peace



6. Pedas Pedas

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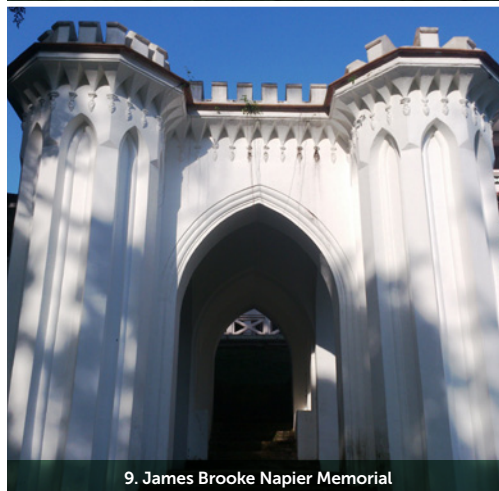




7. Gothic Gate



8. Cupolas



9. James Brooke Napier Memorial

The cupolas were probably meant to serve as shelters for rest and contemplation on the hill. The design adds an air of Greek Classicism to the surrounding environment.

- **9 James Brooke Napier Memorial** 1848  
This Gothic structure was built in memory of the infant son of William and Maria Frances Napier (the widow of Coleman). The memorial, the largest erected in the Government Hill cemetery, reflects the status of the boy's father, who became Singapore's first Law Agent in 1833.

## FORT CANNING GREEN

You are now at the site of Singapore's first Christian cemetery. This burial ground was used from 1822 to 1865. Get up close to the colonial structures still standing here today.

- **7 Gothic Gates** 1845

By **Captain Charles Edward Faber**  
The ivory white Gothic gates were designed by Superintending Engineer Captain Charles Edward Faber, whom Mount Faber was named after. Constructed in 1845, they are the earliest example of work in the Gothic Revival style that was later introduced in Singapore.

- **8 Cupolas** 1800s

By **George Dromgold Coleman**  
The word *cupola* comes from Latin, meaning 'little *cupo*' or little dome. The domed pavilions in Fort Canning Green were designed by George Dromgold Coleman, Singapore's first Government Architect and Superintendent of Public Works. Coleman also oversaw the works of the old Christian cemetery in the park.



13. Fort Gate



10. Incarnation



11. Spring of Life



12. Stamen

## FORT GATE and FORT WALL

- **10 Incarnation** 2012

By **P. Gnana** (Singapore)

The materials that Gnana uses for his large and colourful cow sculptures are termed as 'found materials', which include car parts, two-wheeler parts and other scrap material. He gave these items a new lease of life by combining them with metal and antique vessels to create magnificent works of art.

- **11 Spring of Life (生命之泉)** 2011  
**Water Theme Series #01**

By **Chua Boon Kee** (Singapore)

The forged stainless steel sculpture was inspired by underground springs. The sculpture is a symbolic representation of life, which is like spring water, ever flowing with energy.

- **12 Stamen** 2010

By **Han Sai Por** (Singapore)

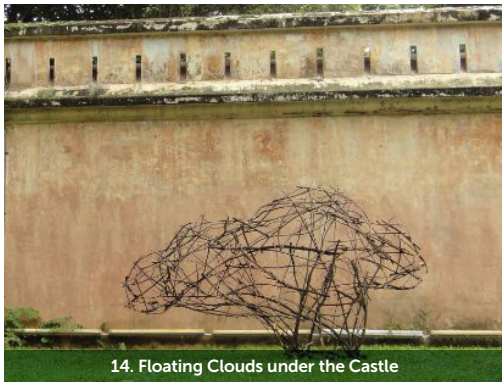
Han Sai Por, born in 1943, is renowned for her nature-inspired sculptures, which communicate a great empathy with nature and exude a gentle, vital spirit.

- **13 Fort Gate** 1859

By **G. C. Collyer**

The moss-covered archway was designed by G. C. Collyer, Chief Engineer of the Straits Settlements. Constructed in a colonial military style, the Fort Gate, together with remnants of the Fort Wall and a Sally Port, are all that remain of the fortress that occupied the hill from 1861 to 1926.





14. Floating Clouds under the Castle

► **14 Floating Clouds under the Castle**

(城堡下的浮云) 2011

By **Chang Wei** (Singapore)

This dynamic installation, taking the form of floating clouds under the Fort Gate, symbolises the fading stories and emotions that have taken place under the Fort Gate over the years.

► **15 SSS Sculpture Pavilion** 2009

By **Kum Chee-Kiong and CK Kum** (Singapore)

Recycling is a recurring theme in many of Sculpture Society (Singapore)'s projects, most notably in the *Hopea sangal* Workshop (2003) and the First International Woodcarving Symposium (2007), where pieces of deadwood were given an afterlife as new works of art.

The same poetic spirit prevails in the creation of the Pavilion, where two recycled shipping containers were transformed into a unique, functional installation. The Pavilion serves as a space for sculpture workshops for artists from the Sculpture Society (Singapore).



15. SSS Sculpture Pavilion



16. Make Cents

► **16 Make Cents** 2011

By **Casey Chen** (Singapore)

In selecting the site for his 3-feet tall (approximately 0.9m) bronze coin, Casey Chen hopes to evoke a feeling that it had indeed fallen from the sky and would bring a smile to the faces of visitors to Fort Canning Park.

► **17 Untitled** 2011

By **Baet Yoke Kuan** (Singapore)

This sculpture is made from stainless steel. The artist presents an interpretation of changes in nature and in people's perceptions wrought by the passage of time. By a process of transformation, beginning with the realistic and working towards the more abstract, the artist expressed his reflections and intrigue.



17. Untitled



18. Long Bench



19. Dialogue



20. Meditation Site



21. Connect with Nature

► **18 Long Bench** 2007

By **Li Loung-Chen** (Taiwan)

Take a break and admire the beauty of Fort Canning Park on this long bench created by renowned Taiwanese wood sculptor Li Loung-Chen.

► **19 Dialogue** 2011

By **Chern Lian Shan** (Singapore)

The artist came from Taiwan to Singapore in 1980. His works can be seen peppered across the island, prominently displayed in school campuses, army camps, along the Singapore River, and even at the Singapore Zoological Gardens.

► **20 Meditation Site** 2011

By **Han Sai Por** (Singapore)

This row of natural wooden benches is lined up and set in a tranquil space surrounded by greenery. This site provides visitors a temporary meditation space from the restless and noisy environment.

► **21 Connect with Nature** 2011

By **Tan Sock Fong** (Singapore)

The shape, size and texture of plants are due to their environment. Inspired by the textures of plants and fascinated by the beauty and designs created by nature, the artist combined stone and glass to create this almost fossil-like sculpture.



## ASEAN SCULPTURE GARDEN

The pieces of art in this trail were created in 1981 for the ASEAN Sculptures Symposium in Singapore. As a symbol of ASEAN unity and cooperation, each member country – the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore – donated a sculpture to this garden in 1982.

Five distinguished sculptors from the member countries worked under one roof where they discussed, shared and learnt from one another to produce a group of five stunning 5m tall sculptures to be displayed at Fort Canning Park.

The pieces were unveiled by their respective foreign ministers when the annual ASEAN meeting was held in Singapore in June 1982. Brunei added its contribution in 1988 when it became an ASEAN member.



22. Augury

### ► 22 Augury 1988

By **Anthony Lau** (Malaysia)

This red, imposing piece replaced the fibreglass work *Taming Sari* by Ariffin Mohammed Ismail – Malaysia's original contribution that failed to withstand the effects of the weather. This 4-tonne, 5m monument was created by Anthony Lau and four assistants using mild steel plates, and was completed on 31 August 1988. It is Lau's first sculpture for a public space.

### ► 23 Balance 1982

By **Ng Eng Teng** (Singapore)

The Committee on Culture and Information commissioned this minimalist piece that was created using aluminous cement, popularly known as Ciment Fondu®.

Its creator, Singapore's representative, Ng Eng Teng, was known as the Grandfather of Singapore Sculpture.



23. Balance

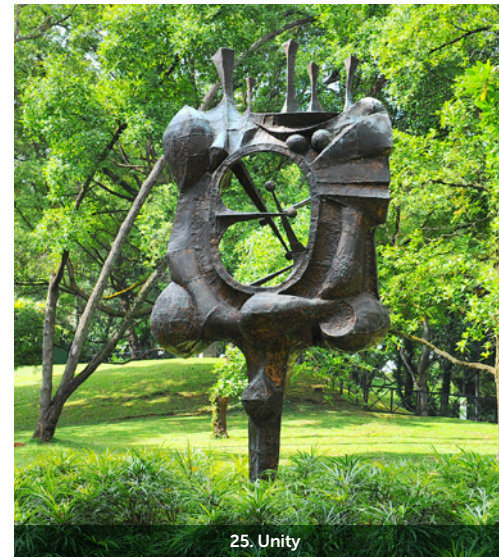


24. Concentration

### ► 24 Concentration 1982

By **Vichai Sithiratr** (Thailand)

The stout, molar-like sculpture by Thai artist Vichai Sithiratr is made up of a combination of steel plates.



25. Unity

### ► 25 Unity 1982

By **But Muchtar** (Indonesia)

The Indonesian sculptor, But Muchtar, used copper sheets reinforced with mild steel to create this textured sculpture.

### ► 26 Together 1988

By **Osman Bin Mohammad** (Brunei Darussalam)

This sleek piece was added to the ASEAN Sculpture Garden collection after the Sultanate's full independence in 1984 and subsequent ASEAN membership. Resembling six flagpoles, the sculpture is made of stainless steel.

### ► 27 Fredesvinda 1982

By **Napoleon Veloso Abueva** (The Philippines)

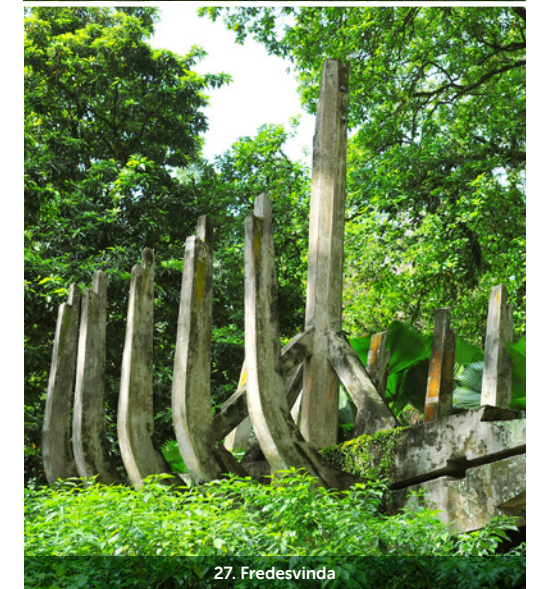
*Fredesvinda* is a German name that translates as 'strength of the country'. A symbol of regional cooperation, this 5m tall sculpture depicts an unfinished boat cast in reinforced concrete. The cement is supported by a mild steel structure.

*We hope you have enjoyed your walk on this trail.  
For a slice of Singapore's history, embark on the  
Colonial History Trail at Fort Canning Park.*

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26. Together



27. Fredesvinda

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