

**MEDIA RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release*

## **Identity, Choice, and Conflict: A Journey of Self-Discovery at *SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE Singapore***

*The international debut of the thought-provoking showcase guides visitors through evocatively designed zones and experiences, including a specially curated installation exclusive to Singapore.*



**Singapore, 10 December 2025** – Being “caged” is perhaps our most familiar state of reality – we are limited by the boundaries around us, whether they are self-imposed or social constructs. Yet, even as we yearn for freedom, we find ourselves constantly drawn back to the safe and familiar. This liminal space created by the possibilities and dilemma of choice is explored in ***SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE Singapore***, an immersive and thought-provoking showcase that encourages visitors to examine their sense of self through the deeper narrative behind the popular SKULLPANDA character. The showcase runs at the National Museum of Singapore from 12 December 2025 to 22 February 2026.



2 Presented by POP MART in collaboration with the character’s creator, Chinese artist Xiong Miao, and in partnership with the National Museum of Singapore and the Singapore Tourism Board, *SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE Singapore* presents a visual journey that delves into the tensions between containment and release that exist within our decisions. Through creative spatial design and unique visual language, the showcase is a space for contemplation, where visitors are invited to stand with SKULLPANDA, and confront how our choices are shaped by the multiple layers of our identity: as an individual, a part of a larger community, and more.

3 “I’m truly excited and honoured to present SKULLPANDA’s work outside of China for the first time through the immersive showcase *SKULLPANDA CAGE–UNCAGE*. Singapore, with its unique charm—balancing tradition with innovation, structure with creativity—is a truly fitting venue for an exhibition that explores the tension between contrasting ideas and perspectives,” said **Chinese artist Xiong Miao, creator of the original SKULLPANDA character series.**

4 While the National Museum presents the shared narratives that have shaped our nation, *SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE Singapore* turns the lens inward, inviting visitors to examine the personal choices, contradictions, and conflicts that shape their own stories and identities. Through this self-reflective meditation, the museum creates a space for introspection that deepens one’s understanding of self. The showcase also continues the museum’s exploration of the enduring appeal of contemporary collectible culture, building on its popular 2024 showcase *Play:Date – Unlocking Cabinets of Play*, which demonstrated how this resonates across generations. These presentations represent the museum’s commitment to examining contemporary Singapore culture through fresh perspectives and unique experiences, creating new pathways to engage diverse audiences.

## Uncovering the Complexities and Contradictions of Choice Through Six Zones



5 Based on the *SKULLPANDA The Paradox Series*, the showcase unfolds across six thematic zones that reflect the different aspects of everyday life: **Emotion, Direction, Fortune, Rules, Life, and Exploration**. Using visual metaphors such as locks and keys, each zone presents an interactive and sensory experience that transforms abstract ideas into tangible reflections on life, engaging visitors through touch, movement, and sound. Throughout the journey, visitors are encouraged to draw from their own lived experiences and to physically connect with the installations and sculptures, discovering the possibilities that lie within.

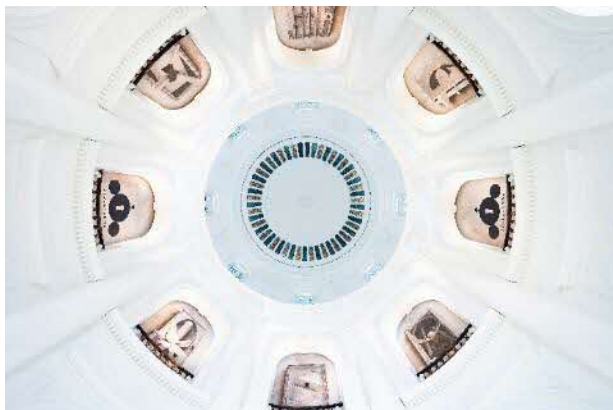
6 Visitors begin the experience with **The Key**, where fragmented mirrors and keys invite reflection on the boundaries between reality and infinite possibilities, and continue into the six sections:

- **Emotion:** Opposing locks and keys within a floating sphere explore the tensions between perception and truth
- **Direction:** Transparent, interactive pages with symbols signify imprisonment, revealing diverse paths to freedom
- **Fortune:** Mirrors and crystals are utilised to reflect the duality of wealth as being both dazzling and confining
- **Rules:** A spinning top and precarious scale explore time, gravity, and discipline through motion and balance
- **Life:** A meditative exploration through flowing sand and glass globes, reshaping how we view existence
- **Exploration:** Interactive blocks that transform static symbols into dynamic meanings, encouraging new perspectives

At the heart of the showcase lies **The Room**, where two SKULLPANDA sculptures hold keys within mirrored walls, creating an infinite maze that invites visitors to ponder the paradox of constraint and freedom.

7 More details and images of the showcase can be found in **Annex A**.

### Exclusive Highlights at *SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE Singapore*



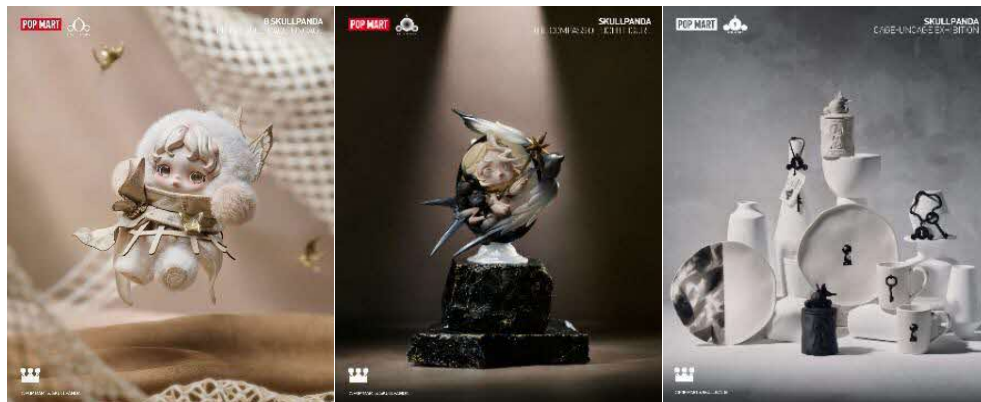
8 Exclusive to the Singapore edition of the showcase is an installation that pays homage to bird singing, a beloved pastime enjoyed in Singapore's housing estates among enthusiasts. Suspended bird cages present the original prototype figurines from the *SKULLPANDA The*



*Paradox Series*, with an accompanying video artwork specially created by Xiong Miao, featuring her signature butterfly emblem gliding past familiar Singapore locales before finding its current home at the National Museum. This installation introduces a unique perspective to the showcase, inviting international audiences to discover a lesser-known aspect of Singapore life that continues to unite bird singing enthusiasts, much like the shared passion of contemporary collectible fans.

9 Beyond the gallery spaces, the showcase extends its presence across the National Museum. Visitors will be greeted by a large SKULLPANDA sculpture on the museum's front lawn, with additional installations and fittings at the Rotunda and LED wall outside the Salon, creating an immersive entry into the showcase and memorable photo opportunities.

### Showcase-exclusive Merchandise and Visitor Information



*From left: 0 SKULLPANDA Plush Doll-Cage-Uncage, SKULLPANDA The Compass of Light figure, and Various Showcase-exclusive Merchandise*



*From left: Showcase-exclusive merchandise zone at the Gallery Theatre; POP MART POP-Up store at the Longer Concourse*



10 Showcase-exclusive merchandise will be available for purchase at the Gallery Theatre retail zone to ticket holders only and is subject to eligibility and purchase limitations. Additional POP MART merchandise can be purchased at the POP MART POP-Up store at the museum's Longer Concourse, which is open to the general public. Visitors can look forward to a special 0 SKULLPANDA Plush Doll-Cage-Uncage, and [POPOP](#), POP MART's jewellery line making its Singapore debut at the showcase for a limited time only. Details on available showcase-exclusive merchandise can be found [at this link](#). Details on purchase conditions may be found [at this link](#).

11 *SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE Singapore* officially opens its doors to the public at the National Museum on 12 December 2025 and will run till 22 February 2026. Both Early All Access and Standard All Access tickets are now available for sale. An exclusive *SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE Singapore* gift will be given to the first 4,500 visitors to the showcase.

12 Tickets can be purchased at [this link](#) or through the showcase's ticketing partner, [Trip.com](#). Admission to *SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE Singapore* will be by timed entry to ensure a comfortable visitor experience. Visitors are encouraged to book their preferred time slot early when purchasing tickets online. Tickets also include entry to the National Museum's current exhibitions, *Once Upon a Tide: Singapore's Journey from Settlement to Global City* and *Singapore Odyssey: A Journey Through Time*. More details may be found in **Annex C**.

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- **Annex A: About *SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE Singapore* Themes and Installations**
- **Annex B: About SKULLPANDA and Xiong Miao**
- **Annex C: Showcase and Ticketing Information**

For media enquiries, kindly contact [nmsteam@tateanzur.com](mailto:nmsteam@tateanzur.com)

**Organised by:**



**Supported by:**

**The National Museum of Singapore is an institute of**



Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth



### **About the National Museum of Singapore**

With a history dating back to 1887, the National Museum of Singapore is the nation's oldest museum with a progressive mind. Its galleries adopt multi-perspective ways of presenting history and culture featuring important artefacts that tell the stories of Singapore and the world to redefine the conventional museum experience. The museum is home to thought-provoking exhibitions and hosts exciting events all year round including the Singapore Night Festival. For more details, please visit [www.nhb.gov.sg/nationalmuseum/](http://www.nhb.gov.sg/nationalmuseum/)

Follow us: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [TikTok](#)

### **About the Singapore Tourism Board**

The Singapore Tourism Board (STB) is the lead development agency for tourism, one of Singapore's key economic sectors. Together with industry partners and the community, we shape a dynamic Singapore tourism landscape. We bring the Passion Made Possible brand to life by differentiating Singapore as a vibrant destination that inspires people to share and deepen their passions.

More: [www.stb.gov.sg](http://www.stb.gov.sg) or [www.visitsingapore.com/](http://www.visitsingapore.com/)

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### **About POP MART**



POP MART is a rising global force in pop culture and entertainment. Our purpose is to celebrate daily moments and inspire through designer toys and fun experiences. Our focus is IP incubation & operations, designer toys & retail, theme parks & experiences, also digital entertainment. POP MART has over 570 stores in 30+ countries and regions, more than 2,500 ROBOSHOPs, and operates across multiple cross-border e-commerce platforms, reaching consumers in over 90 countries. We manage & represent incredible artists from all over the world. Our roster spans dozens of iconic characters, like MOLLY, DIMOO, SKULLPANDA, THE MONSTERS, HIRONO and more. With our IP characters, we create iconic cross-overs. Our mission is to light up passion & bring joy around the world. POP MART is not just a brand, it's a galaxy of creative possibilities.



**ANNEX A: ABOUT SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE SINGAPORE THEMES AND INSTALLATIONS**

SECTION	DESCRIPTION
<b>The Key</b> 	Visitors begin their journey by peering through a keyhole in the wall at <b>The Key</b> , discovering a ten-sided prism of mirrors with fragmented keys that fracture the concept of a singular, finite space. This installation invites reflection upon the blurred boundaries between reality and imagination, as the keyhole no longer seeks a single key but holds the potential of infinite possibilities and multiple realities.

**Emotion**

The conventional relationship between lock and key dissolves in **Emotion**, where these elements are placed in opposition to each other. *SKULLPANDA*'s signature astronaut helmet is reimagined as a floating sphere, its surface adorned with motifs of locks and keys. As it catches the light, the object casts a shadow below, the interplay of light and dark mirroring the tensions and harmony between perception and truth. The entangled lines then become visible threads of emotional connection.

**Direction**

**Direction** explores diverse perceptions of freedom through transparent book pages that carry imagery of imprisonment — thorns, shackles, and webs. As visitors flip through the book, these symbols unfold page by page, presenting different paths to freedom, revealing how one might navigate obstacles to break free or find sanctuary within constraints themselves. An accompanying giant picture frame with imagery of hand-drawn illustrations and white spaces creates a dynamic display with moving light and shadow, with Xiong Miao's signature butterfly motif tying the showcase narrative together.

**Fortune**

Through illusory reflections cast by mirrored surfaces and sparkling crystal chandeliers, **Fortune** sparks rumination on the dual nature of wealth as both dazzling and sharp. Within the enclosed cabinet, visitors encounter reflected images of themselves that are reshaped by the notion of wealth, signifying the fragile balance between wealth and imprisonment.

**Rules**

In **Rules**, concepts of time and gravity are explored through the symbolism of an endlessly spinning top, and a precarious scale vulnerable to the slightest touch. Order distorts through the passage of time while teetering on the brink of imbalance yet seeks new equilibrium through motion. Both present a picture of discipline and our own relationship with it.

**Life**

Sand flows like time itself in **Life**, offering a meditative theatre of life where glass globes encase a school of fish and flock of birds. The sand serves as both vessel and an allegory, the comfort of home and the passage of time. Life unfolds in both breadth and depth, reshaping how visitors view the idea itself.

**Exploration**

**Exploration** exemplifies our curiosity to understand the world around us, embodied through an interactive set of rotating blocks inside a cage. Visitors can build and rebuild their own patterns, transforming static symbols into a dynamic system of shifting meanings that mimics the act of exploration by unveiling new perspectives.

**The Room**

At the heart of the showcase is **The Room** which connects all six thematic zones. Inside a chamber of one-way mirrors, two SKULLPANDA sculptures sit back-to-back, with a key in each figure's hand to symbolise both the weight of constraint and the hope of freedom. The installation weaves a paradox of perception, appearing from the outside as a recognisable, finite space. Once inside, visitors encounter an infinite maze of displaced reflections, inhabiting the role of both observer and observed — simultaneously watching the prison and finding themselves trapped within it.

**Singapore-exclusive Installation**

This exclusive co-curated installation pays homage to bird singing, a beloved pastime enjoyed in Singapore's housing estates, introducing international audiences to a lesser-known aspect of Singapore life. Suspended bird cages are home to the original prototype figurines from the *SKULLPANDA The Paradox Series*. The work is accompanied by a specially created video artwork by Xiong Miao, featuring her signature butterfly emblem gliding past familiar Singapore locales. Much like the shared passion of contemporary collectible fans, bird singing continues to unite bird singing enthusiasts.



**ANNEX B: ABOUT SKULLPANDA AND XIONG MIAO****About SKULLPANDA**

SKULLPANDA journeys through different worlds, taking on various personas and living out myriad lives. On this grand adventure, it's on a quest to find its truest self and break new ground all while contemplating the shape of infinity.

**About Xiong Miao**

Xiong Miao is a young artist, concept designer, and founder of the North Studio art workshop. In 2018, she created her eponymous character series. Her long-term commitment to artistic exploration and an extensive background in game concept design, spanning over a decade, infuse her work with a signature flair and captivating charm. The character SKULLPANDA is a testament to her relentless artistic quest, consistently pushing the envelope as she explores authenticity and crafts a vision depicting “the shape of infinity”.





## **ANNEX C: SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE SINGAPORE AND TICKETING INFORMATION**

### **ABOUT SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE SINGAPORE**

*SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE Singapore* is an immersive and thought-provoking showcase that elevates the artistry and intent of POP MART's beloved character, exploring the contradictory states of certainty and freedom brought about by our decision-making processes. Through visually striking, interactive installations, visitors are invited to contemplate six major themes that form part of everyday life — Emotion, Fortune, Rules, Exploration, Life, and Direction — and examine the possibilities and dilemmas of choice that lie within.

Created in 2018 by Chinese multidisciplinary artist Xiong Miao, the SKULLPANDA character was designed as a version of the artist who embraces all the uncertainties and questions of life, concepts that have long fascinated her. Making its international debut outside of China at the National Museum of Singapore, *SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE Singapore* runs from 12 December 2025 to 22 February 2026.

*SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE Singapore* is presented by POP MART, in partnership with the National Museum of Singapore and the Singapore Tourism Board.

- Venue:** National Museum of Singapore, 93 Stamford Road, Singapore 178897
- Locations:** Ticketed Showcase – Stamford Gallery (Level 1) and Gallery Theatre (Basement Level)  
Merchandise POP-Up Stores – Longer Concourse (Level 1) and Gallery Theatre (Basement Level)  
Free-to-Access Art Installations – Front Lawn and Level 1 Spaces
- Date:** 12 December 2025 - 22 February 2026



## TICKETING DETAILS

Ticket Tiers	Tourist Adults	Tourist Concession	Local
<b>Early All Access</b> (12 to 16 December 2025)	\$40	\$32	\$22
<b>Standard All Access</b> (17 December 2025 to 22 February 2026)	\$36	\$28	\$14

### Ticket Tier Details

- Early All Access Tickets – Priority access to the showcase and priority to purchase showcase-exclusive merchandise from 12 to 16 December, while stocks last.
- Standard All Access Tickets – Grants entry to the showcase and access to purchase showcase-exclusive merchandise from 17 December onwards.
- All Ticket Tiers – Includes entry to the National Museum’s current exhibitions, *Once Upon a Tide: Singapore’s Journey from Settlement to Global City* and *Singapore Odyssey: A Journey Through Time*.

Tickets can be purchased at [this link](#) or through the showcase’s ticketing partner, [Trip.com](#). To ensure everyone can enjoy *SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE Singapore* comfortably, admission into the experience is by timed entry. Please secure your preferred



time slot when you book your tickets online.

An exclusive *SKULLPANDA CAGE-UNCAGE Singapore* gift will be given to the first 4,500 visitors to the showcase, while stocks last.  
For more information, please visit our [website](#).