



Nicolas Poussin, *Landscape during a Thunderstorm with Pyramus and Thisbe*, 1651

## Workshop with Lisa Tan

Wednesday, May 25, 2016 | 6 – 9 pm

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I hope you'll join me for a workshop on Wednesday night, 25th of May. So, I haven't read anything about the life or work of Nicolas Poussin. I should, because I like his paintings a lot. I won't miss a chance to see them in person, provided I find myself in a place that has one. What I like about them is that you can always sense what the weather is like. *Weather happens in his paintings*. The image is one instant in something unfolding. In this way, Poussin's paintings—at least to me—are early film stills. When we leave the room, someone could very well press the play button and the narrative would continue.

Another thing: no one else can paint a dead body like Poussin. You can feel the temperature of the corpse. In his *Landscape during a Thunderstorm with Pyramus and Thisbe*, the deceased has taken his own life, mistakingly believing that his loved one was mauled by a lion. This painting is in the Städel Museum collection in Frankfurt. I saw it when I was at the museum to film another work entirely—but one that also makes me think about temperature, and about duration, and about movement. Gustave Courbet's *The Wave* (1869).

This workshop will draw primarily on this video, titled *Waves* (2014-15), which involves Courbet's painting, but also other things as well—including the technologies that allowed me to insert the image of Poussin's painting in this very document. We'll do a close viewing/reading of the work as a group, discuss different strategies and artistic methods that go towards taking the world out of the realm of metaphor and into material reality—words, images, things, encounters, phenomena that affect the manner in which consciousness forms. In the process, hopefully we'll get to know one another better and leave with a keener sense of temperature, duration and movement.

The workshop is limited to 15 people total.

Lisa Tan is an artist living in Stockholm. She completed a practice-based PhD at the University of Gothenburg, Valand Academy and an MFA from the University of Southern California (USC), Los Angeles. Her recent series of videos has been exhibited as a group at Galleri Riis, Stockholm (2015), and individually at the Triennial exhibition at the New Museum, New York (2015); ICA Philadelphia (2016), Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara (2015); Lofoten International Art Festival, Svolvær (2013); Cristina Guerra Contemporary Art, Lisbon (2013); Galerie Nordenhake, Stockholm (2013); Parra & Romero, Madrid (2012); VidalCuglietta, Brussels (2012). Screenings of them have taken place at lohringer13\_florida, Munich (2015), Kino Der Kunst, Munich (2013), Bonniers Konst-hall, Stockholm (2014), Temporary Gallery, Cologne (2012). For more: [www.lisatan.net](http://www.lisatan.net)