

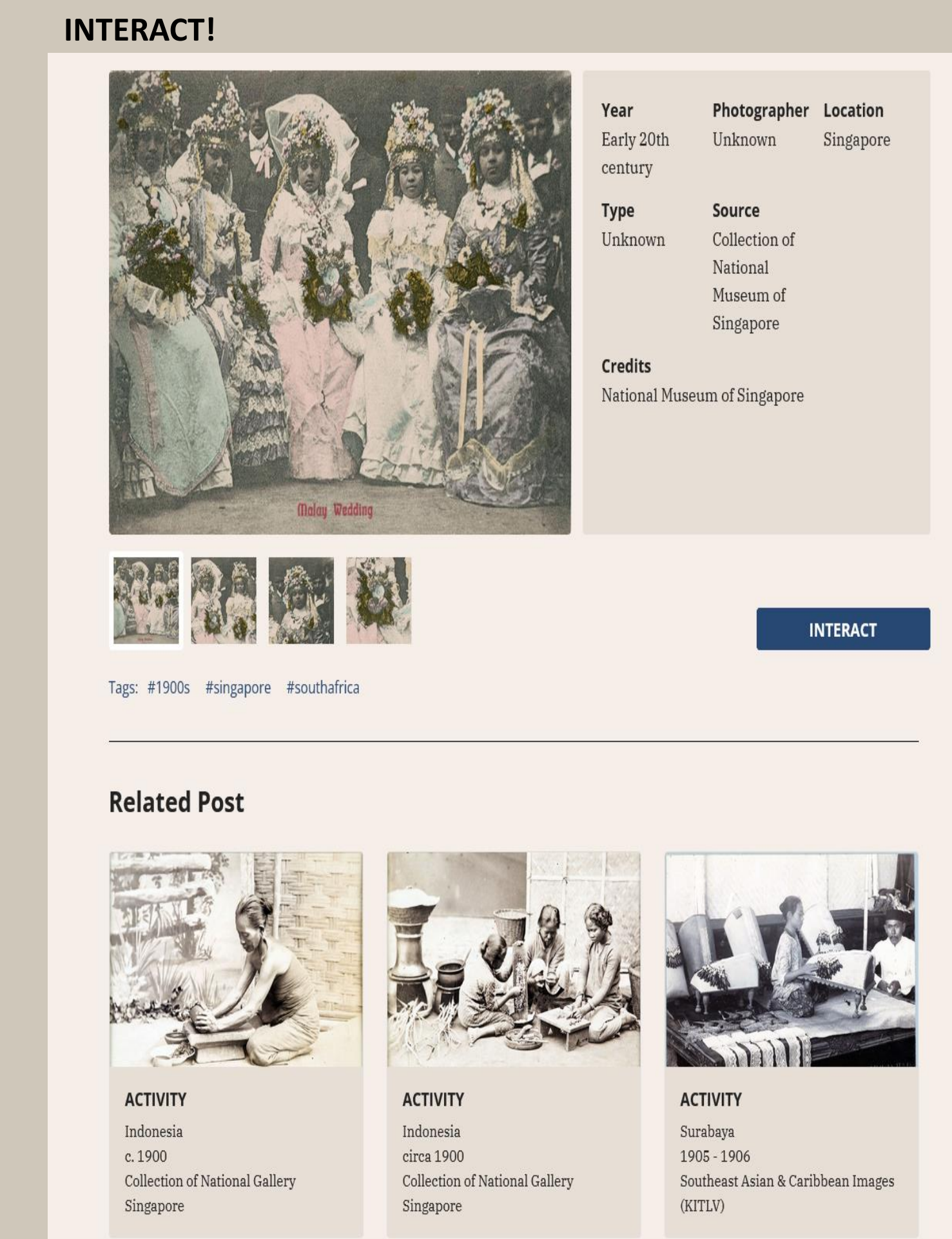
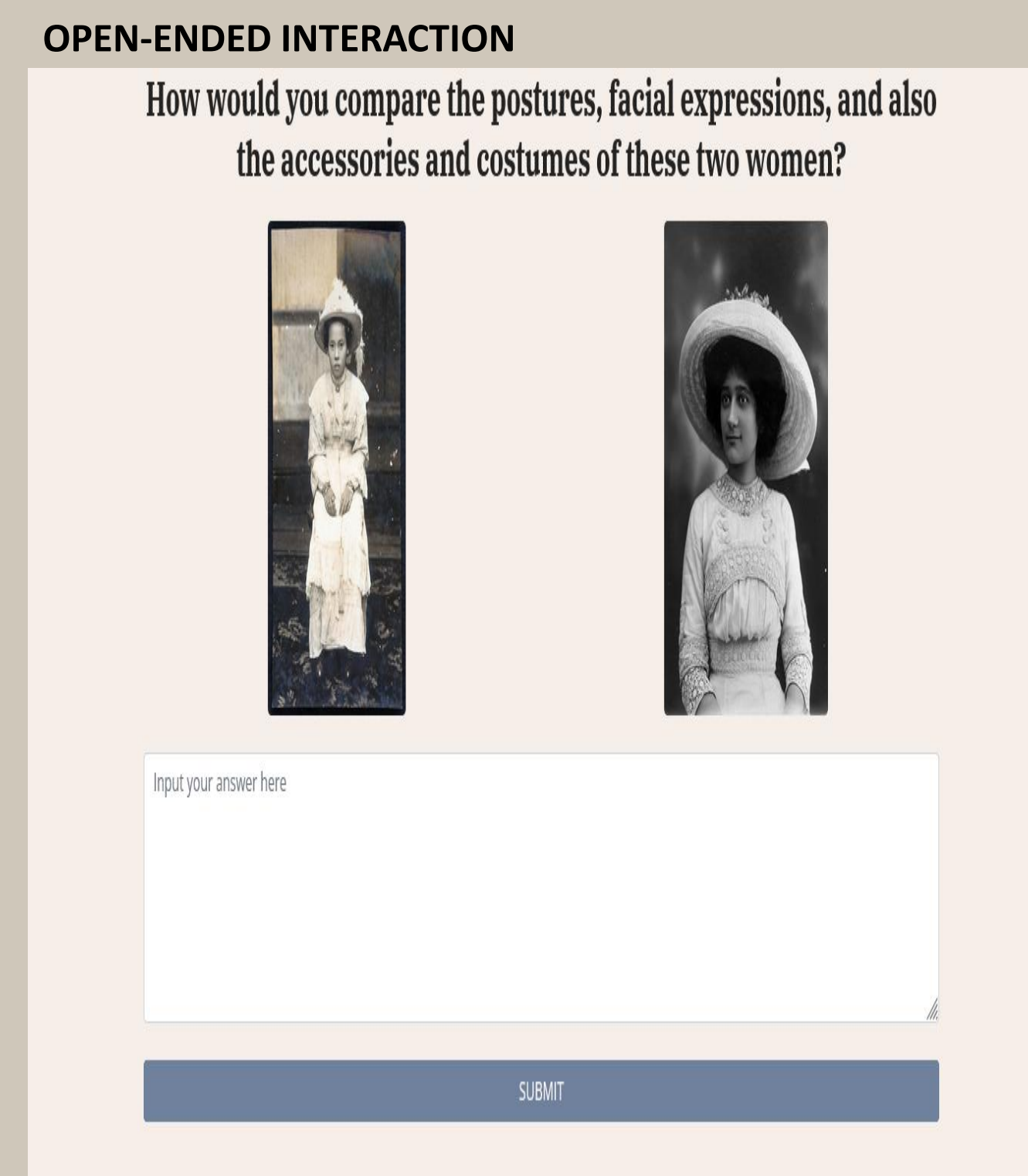
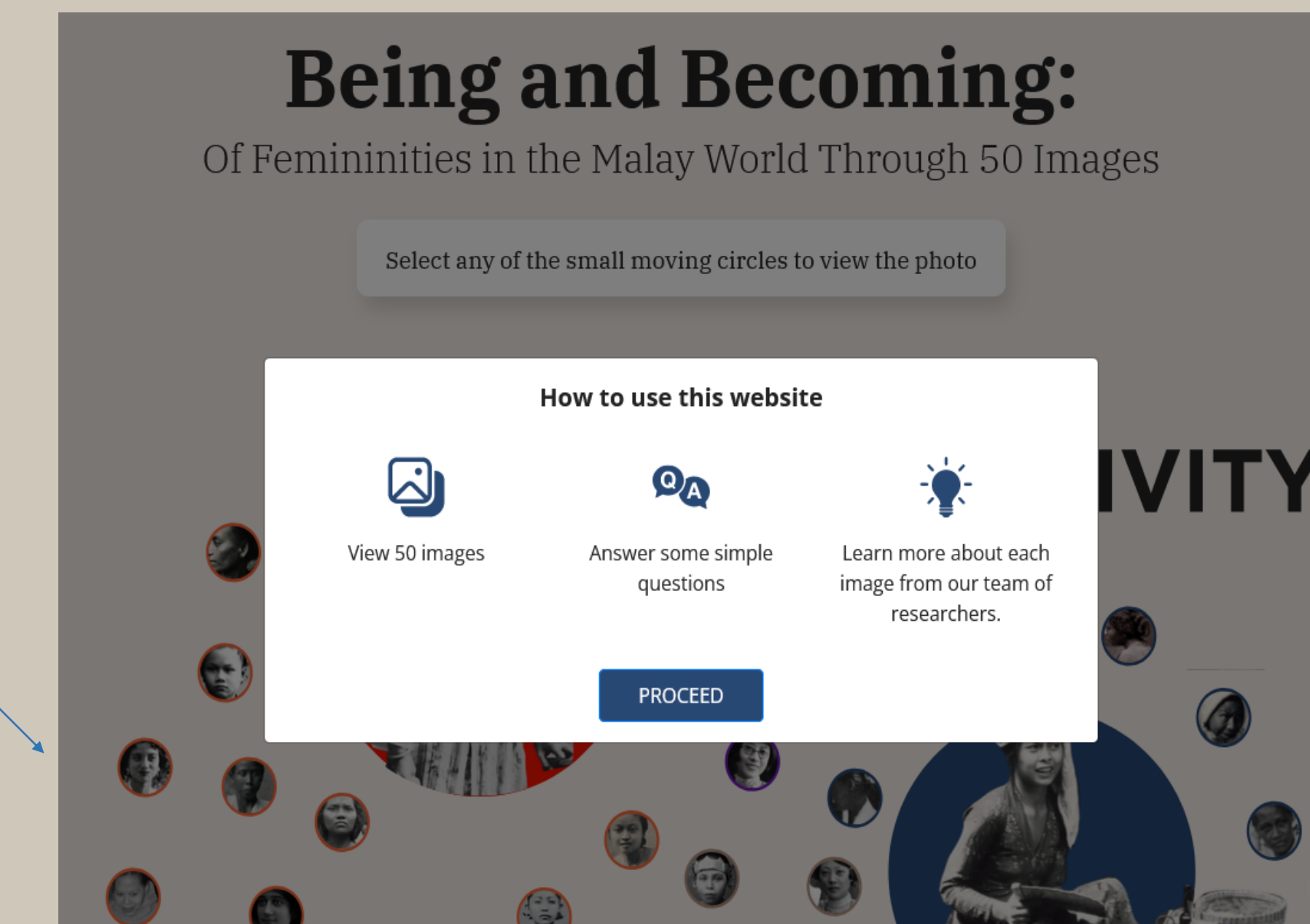
BEING AND BECOMING FEMALE IN THE MALAY WORLD: DIGITAL ARCHIVES RESEARCH AND A VIRTUAL EXHIBITION

About The Project

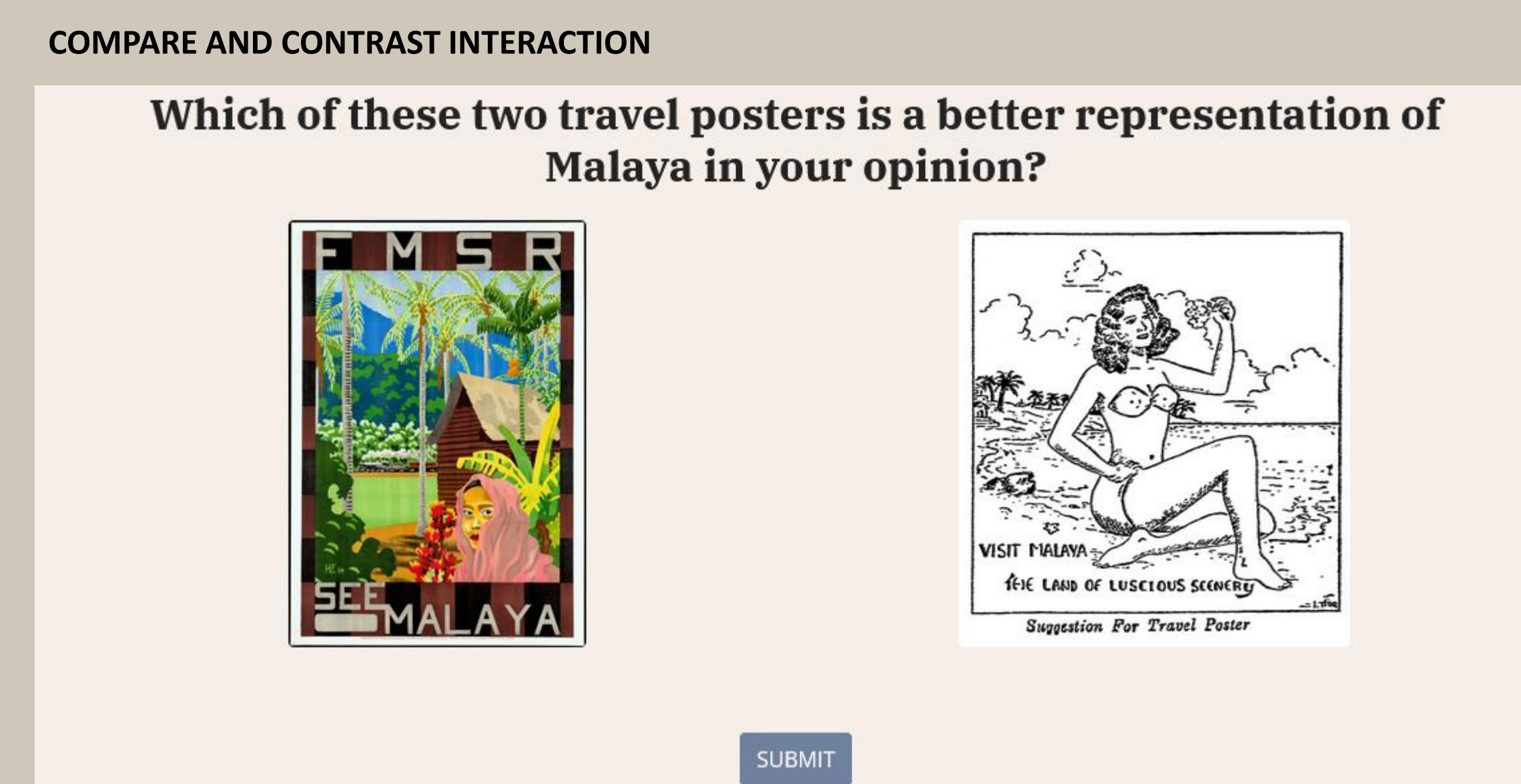
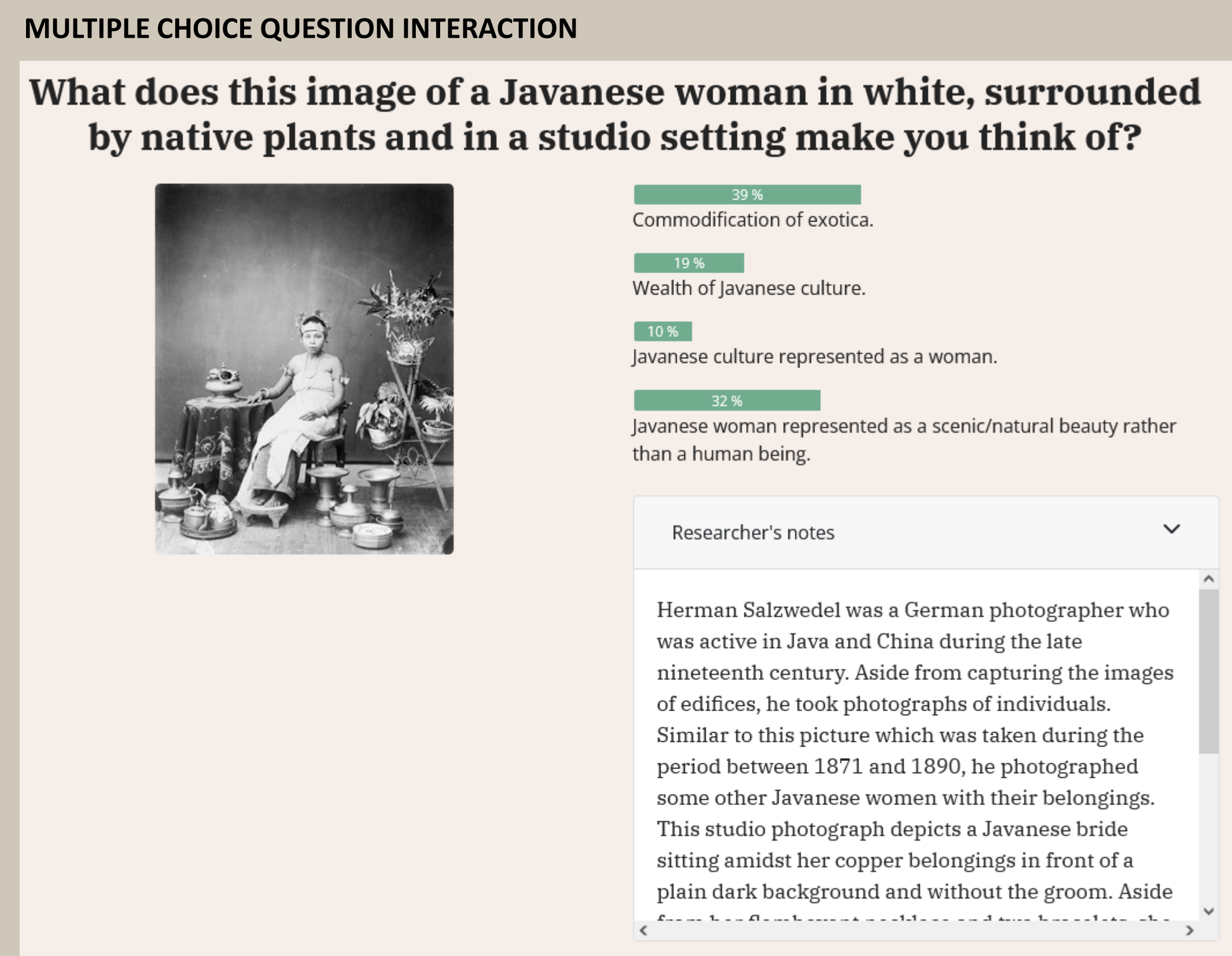
This exhibition is part of a larger research project, entitled 'Being and Becoming Female in the Malay World: Interrogating and Curating the Photo-Archives of Early Singapore', funded by the National Heritage Board's Heritage Research Grant (HRG) scheme. The project team consists of Associate Professor Dr Maznah Mohamad, Dr Suriani Suratman, Dr Imran Tajudeen (all from the Malay Studies Department, NUS) and Associate Professor Dr Bahar Gürsel, from the Department of History of Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara, Turkey.

ArtsEquator Ltd. is the host of the online exhibition. Tusitala is the web developer.

The research aims to study how gender and race have been visually depicted in the history of the Malay world, comprising present-day Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia. There are several ways of interpreting photographic images in our collection. One of which is to think of them as a powerful visual means through which the identity categories of gender, ethnicity, class and religion are represented through the hegemonic scheme of ordering. Another is that the female and gendered bodies are specifically positioned, costumed, adorned and assembled to be in accordance with the hierarchy of power and inequality of the time. Racialisation and feminisation are thus constitutive of the power of divide and differentiation through photography. An enduring gendered and racialised 'Otherness' may thus be sustained and reproduced, unless and until they can be interrogated and undone, even if through a single frame of the camera.



- ### CONSULTED ONLINE ARCHIVES
- Asian Civilisations Museum
 - Cambridge Digital Library <https://cdl.lib.cam.ac.uk/>
 - National Archives of Singapore <https://www.nas.gov.sg/archivesonline/>
 - National Gallery Singapore Roots <https://www.roots.gov.sg/>
 - National Children's Museum Roots <https://www.roots.gov.sg/>
 - National Museum Singapore Roots <https://www.roots.gov.sg/>
 - National Archives of Malaysia <https://arkib.gov.my>
 - Malaysia Design Archive <https://www.malaysiadesignarchive.org/category/collections/>
 - Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities, Sweden <https://collections.snmvk.se/carolota-om/web>
 - Leiden Univ Libraries Digital Collections <https://digitalcollections.universiteitleiden.nl/>
 - Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Online Catalog (PPOC) <https://www.loc.gov/pictures/>
 - Peranakan Museum Roots <https://www.roots.gov.sg/>
 - Rijksmuseum <https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/en>
 - Royal Collection Trust <https://www.rct.uk/collection>
 - The Henry Ford, Digital Collections <https://www.thehenryford.org/collections-and-research/digital-collections/>
 - The NY Public Library Digital Collections <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/>
 - Tropenmuseum <https://collectie.wereldculturen.nl>
 - UMass Amherst Walter Woodbury Photography Collection, 1865-1886 <https://credo.library.umass.edu/view/collection/impb003>
 - Univ of Southern California Digital Library <http://digital.library.usc.edu/cdm>
 - Univ of Wisconsin Milwaukee Digital Collections, AGSL Digital Photo Archive: Asia & Middle East <https://uwm.edu/lib-collections/asia-middle-east/>
 - Wellcome Collection <https://wellcomecollection.org/images>



- ### RESULTS
- The exhibition was visited by 1,396 users, with a total of 17,000 page views between 12 May - 24 August 2022 (Google Analytics).
 - The majority of visitors were from Malaysia, followed by Singapore and the United States.
 - There were a total of 964 MCQ interactions, 1316 Compare and Contrast interactions and 569 open-ended interactions. Six publicly curated exhibitions were approved on the website.

