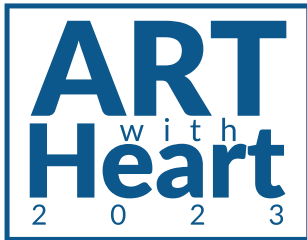


**RHB**◆

**ART**  
with  
**Heart**  
2 0 2 3

*Sparks of Change*





*Sparks of Change*

**RHB Art with Heart 2023 (AwH23)** returns for the fifth time, showcasing and celebrating the spirit of inclusivity and diversity, as well as igniting sparks of change through an exhibition of over 150 pieces of artworks by 60 Malaysian artists.

Themed **Sparks of Change**, AwH23 celebrates the artistic talents of young and emerging Malaysian artists, reinforcing RHB's commitment towards nurturing future generations and enriching lives within the community.

This year, we are taking art enthusiasts through an experimental journey of colours and expressions that uniquely captures the deep insights of every artist's transformative experiences. This is encapsulated in the

artworks chosen and creates an opportunity for our guests to support our up-and-coming local artists.

Together with equal representation of male and female artists, this exhibition also continues to showcase the beautiful artworks of gifted neurodivergent artists, such as those with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and Down Syndrome.

AwH23 is set to celebrate the arts that embody the multidisciplinary perspectives of change, and the transformations ignited that propels the nation forward.

RHB welcomes you to RHB Art with Heart 2023.

## Message from Chairman

On behalf of RHB Banking Group, I am pleased to welcome you, our valued customers, business partners and fine arts enthusiasts, to the eagerly anticipated RHB Art with Heart 2023 exhibition. This is the fifth instalment of our art exhibition, and it is made possible with your continued support.

Over the years, RHB Art with Heart exhibition has become one of the most anticipated art events in the city, celebrating the artistic talents of Malaysia's emerging artists, and igniting sparks of change to inspire the younger generations.

RHB Art with Heart 2023 carries the theme **Sparks of Change**, which aptly reflects RHB's commitment to celebrating and embracing diversity, drawing upon each other's unique strengths and determination to be agents of change for a better Malaysia.

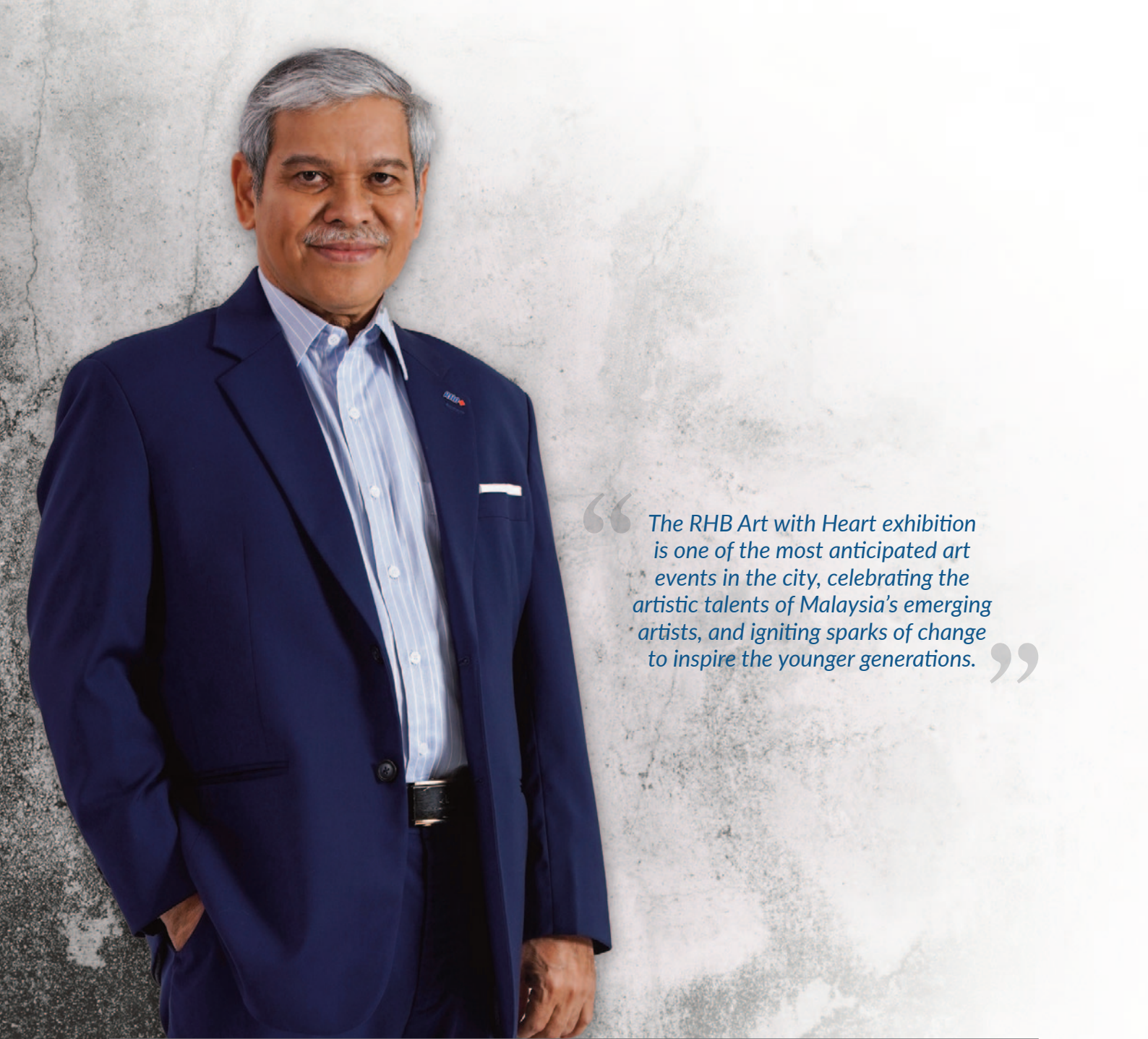
Our team has carefully curated the artworks for this year's exhibition to reflect and celebrate the **Sparks of Change** as individuals, society and nation. We invite you to experience this interpretive journey of change through the strokes of brushes, the interweaving of textures, and harmonious colours.

Your presence at our exhibition will encourage and support our local and emerging artists to continue pursuing their dreams and expressing their emotions through art and ultimately inspire change. At the same time, we invite you to contribute generously to help us *Make Progress Happen for Everyone*.

Thank you.



**Tan Sri Ahmad Badri Mohd Zahir**  
Chairman



“The RHB Art with Heart exhibition is one of the most anticipated art events in the city, celebrating the artistic talents of Malaysia’s emerging artists, and igniting sparks of change to inspire the younger generations.”

## Message from Group Managing Director

Art has the remarkable ability to transform quiet passions into roaring flames of change. Throughout history, this multifaceted medium of expression has advanced progressive ideas and ignited revolutionary shifts, fostering the essential improvements that propel our world forward.

Recognising this, we set forth on our mission to leverage the power of art and be the catalyst for positive change by empowering local artists, particularly the young and emerging artists. This pledge resonates deeply with the ethos of the RHB Banking Group - *to Make Progress Happen for Everyone*.

The RHB Art with Heart exhibition is a platform that amplifies the voices and creativity of local talents, enabling them to express their thoughts and emotions through art, and showcase their creativity to our esteemed clients, valued partners, discerning collectors and the broader public.

I am pleased to share that since RHB Art with Heart's inception in 2016, we have brought prominence to nearly 100 local artists and unveiled over 400 unique and inspiring art pieces that have stirred the souls of many. Within this, we have provided exposure to over 120 emerging artists, of which 20% are artists with disabilities. Over the last four instalment of the exhibition, we have generated the sales of almost RM1 million worth of art.

Beyond empowering the local art fraternity, RHB Art with Heart extends a compassionate hand to those less fortunate. With 80% of sale proceeds benefiting artists and 20% supporting the RHB Foundation's community engagement initiatives, we have contributed almost RM150,000 to projects that ease the plight of the Bottom 40 ("B40") community. The impact of this collective effort is undeniable through the holistic community outreach programmes.

This year, we are thrilled to continue the tradition of showcasing diversity in art at our exhibition. Our artist line-up features the incredible talent of special needs artists, whose creativity offer a profound perspective on change, diversity, and inclusivity - values that lie at the heart of RHB and our broader society. Visitors will be thrilled to witness once again the creative works of some of our returning artists, including Wan Jamila and Danial Kushairi, to name a few. This year's collection aligns perfectly with the exhibition's theme, **Sparks of Change**, bringing visitors on an inspiring journey weaved with a tapestry of colours and emotions.

As a parting note, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all who have contributed to the success of RHB Art with Heart. I sincerely thank the RHB Board of Directors, Senior Management team, esteemed clients, valued partners, customers and our dedicated employees for their unwavering support, which has propelled this noble initiative forward.

Therefore, it is with great enthusiasm that we cordially invite you to immerse yourself in the captivating collection of RHB Art with Heart 2023. Allow these artworks to envelop you in a journey of change, illuminated by the brilliance of our nation's young, exceptional minds. Together, let us be **Sparks of Change** towards progress.

Thank you.



**Mohd Rashid Mohamad**  
Group Managing Director/Group Chief Executive Officer



“ The RHB Art with Heart exhibition is a platform that amplifies the voices and creativity of local talents, enabling them to express their thoughts and emotions through art. ”

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## Curator's Introduction

**The Art with Heart 2023 (AwH23)** exhibition by the RHB Banking Group returns with the fifth instalment to empower the local arts scene and elevate the lives of vulnerable communities. Aptly themed **Sparks of Change**, AwH23 reaffirms RHB Bank's commitment to bring together art practitioners and art enthusiasts from all walks of life on a single platform and allow them to appreciate the different types of creatives from various art disciplines.

AwH23 is one of the most coveted platforms among local emerging talents of diverse abilities and backgrounds to showcase their stories through visual art. From paintings to sculptures, this year's exhibition will feature more than 150 artworks by 60 Malaysian artists, surpassing previous years' AwH exhibitions.

This year, the exhibition features a variety of visually engaging artworks in different exciting categories such as abstract, conceptual, contemporary, naive,

multidisciplinary, pop, realism and surrealism. Visitors can admire notable works by returning Persons with Disabilities artists, such as Wan Jamila, Danial Kushairi, Haziq Izmi, Izzati Shahrin, Ong Yong Da and Stephanie Tam. AwH23 also provides a platform to new and emerging talents who have found their calling in the art world, such as Gabriel Cheah, Suhaili Micheline and Jacob van Klang.

Our challenges, achievements, thoughts and self-perception have the potential to transform us. By closely observing these transformations, we may discover that change could lead us to better and new horizons rather than confine us. We may perceive that '*Change*' can significantly ignite the collective '*Spark*' to motivate us to appreciate and explore the captivating artworks created by our local talents and, at the same time, play a more active role in helping vulnerable communities in need.

We envision the way forward can only get better and brighter as we welcome more artists and those passionate about art to ignite the **Sparks of Change** together. Therefore, we invite you to take your time browsing through the works by some of our nation's most promising up-and-coming and established creators in the following pages and join us in our movement to create the **Sparks of Change** that will lead to a better future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Iz Sulaini', enclosed within a circular flourish.

**Iz Sulaini**

*Curator of RHB Art with Heart 2023*



Naive



## Danial Kushairi



Danial Kushairi was diagnosed with autism at the age of two and was nonverbal until three years of age. Similar to most people on the autism spectrum, Danial has trouble communicating and making other people understand him. Growing up, he had limited language capabilities, and he was in his own world most of the time.

At 16, he discovered his talent in drawing and painting through therapy sessions and school activities. Today, he still struggles with communicating and expressing his emotions but is able to express himself better through art.

The Art with Heart returning artist has been active in the arts scene since 2019, and he hasn't stopped since. Danial's **Sparks of Change** moment came when a local art gallery invited him for the first time to participate in a group exhibition, and he was the only neurodivergent artist. It was at that moment he realised that his talents are being recognised.

Besides his keenness on drawing musical instruments, Danial also loves using vibrant colours and feels very connected to nature, as portrayed by his paintings. Most of his works are inspired by his surroundings, including family, gardens, flowers and plants, and animals. With a unique neurological influence of his visual perceptions, interpretations, and high imagination, Danial also embeds the element of naivety in his paintings.

In his latest project, with the collaboration of a writer and the direction by his mother, his inspirations are expanded into children's story books, including *Mr. Turtle to the Rescue* (2021) and *Ben Saves the Day* (2022).

### Notable Achievements

- 1st solo exhibition, *A Walk in a Park* at Innerjoy Art Gallery, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia
- *IM More The Tigers of Malaysia* exhibition, Turin, Italy
- *'Rising Together' Art with Heart 2022* exhibition by RHB Banking Group, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Co-authored *'Ben Saves The Day'*, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Co-authored *'Mr. Turtle to the Rescue!'*, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

### Wau & Congkak

(A01A)

95.5 cm (w) x 49.5 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

This painting combines two traditional games of the Malays: Wau and Congkak, in layers of vibrant colours to showcase the diverse, culturally-rich Malaysia, where tradition glues and unites people from all walks of life.



### Gong & Gasing

(A01B)

95.5 cm (w) x 49.5 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

This painting combines two traditional elements known to many in Malaysia: Gong and Gasing. The vibrant colours painted like 'Kek Lapis' represent this multicultural country's rich history. The juxtaposition of these two iconic Malaysian elements in one painting creates an exciting anecdote in the context of its cultural relevance today.



## Azriq Anwar



Azriq Anwar's artistic journey began when he was a student at Taylor's University, where he started drawing objects by experimenting with as many mediums as possible.

In an ever-changing world, Azriq's art stands as a reflection of his inner growth. It mirrors his journey through life's intricate tapestry, capturing the essence of the human experience. With unwavering determination, he continued to shape his craft, which led to his **Sparks of Change** moment where he devised a specific structure to produce his artwork. Another moment took place in 2022 where he took on the role as a Creative Director and reflected his passion for art in the full-length music video for a new local band, Abjad Aksara, which was produced under Luncai Emas, a prestigious recording label in Malaysia owned by Datuk M. Nasir.

The path he treads is not without challenges. Like any other artist, Azriq has faced moments of doubt and creative drought. Yet, there hurdles have become stepping stones that pushed him to explore new horizons. He believes that every obstacle carries a hidden opportunity, a chance to evolve and redefine his artistic boundaries.

Azriq enjoys reminiscing about memories, dreaming about the future, interacting with people, and appreciating ordinary things in life.

### **Notable Achievement**

- Creative Director for Abjad Aksara's music video, *Bayang-Bayang*, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



**Somewhere  
in the Waiting Room**

(A02A)

60 cm (w) x 60 cm (h)  
Digital print

2023

•••

The cats wander around the waiting room while the world is alive and well without humans. Although this place didn't exist, but now it has been found. Peculiar creatures found themselves somewhere far away but familiar. Once, a waiting room in the middle of somewhere is now their home.



## Garden Walk

(A02B)


60 cm (w) x 60 cm (h)  
Digital print

2023

•••

You live in a world to walk through weird trees and flowers. A cat glances towards the photo of the fish inside the building while waiting behind a bush with a cup of coffee and its plush toy. Taking a break from the rest of its walk towards anywhere it wants to go.





*“ Art is the essence of life.  
The observation of nature is absorbed  
into the inner self and later expressed to be  
seen by society as the image of the human soul.”*

*Datuk Syed Ahmad Jamal, Artist*

## Delwin Cheah



Delwin Cheah was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome at the age of five. Despite his condition, he possesses exceptional artistic abilities and has made valuable contributions to his community and nation through his art.

At the age of eight, Delwin's talent caught the attention of Dr. Rosa Martinez, the President of Strokes of Genius in New York, a world-renowned organisation that collects artwork from savants worldwide. Delwin's unique skills also brought him to the attention of One East Museum founder, Mr. Ch'ng Huck Theng, who helped him with his first solo art exhibition. His exhibition, which featured over 70 paintings, earned him the title "Youngest Savant Artist to hold a Solo Art Exhibition," awarded by Record Setter USA,

and the "Youngest Artist (ASD) to hold Solo Art Exhibition," awarded by the Malaysia Book of Records.

His artwork received recognition and admiration by some of the most notable figures in the world, including Barack Obama and Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Delwin's artistic talents, coupled with his love for nature and endangered animals has led him to partner with WWF Malaysia to design a limited edition t-shirt featuring the Malayan Tiger, to raise funds and create awareness of the endangered animal.

In April 2017, Delwin was named the new Country ICON or "IKON Negaraku" by the Malaysian government as recognition for his artistic talents and his contributions to society.

His **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist unfolded during his recent art exhibition, titled *Freedom - Oxygen of the Soul*, where he sold all his artwork after only 20 minutes following the exhibition's launch.

### Notable Achievements

- World Youngest Savant Artist to hold Solo Art Exhibition awarded by Record Setter, USA
- Youngest Artist to Hold a Solo Visual Art Exhibition (Malaysia Book of Records), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2014 Most Outstanding Personality (Art Category - Malaysia Book of Records), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- "IKON Negaraku" by the Malaysian Government, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## Graceful Zebras

(A03A)

78 cm (w) x 57 cm (h)  
Reusable multipurpose tack,  
acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

Delving into the heart of the Mother Continent, across the vast plains of the Serengeti of Tanzania, gallops the graceful zebras. It is that seasonal time of the year when the great migration of these united creatures rove to another site where it awaits them as a new home. Whirling across the rivers, they filled the grassland in a world of black and white, making it known to the world their iconic coat patterns.



## The Elegant Horses

(A03B)


78 cm (w) x 57 cm (h)  
Reusable multipurpose tack,  
acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

In the steppes of Kazakhstan, the elegant Kazakh horses run wild and free. Listening to the wind singing their unspoken names, their mighty hind legs bring them to an uncertain paradise. From dusk to dawn, the exquisite diversity of these horses charges like there is no tomorrow. *Run and breathe in the air of freedom, the wind whispered in their ears.*





*“ Art. It just takes you  
out from your darkest despair  
and lifts you up with its colours to care.”*

*Datuk Dr. Ras Adiba Radzi, Community Activist, Poet and PWD Icon*

## Wan Jamila



Wan Jamila, known professionally as artjamila®, is an award-winning savant artist known worldwide. She embarked on a journey within the art industry in 2017 with numerous live painting demonstrations and has won several live painting competitions on national and international platforms. Her journey as an artist began when she won the National Live Painting Competition titled 'NEGARAKU' organised by the National Art Gallery. Now, after seven dynamic years, she stands as a seasoned professional.

Her **Sparks of Change** happened in 2020, when the Viatalenta Foundation in Switzerland appointed her as an Impact Artist for sea pollution awareness. She was also featured in an Agence France-Presse article titled *Generation Z: creative and committed, against the virus* in 2020. She was also chosen as a Gen.T Honouree Asian Leader of Tomorrow in 2021 and awarded the ICON Anak Istimewa Selangor (“AnIS”) by the State Government of Selangor in 2022.

Within the same year, she was represented by a prestigious mainstream gallery in Europe and her works were displayed in four countries. She hosted her first grand solo exhibition, titled *Voyage of Moments*, organised by Galeri Shah Alam in collaboration with Creative Media Hub Universiti Teknologi MARA Shah Alam from 29 March 2022 to 15 April 2022.

Throughout her career as an artist, she has participated in two grand solo exhibitions, eight mini-solo exhibitions, 12 group exhibitions internationally, and 56 group exhibitions at a national level together with other well-known professional artists. The theme of diversity remains her driving force, reflecting a world where individuals from all walks of life coexist harmoniously.

### Notable Achievements

- Published in a museum art book, “*Art from Leonardo Da Vinci to Today*”, a collection of historical world-famous artists by MAMAG Modern Art Museum Europe, Vienna, Austria
- “The International Prize Michelangelo - The Genius of Italy”, a recognition awarded in Rome, Italy, to artists who have distinguished themselves over the years for the stylistic value of their artworks
- ‘*Rising Together*’ *Art with Heart* 2022 exhibition by RHB Banking Group, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



## Voyage Of Freedom Series 6

(A04A)

61 cm (w) x 91.5 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

This painting takes us on a voyage through the history of Malaysia, starting from the British colonisation in the 1700s. During World War II, the Japanese invaded Malaya. In 1946 the country sought independence from Britain and formed the United Malay National Organisation (UMNO). Under the leadership of Tunku Abdul Rahman, "Bapa Kemerdekaan", the Federation of Malaya gained independence in 1957. Sabah and Sarawak joined Malaya in 1963, followed by the establishment of Malaysia. Malaysia's Federal Territory comprised Kuala Lumpur, Labuan, and Putrajaya, formed in 1965.



### Truly Malaysia, Series 1

(A04B)

91.5 cm (w) x 91.5 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2022

•••

The work features landmarks of Malaysia painted in blue. The colourful, diverse people living in Malaysia celebrates gracefully in unison, showcasing their multicultural traditional dances, accompanied by their ethnic traditional instruments, symbolising a truly unified country.



**Truly Malaysia, Series 3**  
(A04C)

30.5 cm (w) x 30.5 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••



**A Collage Of Unity  
(KL Metropolitan)  
Series 1C**

(A04D)

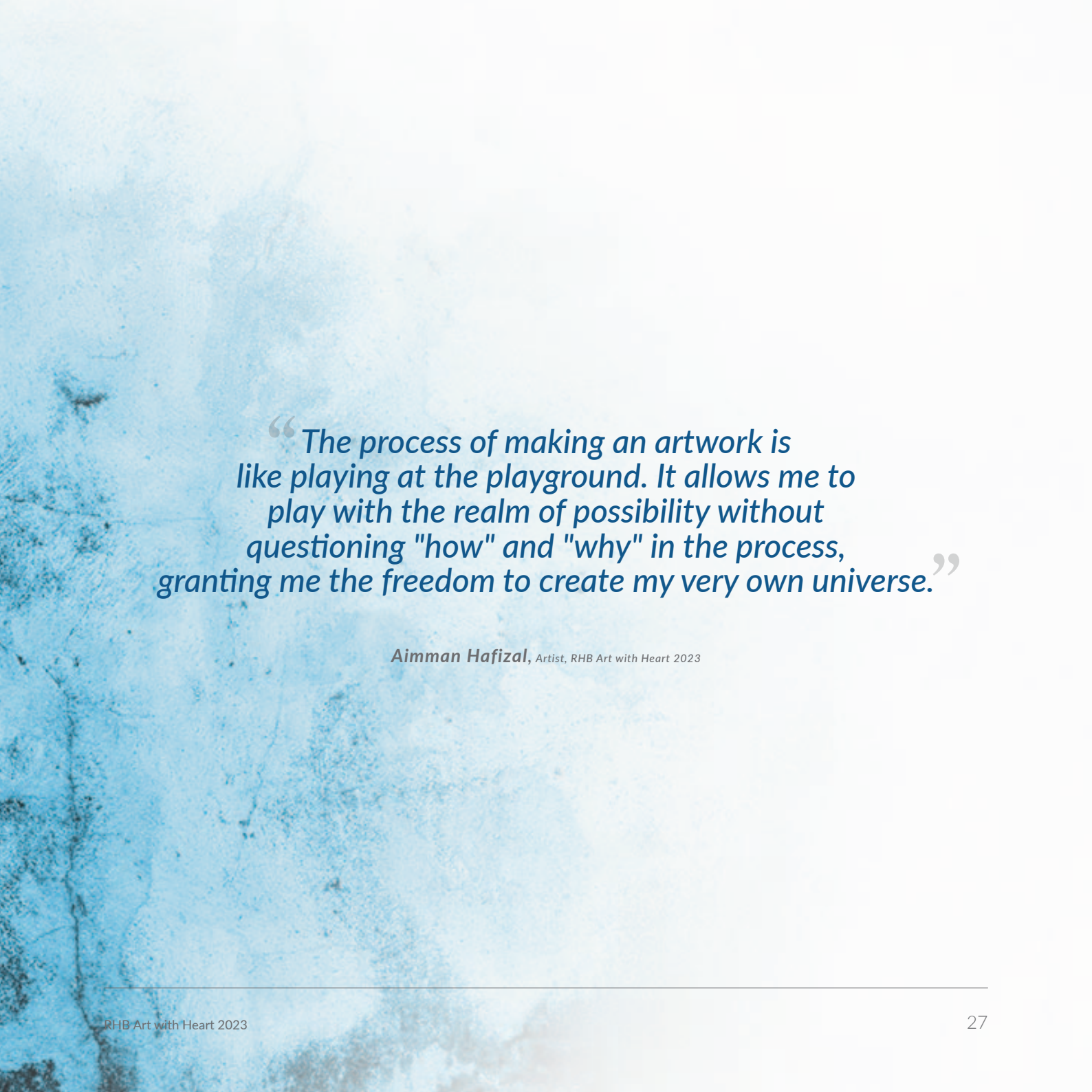
61 cm (w) x 61cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2019

•••

As Malaysians, we all know the significance of 31 August 1957 - the day our country marked its independence, the day we began a new chapter in our history as a free nation. The assimilation of the various ethnicities in Malaysia reflects the liberation of the mind and spirit of Malaysia, all possessing a common objective, "UNITY".





*“The process of making an artwork is like playing at the playground. It allows me to play with the realm of possibility without questioning "how" and "why" in the process, granting me the freedom to create my very own universe.”*

**Aimman Hafizal**, Artist, RHB Art with Heart 2023

## Haziq Izmi



Haziq faced difficulties in communicating at a very young age and he learned to express himself through art. Animals, especially of the feline family, are the main subject of his paintings. From as young as four years old, he was often asked to sketch animals, which he did in his own unique style.

Haziq's first painting was done on a whole wall of his kindergarten, which he named '*Friends*'. After completing school, he worked for several years in a non-profit organisation, producing arts and crafts to be sold by the NGO. His sketches were incorporated in handmade cards, tags, decals, and for Christmas goodies.

He only began painting on canvas with acrylic paint at the age of 24, after an art teacher, who worked with differently abled persons, introduced him to a different aspect of the art world. Haziq draws inspiration from many things, including landscape, nature and sunsets, his favourite time of day, as subjects in his artwork. His latest collection, on the other hand, features musicians with musical instruments, inspired by his love of music.

He recalled his artistic journey reaching a turning point when he sold his painting for the first time. He attributes his creative growth to continuous exploration and unwavering support from his art teacher who nurtured his distinct style. Haziq's art has evolved into a vibrant narrative through patient brushstrokes and intricate detailing, reflecting his unique perspective and emotions.

Haziq's **Sparks of Change** arrived when he recognised the power of arts to eloquently convey his thoughts, circumventing the challenges of verbal expression. His motivation is further fuelled by the heartfelt appreciation his work garners, which brings him profound contentment.

### **Notable Achievement**

- '*Rising Together*' Art with Heart 2022 exhibition by RHB Banking Group, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



### Cafe Street

(A05A)

95 cm (w) x 65.5 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2015

•••

A tree-lined street surrounded by charming cafes invites you to stroll and discover the enchanting ambience. The vibe and tantalising churros left such an impression that it inspired the artist to capture the memory on canvas.

## Green Urn

(A05B)

84 cm (w) x 110 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2015

•••

A majestic green urn is overflowing with a mesmerising assortment of colourful blooms. It stood poised in a corner yet illuminated the entire room.





### Sunset at Fort Supai

(A05C)

67 cm (w) x 81 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2016

•••

Serenity greets the eye as one walks on the wooden boardwalk leading to a seafood haven in a picturesque setting near the sea. The scene unfolds with the glistening ebbing tide while the sun sets. The captivating scene was worthy of a painting.



## Izzati Shahrin



Izzati Shahrin completed her formal education at a school in Shah Alam, Selangor, that is tailored for special needs students. Her journey as a self-taught artist began when her family noticed her talent and provided her with various art materials for her to explore with.

Her creative drive is nurtured by observing the evolving world around her, a palette of emotions expressed through strokes, hues and style, and reflected via an array of mediums. For Izzati, her **Sparks of Change** moment was when she rediscovered her creative expression by transitioning from direct interpretations of her observations to symbolic representations, while seeking an alternative form of inspiration during the COVID-19 lockdowns.

Amidst the pandemic's challenges, Izzati's artistic evolution took a bold stride forward as she explored the depths of her creativity and found solace in the world of symbolism, allowing her art to convey deeper meanings beyond the tangible. This shift marked a turning point, infusing her work with renewed purpose and connecting her more profoundly with both her craft and her audience.

Izzati's creations now feature a fusion of her unique perspective and the transformative spirit of change. As her artistic journey continues to unfold, she remains committed to embracing the unknown, translating her experiences into captivating visuals that stir the imagination.

### Notable Achievements

- Digital exhibition, La Galerie Du Monde, to celebrate World Autism Day, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia
- KAU & AKU art exhibition at DPAC, officiated by the Prime Minister in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 'Rising Together' Art with Heart 2022 exhibition by RHB Banking Group, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Various exhibitions in Muzium Telekom related to women and people with disabilities awareness, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## Flowers In Mandala II

(A06A)

91.5 cm (w) x 91.5 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2020

•••

The artist incorporates her love for flowers and a riot of colours with a touch of gold and silver, raw and mixed in ways one cannot imagine in her paintings, as evident in this series.

The *Mandala* style in square canvas is an extension of her Mandala series on round canvases, available in different sizes and canvas types. She has moved on to a different painting style in her current works.



## Kupuku

(A06B)

112 cm (w) x 112 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2017

•••

"Kupuku" was the first of The Kupuku Series; the others were commissioned works of butterflies in gold, silver and bronze backgrounds, respectively.

The butterfly is a feature in most of Izzati's work, an emergence from the caterpillar to a beautiful tapestry of colours depicting the joy of blossoming and freedom.



## Bungakupuku

(A06C)

58.4 cm (w) x 58.4 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2018

•••

An emerging butterfly of flowers forever bursting through gold and copper. The glittering and sparkling gold, silver, bronze and copper is boxed and juxtaposed.

The smaller the artwork, the more intricate and challenging it is for the autistic artist to express and focus, and this makes the painting one of its kind, as she will never repeat it in such a way in the future.



## Mandala After Storm

(A06D)

55.3 cm (w) x 55.3 cm (h)  
Watercolor pencils & acrylic  
on canvas

2021

•••

A new beginning. The artist started painting again after a long hiatus due to the confusion and isolation during the pandemic.

Her artwork became more detailed as she gravitated towards a new medium; watercolour pencils and smaller canvases became a new preference. The play on colours and choices was deliberate, as the artist uses a different stroke as if washing away the old for a sparkling new beginning.



*“Karya seni adalah satu daripada kerja Tuhan.”*

*Tan Sri P. Ramlee, Seniman*

## Tan Kian Chong



Tan Kian Chong attended Pertubuhan Perkhidmatan Intervensi Awal and began practising drawing to improve his fine motor skills. He has been actively pursuing his passion as an artist for more than ten years.

His **Sparks of Change** moment occurred when he recognised that he could transform his daily surroundings through his art. Engrossed in his passion, Kian Chong embarked on a journey of artistic discovery, honing his skills and nurturing his creative instincts by experimenting with gouache on canvas.

He draws inspiration from the natural world, particularly plants and clear skies, which brings him a deep sense of peace and happiness. Drawing from the boundless well of nature's wonders, Kian Chong continues to channel his inspiration into every stroke, infusing his work with a deep connection to the world around him.



## Radiant Lunar Symphony

(A07A)

37 cm (w) x 37 cm (h)  
Gouache on canvas

2023

•••

"Radiant Lunar Symphony" is a symbolic representation of hope amidst the darkness. The expansive moon shines brilliantly, signifying the enduring light of optimism. Its luminous presence inspires a sense of calm and reassurance, reminding us that hope can illuminate our path and guide us towards a brighter tomorrow, even in the darkest times.



## Spring of Hope

(A07B)


53 cm (w) x 53 cm (h)  
Gouache on canvas

2023

•••

The petals' graceful lines and gentle curves evoke a sense of serenity and tranquillity. As the colours blend harmoniously, they symbolise the resilience of the human spirit, embracing challenges and transforming them into opportunities. The intricate details in the drawing depict the complexity of life's journey, reminding us that hope is not a mere wish but a force that propels us forward. Through hope, we will find the strength to overcome obstacles and embrace a world filled with endless.





*“ Art is the vision of a painter,  
his creativity, imaginative powers,  
and expression that reflect his feelings.  
He creates impressions from a  
combination of emotional and visual expression.”*

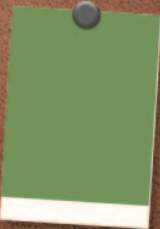
*Datuk Chuah Thean Teng, Artist*



Multidisciplinary

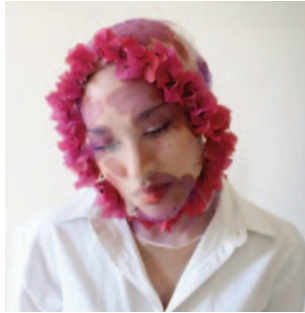


*The world is yours to explore*



e

## Dhan Illiani Yusof



Dhan Illiani Yusof is known as being part of Malaysia's National Women's Ice Hockey team. She is a multidisciplinary artist and a member of the Projek Rabak and KolmeGlu art collective. Dhan dabbles in conceptual -contemporary art in various forms, such as film, paintings, installations, photography, poetry, clothing and performance art. She defines her **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist every time an idea comes to flourish into a piece of art that sparks a continued sense of joy and opens many possibilities.

Her works are primarily experimental, playful and interactive. She explores unexpected combinations of different forms and genres of interest to reinvent and break boundaries. This is done through collaborative feats and interactive works that integrate art outside of its conventional understanding, while emphasising different ways that integrate and explore childlike play - the idea of play in the lens of an adult.

She has actively created content and experimented with her art form since high school, beginning her journey with illustrations, paintings using different mediums, and making small makeshift installations. Dhan often gets various requests and commissions from people to customise multiple items, including sneakers, apparel and tote bags. She is most notable for using herself as a canvas, and dubbed as "The Bucket Hat Girl" for her signature look with her bucket hat and long pinless shawls. Her distinctive style and manner of dressing mirrors her art form - unconventional, eccentric and a mix of her various interests.

She became involved in the local art scene after graduating from high school, taking a year off from higher education to pursue her passion and curiosity in art by joining a myriad of showcases, exhibitions and collaborating with artists and creatives. Dhan developed skills in fabric manipulation, embroidery and embellishments, designing apparel, photography, weaving and sewing when she enrolled in a Fashion Design Course at INTI International College. In addition, she does freelance where she works on murals, live paintings, fashion styling, and digital art commissions.

### Notable Achievements

- Chanel Spread Shoot for Harper's Bazaar Arabia in Tokyo, Japan
- Venice Biennale in Venice, Italy
- Documenta in Kassel, Germany
- *EX01 Art Exhibition* by KolmeGlu Art Collective in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

### Illiani Series

130 cm (w) x 180 cm (h)  
Conceptual photography on  
canvas fabric, 'organdy' fabric, hand  
beaded embellishments

2023

•••

Envisioning raw vulnerability,  
self-esteem, adversity and growth as a  
young woman through an imagined  
language using flowers as a form (in the  
state) of hybrid complex emotions.

What if flowers are watered by complex  
emotions, parts of yourself that don't  
feel like themselves, that feel patched  
up, blurry, flawed and imbalanced,  
stems that struggle with feeling  
inadequate, yet on the outside is  
a mask of well-put peaceful serenity.

These five pieces envision and offer  
support, which isn't always the most  
delicate; Kindness that feels devastating  
to oneself, of jewellery in the form of  
metal wings or petals, crutches, nail  
stamen, and ultimately the frame itself,  
as stems, a type of gratitude and  
reassurance for persevering softness, to  
remind us of the uniqueness being part  
of the genuine formations of beauty.

### The Amputee | Illiani Series

(B01A)



**Split Dancer |  
Illiani Series**

(B01B)



**Soft Violence |  
Illiani Series**

(B01C)





**The Stranger |  
Illiani Series**

(B01D)



**Four Daughters |  
Illiani Series**

(B01E)



# Firdauz Baharudin



Firdauz Baharudin graduated with a Master's Degree in Product Design, focusing on Cognitive Development in Children's Toys for his thesis. Incorporating a deep-rooted passion for creativity, Firdauz embarked on a journey of artistic exploration that was naturally influenced by his family's artistic background.

Over the course of more than two decades, Firdauz has consistently pursued his artistic endeavours with unwavering dedication. A pivotal **Sparks of Change** moment in Firdauz's artistic narrative occurred during a transformative 180-degree shift, where he transitioned from his previous focus on installation and abstract-driven works to the intricate realm of painted wood assemblage. This breakthrough surfaced during the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, compelling Firdauz to redefine his artistic path.

His creative interests predominantly gravitate towards themes encompassing the environment and mental well-being. His mother remains to be a profound source of inspiration for Firdauz, whose enduring love for gardening and animals serves as a poignant backdrop despite her ongoing battle with dementia.

## Notable Achievements

- *Of Space in Between Art Exhibition*, Zhan Art Space, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Pameran Terbuka Galeri Shah Alam 2022*, Selangor, Malaysia
- *Kecik-Kecik Group Show 2023 Exhibition*, Hin Bus Depot Gallery, George Town, Malaysia
- Shortlisted, Malaysia Emerging Artist (MEA) Award by CIMB Foundation, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## Embracing The End To Start

(B02A)

45.72 cm (w) x  
60.96 cm (h)  
Acrylic on wood  
assemblage

2023

•••

The dual artwork titled "Embracing The End To Start" and "Hello, New World" was prompted by the interplay of sparking an action for our ever-changing environment. Through warm hues of wood with vibrant colours, an alien-like visual connects to the concept of global warming and the evolution of humanity. They symbolise the dynamic forces shaping our world, proposing an alternative perspective on global warming. Rather than perceiving it solely as a crisis, the pieces also put forward an alternative for viewers to consider it a transformative catalyst propelling humanity towards the next phase of our evolution.



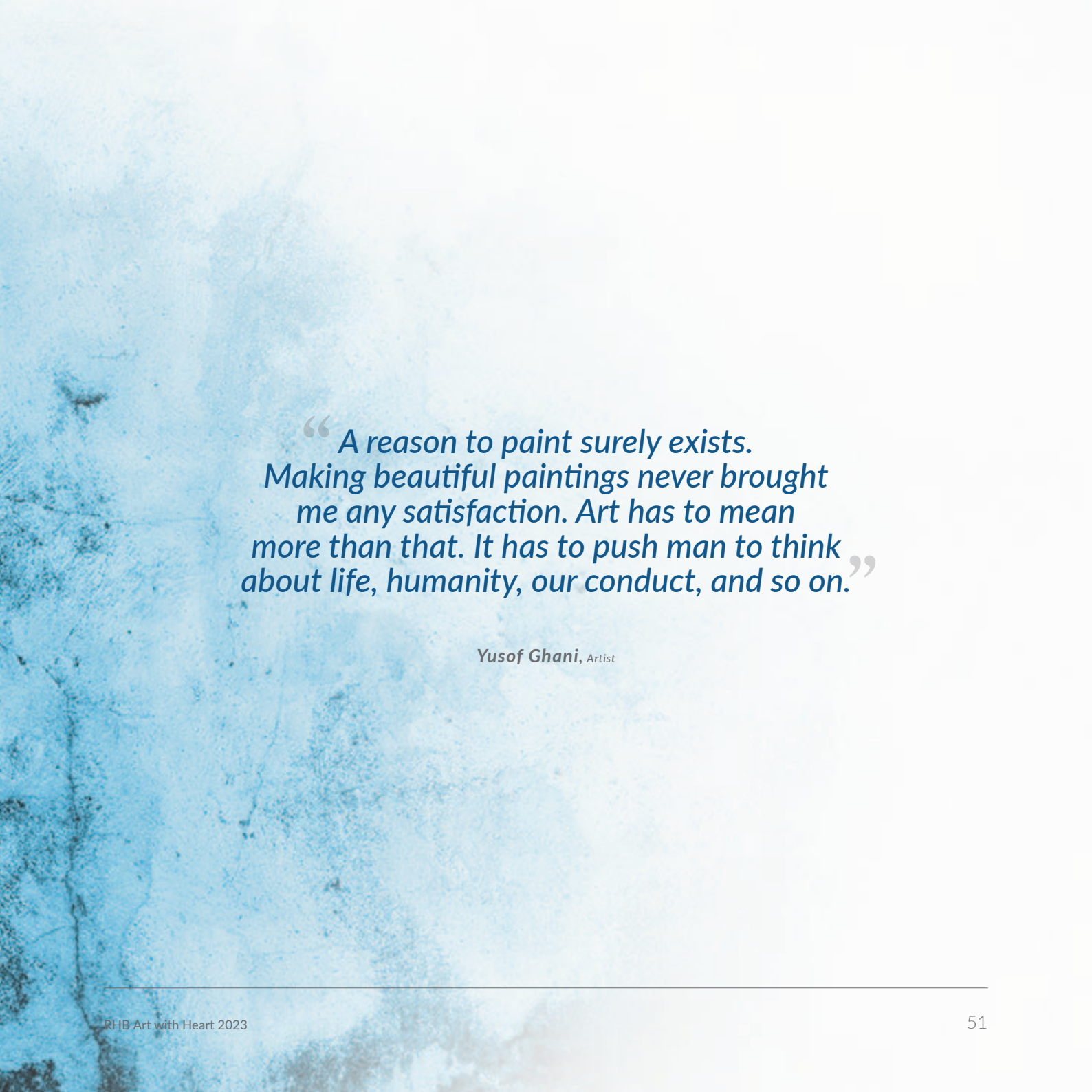
**Hello, New World**

(B02B)

60.96 cm (w) x 45.72 cm (h)  
Acrylic on wood  
assemblage

2023





*“ A reason to paint surely exists.  
Making beautiful paintings never brought  
me any satisfaction. Art has to mean  
more than that. It has to push man to think  
about life, humanity, our conduct, and so on.”*

**Yusof Ghani**, Artist

## Gabriel Cheah



*'I create art to give hope.'* ~ Gabriel Cheah.

Gabriel Cheah Chee Fong or better known as Gabriel Cheah, is an emerging crystal sculptor and ceramic artist. Other than producing one-of-a-kind, hand-moulded and unique art pieces, he also experiments with acrylic, especially when working with a canvas. He is an active member of KolmeGlu art collective, and his works have gained attention from collectors abroad and locally since his debut in 2022.

He graduated from the Malaysian Institute of Art in Graphic Design and sharpened his hand-moulding techniques under the tutelage of his mentor, Chao Harn Kae, who conducts workshops internationally from Malaysia to Hong Kong. Though sculpting is challenging and time-consuming, Gabriel found calmness and serenity when producing his hand-moulded sculptures, which he sometimes incorporates into his paintings.

Gabriel experimented with a myriad of art forms and mediums through his experience working in the local advertising industry, before coming to his **Sparks of Change** moment, where he discovered his true calling as a multidisciplinary artist.

Although his journey as a young artist had just begun, his interest in experimenting with different mediums evolved through the help of his mother, a highly-coveted seamstress, who encouraged and planted the seeds early on. At a very young age, Gabriel's mother exposed him to Austrian crystals, fabrics and materials, building his appreciation for high-quality materials over the years. He incorporated crystals in all his art pieces, from paintings to sculptures, which became his trademark. Gabriel believes the positive energy contained in crystals will help many feel and think positively. It is especially true for him as crystals come from mother nature. In many instances, Gabriel also treats himself as a canvas by integrating the crystals into his outfits as wearable art, which reflects his outgoing approach to life.

Gabriel prefers to be known as a 'Happy Artist' that constantly emits good energy and hope to others. He aims to motivate and be a positive example for all young emerging artists who may feel lost in their careers and studies.

### Notable Achievements

- GLAM Magazine X Greenpeace *Projek Hijau 2023 Exhibition and Fundraiser*, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Lifestyle Asia Kuala Lumpur Top 10 Z List 2023 Award, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *EX01 Art Exhibition* by KolmeGlu Art Collective, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## Crystals In My Veins I

(B03B)

91.44 cm (w) x

121.92 cm (h)

Hand-moulded modeling clay,  
acrylic, European crystals on canvas

2023

•••

In the realm of social interactions, while it is often said that one should not judge a book by its cover, there is an inherent tendency for humans to rely on external appearance as a primary factor in their judgments. Outward appearance encompasses various aspects such as facial features, clothing choices, and language use, but we still can't change the human brain. People have the right to perceive us however they want to. The exceptional ones will notice our unique ways of communication because words and gestures alone are sometimes not enough. So do you still think I'm just a bell pepper?



## Crystals In My Veins II

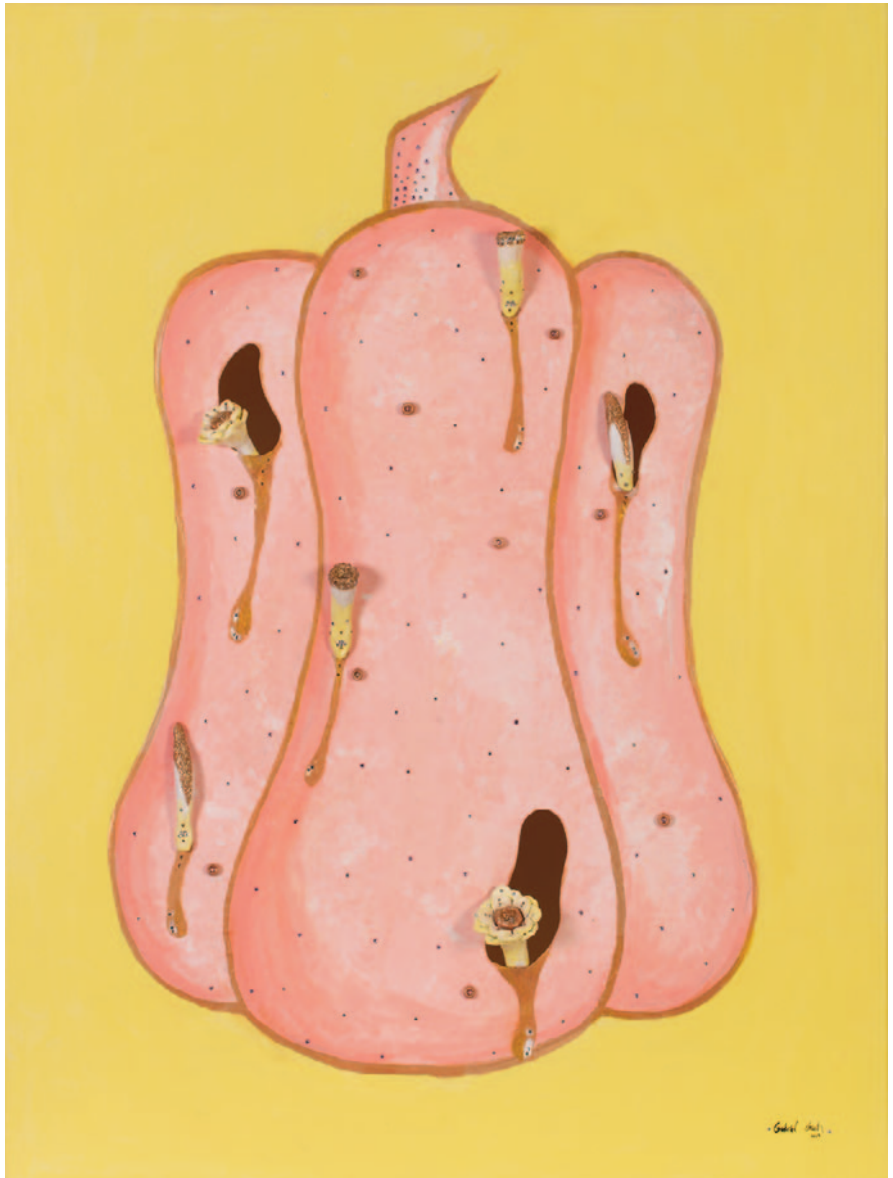
(B03A)

91.44 cm (w) x

121.92 cm (h)

Hand-moulded modeling clay,  
acrylic, European crystals on canvas

2023





### Crystals In My Veins III

(B03E)

15 cm (w) x 24 cm (h) x 16 cm (d)  
Hand-moulded ceramic,  
European crystals, acrylic

2023



**Crystals In My Veins IV**

(B03C)

15 cm (w) x 26 cm (h) x 17 cm (d)  
Hand-moulded ceramic,  
European crystals, acrylic

2023



**Crystals In My Veins V**

(B03D)

16 cm (w) x 25 cm (h) x 17 cm (d)  
Hand-moulded ceramic,  
European crystals, acrylic

2023



## Leopold Garrett



Leopold Garrett Anak Jawan delved into the world of art while pursuing his education in the fine art programme at University Malaysia Sarawak, where his participation in various exhibitions further fuelled his creative growth.

Driven by a desire to explore new horizons, Leopold draws inspiration from celebrated artists like Umi Baizura, Ugo Untoro, and Entang Wiharso, whose works have left an indelible mark on his artistic perspective.

For Leopold, the **Sparks of Change** moment embodies the dynamic shifts in the art trends. He believes that these shifts act as an internal spark, allowing artists, like himself to confront challenges with an invigorating outlook. He sees the journey of an artist as an exhilarating endeavour and one that brings forth unique creations. Each artistic piece within the dynamic realm of contemporary art unfolds a distinct rhythm, leaving a profound impact on those who engage with the art.

Beyond his exploration of trends, Leopold's creative passion extends to diverse subjects such as primitives, puppets, and the rich cultural tapestry of the Iban community. With his artful touch, he often fuses rituals and mystical values into beautiful visual arts.

### Notable Achievements

- *Sketsa Merah Putih Exhibition* (Sanggar Bambu), Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- *Arthuasiasm Exhibition* in Museum Dan Tanah Liat (MDTL), Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- 18th Mini Film Festival x Mini Arts Festival Saradise Edge, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Shortlisted in the Nando's Art Initiative, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- National Bank of Malaysia Arts Bazaar and Exhibitions (Young Artist), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## See/Saw

(B04A)

32 cm (w) x 50 cm (h) x 25 cm (d)  
Ceramics & wood

2022

•••

“SEE” is a verb that uses words to state what we see differently. It's dependent on a person to judge someone or something. We need a vision to guide our creative energy and desires. When our opinions are blocked, we will live in the mainstream world. They are ubiquitous. We should change their minds.



## The Connection

(B04B)


60.96 cm (w) x 60.96 cm (h)  
Ceramics on board

2022

•••

The senses of sight, touch,  
taste, and smell, although  
capable no doubt is of  
significant development.





*“I never advise people to  
buy for investment.  
Buy something you like.”*

*Dato' Dr. Tan Chee Khuan, Psychiatrist and Gallerist*

## Jakob van Klang



Jakob van Klang identifies himself as a self-taught artist who discovered his passion by chance. His artistic exploration commenced with a paint-making workshop, and he has been refining his abilities ever since.

The transformative **Sparks of Change** instance in Jacob's artistic voyage emerged amidst the COVID-19 lockdown, propelling him into the realm of oil painting and igniting his creative odyssey. Jacob's muse lies within landscapes, their grandeur and timelessness captivating his senses, weaving a tapestry of inspiration that fuels his artistic expression.

With every piece he creates, Jacob seeks to not only convey the external beauty but also to evoke the emotions and contemplations that these landscapes stir within him. Through his art, he invites the audience to embark on a visual journey, inviting them to lose themselves in the intricate interplay of colours and forms.

### **Notable Achievement**

- National Art Gallery's Young Art Entrepreneur (YAE!) programme, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



## Spiral Into Oblivion

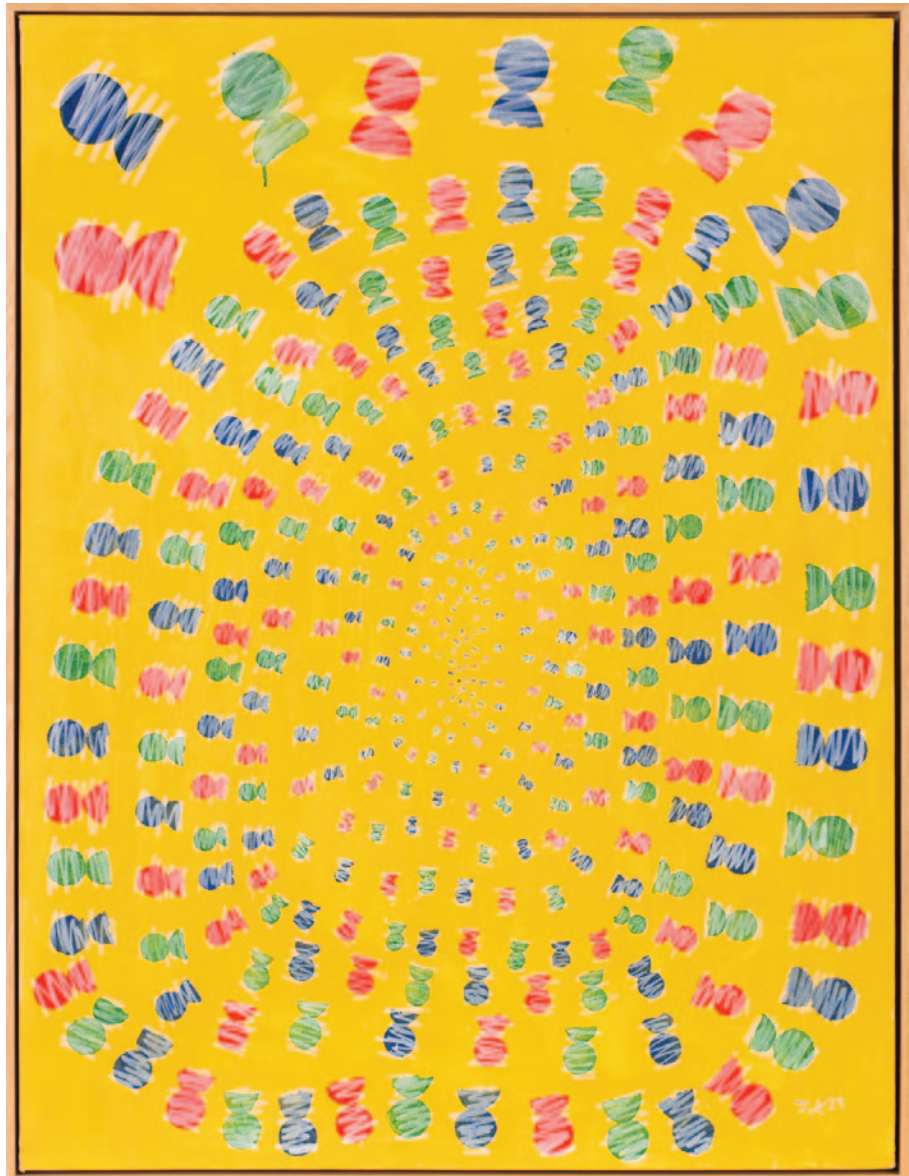
(B05A)

80 cm (w) x 104 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

"*Spiral Into Oblivion*" is about the millions of people affected by Myalgic Encephalomyelitis or chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS). This condition varies from person to person, but commonly this is a debilitating illness that reduces a person's quality of life, leaving some housebound. This artwork is for all those forgotten by society because they have vanished.



## Daggered Leaves

(B05B)


104 cm (w) x 104 cm (h)  
Mixed media on MDF board

2023

•••

"*Daggered Leaves*" is an interpretation of Mother Nature fighting back against humans for the catastrophe inflicted on the climate. The textured background, created with palette knives, intends to convey the explosion of Mother Nature's wrath. Unfortunately, nature does not fight back, as it is virtually powerless against the relentless assault of humankind.





*“Segalanya berubah dan  
sementara itulah  
yang tetap dan berkekalan.”*

*Latiff Mohidin, Artist and Poet*

## M. Sahzy



M. Sahzy is a Bornean artist residing in Kuching, Sarawak, who creates surreal sculptures from organic materials. Primarily made within the natural environment of the jungle, his sculptures reflect an affiliation between the materials, the space in which he works, and his own 'imagination and ideas'. He investigates the possibilities within existing materials; where each sculpture represents a unique moment he experienced over weeks or months. The materials become the text, and the sculpture becomes the story.

M. Sahzy has a filmmaking and graphic design background, but following his training with the notable forest sculptor Spencer Byles, M. Sahzy began creating sculptures too. He has been an active artist for eight years now.

His **Sparks of Change** moment is whenever he can share his nuanced perspective in life through his artwork. He is passionate about the environment, leading him to create and repurpose ecological art, or as he refers to as 'Jungle Sculptures', a term he coined inspired by his surroundings in Borneo, where he crafts sculptures using materials sourced from the lush jungle that envelops him. Inspiration strikes him in various ways, from a simple view out the window to a conversation with someone else or even just taking a moment to be still.

For him, inspiration is limitless and spontaneous. M. Sahzy also collaborates and accepts commissions for events, exhibitions, and personal needs.

### Notable Achievements

- *Temu<sup>1</sup>* art exhibition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Rainforest World Music Festival, Sarawak, Malaysia
- *Telur Pecah*, Alleyway Project, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Forest Sculptures Mentorship and Residency at La Garriga, Barcelona, Spain
- ArtHaus Residency in Sarawak, Malaysia

## The Portal

(B06A)

39 cm (w) x 59 cm (h) x 12 cm (d)  
Jungle vines & wood log

2023

•••

*"The Portal"* : Symbols of Unity has always been my favourite part of the artwork. It perfectly conveys stories about the door that connects to a different environment or, as the Sarawak natives believes, to the spirit world.



## Spiral Forest

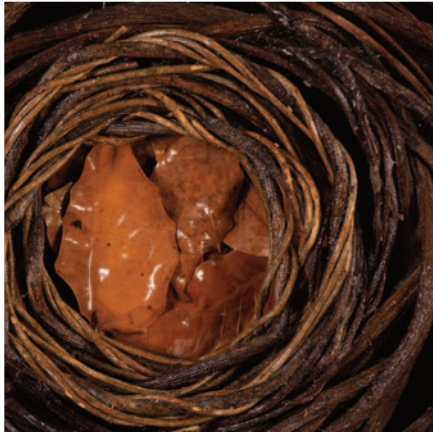
(B06B)


121.92 cm (w) x 152 cm (h)  
Jungle vines & frame

2023

•••

"*The Spiral Forest*" represents the cycle of life; birth, growth, death and reincarnation. The artist delivers in the form of a frame, so it would be a perfect size to install it indoors instead of mainly outdoors or inside the jungle.





*“ Jika kita mendidik masyarakat dengan contoh yang baik, masyarakat secara beransur-ansur akan terpengaruh dengan cara positif.”*

*Tan Sri P. Ramlee, Seniman*

## Suhaili Micheline



Suhaili Micheline is a well-known Malaysian choreographer, dancer, and emerging artist with a Bachelor's Degree in Dance (Hons) from The Victorian College of the Arts in Melbourne, Australia. She discovered her passion for movement painting through collaborations and has been actively pursuing her art for the past three years. She is also a member of KolmeGlu art collective.

Suhaili is a multiple award winner of the Boh Cameronian Awards since 2019 and has been recognised nationwide in the local arts scene. She has toured extensively and has been invited to dance festivals, economic forums, TED Talks, and art residencies in various countries, including the USA, Spain, Italy, Russia, Australia, Singapore, Japan, Hong Kong, Indonesia, the Philippines, and South Korea.

Suhaili premiered her first full-length dance work '*Flatland*' at the Kuash Theatre, a nominee for the 11th Boh Cameronian Arts Awards in 2014, and winning multiple awards, including Best Choreographer. She performed a new full-length contemporary dance '*SKIN*' at the George Town Festival 2015 with Terry and The Cruz, which also toured Australia (OzAsia Festival 2016) and again in 2018. Her extensive experience in teaching, managing, and choreographing in Malaysia has produced many local talents now studying and performing internationally.

Suhaili's **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist came when she discovered the joy of painting and realised how it created a ripple effect of fine-tuning her world of creativity and happiness. She draws inspiration from the abstract movements of dance and the therapeutic power of creating art for herself and others. Through her work, she finds balance and peace of mind.

### Notable Achievements

- EX02 DAYA Art Exhibition & Live Art Installation by KolmeGlu Art Collective, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Pop-Up at Godown Arts Market, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Biz of RE's '*I Am Woman 2023*', Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



**Rainbow Paddle Pop**

(B07A)

61 cm (w) x 61 cm (h)  
Acrylic/soft pastel on canvas

2023

•••

My after school craving for  
the rainbow ice cream on a  
perfect hot day. Bliss.



**I Crave For This**

(B07B)

110 cm (w) x 170 cm (h)  
Acrylic & crayon on canvas

2022

•••

The grass is always greener  
on the other side they say.  
I'll grow my own grass.



**The Chain Curtain Door**

(B07C)

110 cm (w) x 170 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2022

•••

Inspired by the food and the people of Monet Cafe. Like a door, it opens up to opportunities, growth, miracles... and even animals.



## Vincent Siow



Vincent Siow is a multi-talented Malaysian artist who excels in fashion design, music, and visual arts. As a self-taught, award-winning designer, he has showcased his collections at one of the Paris Fashion Week trade shows. Vincent draws his inspiration from literature, music, and visual arts and his **Sparks of Change** moment occurred when he found a new way to express himself by incorporating his artwork into prints for his menswear collection.

Vincent's design process is highly inspiring as his paintings are reflected in each collection, making them unique. He blends creativity and tradition to create contemporary designs for menswear, which resulted in Tatler's Malaysia branding him as the next emerging designer. Vincent started sketching and doodling at a young age and he then learned to paint with acrylic and oil mediums from Hong Kong-based artist Jennifer Tan, despite having no formal training.

He is inspired by people and is drawn to them. As a tailor, he continuously observes the proportions and movements of the body, which naturally become the subjects of his paintings, whether they are figurative or abstract portraits.

### Notable Achievements

- Winner of Malaysian Fashion Pitch, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Huawei Kuala Lumpur Fashion Week Best Menswear Designer, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- August Man's Men-Of-The-Year, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Mercedes Benz Kuala Lumpur Fashion Week, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## Fragments of Perception

(BOBA)

121 cm (w) x 152 cm (h)  
Mixed media on canvas

2023

•••

A harmonious blend of disparate elements that create a stunning tableau. It showcases Siow's diverse creative pursuits, blending his passion for painting with his clothing design and tailoring expertise. The fabric, sourced from Siow's tailoring excess, adds a tactile dimension to the piece, inviting viewers to observe and engage with the artwork on a deeper level. The depth of this painting is expressed through an intricate overlap of colours and fabric, manipulating colour, texture, and form to create a space where the abstract meets the tangible, where fragments of perception coalesce into a coherent whole.



**Sitting On The Dock  
Of The Bay**

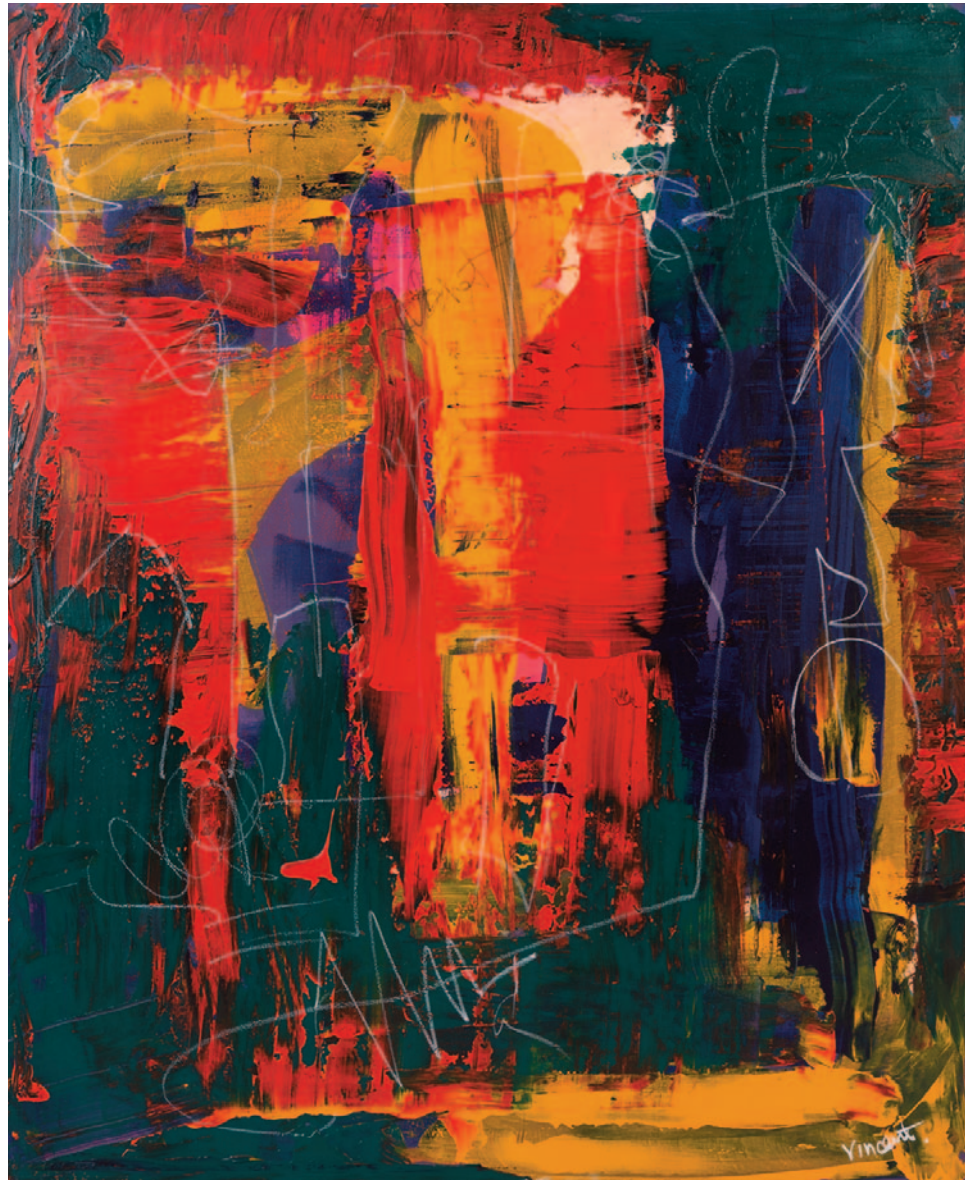
(B08B)

122 cm (w) x 152 cm (h)  
Mixed media on canvas

2019

•••

This piece is a vibrant homage to the world of music. It is a symphony of colour and form, a visual representation of the rhythm, harmony, and emotion that music embodies. It invites us to immerse ourselves in the colourful world of music, to lose ourselves in the rhythm of colours, and to find a piece of our own experiences within its abstract forms; it is a sensory experience, a visual concert, a celebration of the universal language of music and colour.



## Conversation

(B08C)

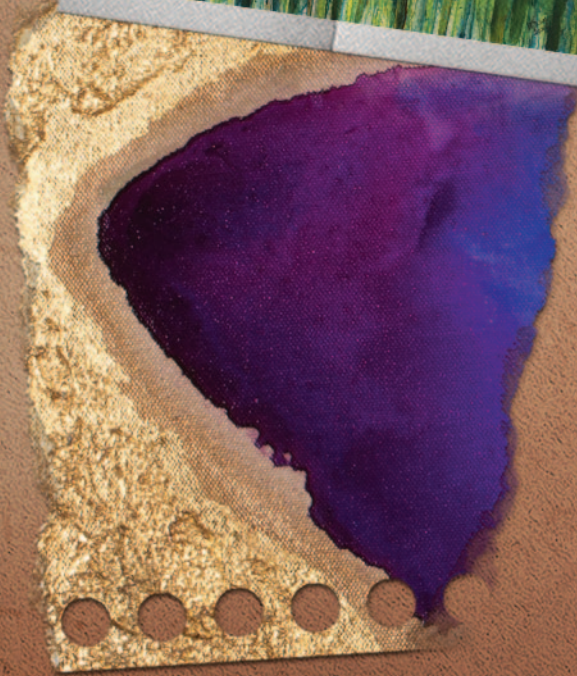
153 cm (w) x 183 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

Vincent Siow draws upon the rich tapestry of life experiences that unfold around him, using them as the primary source of inspiration for his abstract paintings. His work is a testament to the profound impact of everyday occurrences, transforming them into captivating visual narratives. This painting is a striking representation of the power and depth within a simple interaction between two individuals by employing a minimalist approach, stripping away the superfluous to focus on the essence of the interaction.







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tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore  
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lacus vel facilisis.



## Abstract



## Adam Ummar



Adam Ummar, also known as Univorso, is an up-and-coming, self-taught visual artist based in Kuala Lumpur. With a background in fashion retail and nightlife, Adam originally planned to enrol in the Malaysian Institute of Art but his plan took a turn amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to him pursuing a full-time career as an artist.

Adam's artworks explore themes such as spirituality, mythology, philosophy, emotions, and mental health. He draws inspiration from various interests such as fashion, design, literature, sociology, politics, and the humanities. Adam's mastery lies in his ability to convey the ineffable, infusing his works with a tapestry of emotions that resonate deeply within the observer.

Through his abstract pieces, Adam aims to deconstruct and reconstruct the world visually by investigating the relationships between colours and forms. He sees his creative practice as an ongoing dialogue with the humanities.

Adam's **Sparks of Change** moment occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic when he had multiple experiences that fundamentally changed him and shaped him into the artist he is today.

### **Notable Achievements**

- National Art Gallery's Young Art Entrepreneur (YAE!) programme, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Light & Dark* virtual group exhibition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**A Bout de Souffle/  
Breathless**

(C01A)

92 cm (w) x 122 cm (h)  
Mixed media on canvas

2020

•••

The artwork, titled after Jean-Luc Godard's film *A Bout de Souffle*, reflects themes of alienation and existentialism explored in the movie, created during the COVID-19 pandemic's Movement Control Order in 2020. While feeling trapped and suffocated in a tiny flat, the artist turned to art as an outlet to cope with emptiness and loneliness. The culmination of an online art course, the painting pays homage to abstract expressionist artists like Barnett Newman, Jackson Pollock, and Mark Rothko.



## Nafas Baru

(C01B)

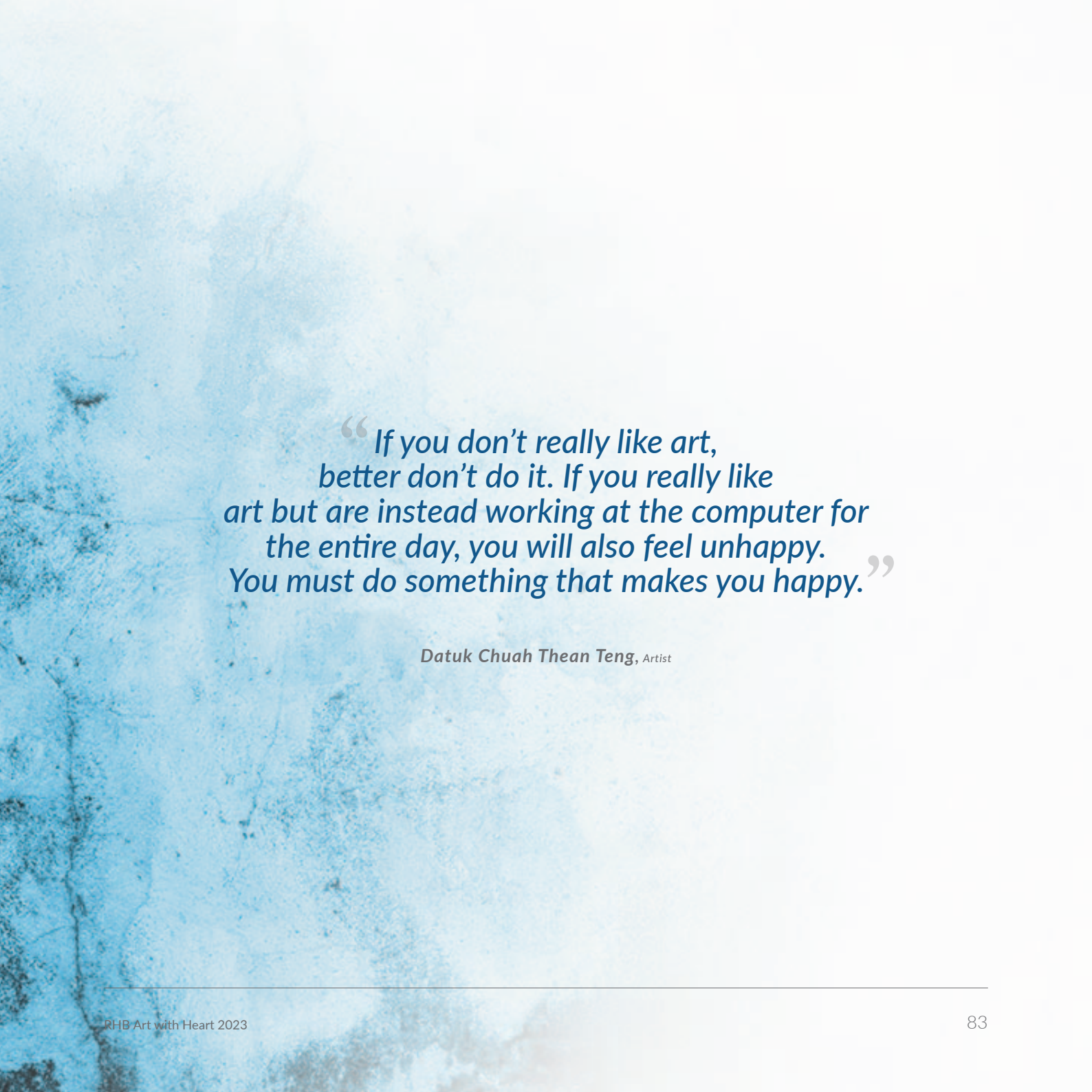
92 cm (w) x 122 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

"*Nafas Baru*" is the artist's first painting after a year-long break, symbolising personal growth and artistic development. It draws inspiration from spirituality and science. The background reflects the seven chakras, starting from the root chakra at the bottom and ascending to the crown chakra. The breath plays a significant role in spiritual practice, regulating energy flow through meditation and deep breathing. From a scientific perspective, the painting incorporates elements of human biology, such as alveoli, the nervous system, and the vast population of microorganisms in the body. It highlights the interconnectedness of breath, physical and spiritual well-being.





*“ If you don’t really like art,  
better don’t do it. If you really like  
art but are instead working at the computer for  
the entire day, you will also feel unhappy.  
You must do something that makes you happy.”*

*Datuk Chuah Thean Teng, Artist*

## Adli



Adli is an accomplished artist with two Master's Degrees. He obtained a Master's Degree in Arts in International Cultural Policy and Management from the University of Warwick, United Kingdom, in 2017, and a Master's Degree in Fine Arts and Technology from Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia. Adli's passion for art started in high school, where he dabbled with graffiti and later moved on to charcoal drawings. In 2010, Adli began showcasing his artwork in exhibitions and eventually became a full-time art practitioner, before establishing his own studio in 2019.

Despite his cheerful and friendly demeanour, Adli has struggled with depression in the past. However, his journey to recovery led to his **Sparks of Change** moment, with a newfound appreciation for the world which allowed him to see its beauty differently, leading him to capturing every moment with heart and soul. Adli's collection of fine artworks is inspired by the Koi fish and became his symbol of courage.

For Adli, his artworks represent more than just colours and brush strokes. Abstract painting became a way for him to reflect on himself and embrace change and mishaps in his practice. This mindset has transcended into his everyday life as an artist who has recovered from depression.

### Notable Achievements

- First solo exhibition, *Chasing The Dragon*, G13 Gallery, Selangor, Malaysia
- *Eye on Malaysia* exhibition at Noliis Gallery, London, United Kingdom

**Naga: Cotton Burns Fire II**

(C02A)

114.3 cm (w) x 152.4 cm (h)  
Acrylic & soil on canvas

2023

•••

There is a Chinese folklore that tells of a tale of a koi fish that spent a hundred years trying to climb a waterfall over the Yellow River and was successful. As a reward for its perseverance, the koi fish was turned into a dragon after it passed through the dragon's gate. This old Asian folklore resonated with me and helped me through my depressive state, embedding principles of spirituality and evolution within me. Consequently, it built a bridge between Asian mythology, spirituality, and my identity.



**Naga: Mosaik Merah Jambu**


(C02B)

91.44 cm (w) x 91.44 cm (h)  
Acrylic & soil on canvas

2023





The background of the page is a textured, light blue surface, possibly a wall or canvas, with a white diagonal line running from the top left towards the bottom right. The texture is somewhat mottled and organic.

*“In the language of painting,  
all the words and the sentences and the  
whole story could be captured in a single stroke.”*

*Latiff Mohidin, Artist and Poet*

## Anyshya Jusam



Anyshya Jusam embraced her role as a professional artist in 2014 and obtained a Master's Degree in Fine Arts from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak in 2022.

Her **Sparks of Change** moment came when she realised the vast potential of incorporating unconventional materials into her artwork, a revelation which propelled her further as she began experimenting with different materials and techniques when producing her artwork.

Anyshya draws inspiration from cultural objects and is keen to explore nature to generate new ideas for her artwork. She likes to see the potential in cultural objects that can be developed into beautiful works of art, especially when realising not all cultural objects and symbols can be seen in the form of realism; instead, it is better seen in an abstract form according to an artist's style.

### **Notable Achievements**

- *DALAM* exhibition at Think & Tink in Sarawak, Malaysia
- CeARTex; Ceramic Hybrid & Ceramic Creative (Ceramic Fine Arts Batch 16/17), UNIMAS in Sarawak, Malaysia
- Art exhibitions at Cat Museum in Sarawak, Malaysia
- INTEX (Innovation Technology Expo) iD-MAP-Interactive Digital Map, UNIMAS in Sarawak, Malaysia
- CIPTA, FACA Gallery, UNIMAS, Sarawak, Malaysia

## Ibu Susuan

(C03A)

44.5 cm (w) x 62 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2018

•••

"*Ibu Susuan*" is a commentary on the value of a mother's love for her child. Through bright colours, intricate patterns and symbolic motifs, this artwork invites the audience to empathise with the character of a mother for her beloved child. Ibu Susuan aims to create a dialogue that crosses borders, accelerating a deeper understanding and appreciation of the shared human experience.



## Kantan

(C03B)


44.5 cm (w) x 62 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2018

•••

"Kantan" reveals a captivating symphony of cultural abstraction. Bunga Kantan adds flavouring to traditional dishes in Sarawak, such as Ayam Pansuh. Layers of colour, form and texture come together in a mesmerising dance, crossing boundaries and embracing the essence of diverse traditions celebrating the beauty of cultural diversity.





*“ Sometimes, there’s a force that pushes you to a level that is much heavier, with feelings of more pain, more aggression, more energy. I just follow the force. I never try to control, I let it go. And that’s the interesting part. It’s like a dialogue between you and the painting.”*

*Yusof Ghani, Artist*

## Dana Kaarina



Dana Kaarina earned her Master's Degree in Art Psychotherapy from Goldsmiths University in London, United Kingdom, where she pursued her passion for the arts. She first discovered her love for art while studying Psychology at Hawaii Pacific University in the United States.

Dana, an art psychotherapist and artist, believes that Art Psychotherapy can be a powerful tool for improving mental health in Malaysia. Her efforts to promote this transformative therapy have helped Malaysians connect with their true selves. Dana is proud of this accomplishment, which she achieved after returning from studying abroad.

Throughout her journey as an artist, her pivotal **Sparks of Change** moment occurred when she embraced her creative process as a sanctuary, enabling her to release her emotions, rather than just analysing them intellectually.

As an artist, Dana's deepest inspirations stemmed from exploring human emotions and how she perceives the world, delving into her emotional journey, and finding profound inspiration through her connection to nature.

**As The Wind Blew  
Over Me**

(C04A)

114.3 cm (w) x 144.78 cm (h)  
Mixed media on canvas

2023

•••

"As the Wind Blew Over Me" is a painting that explores the symbolism of the wind, particularly its association with change. The wind serves as a powerful force that has the ability to transform and shape our lives. It represents that constant flow of life, persisting amidst challenges and obstacles. Like the wind, life moves forward, evolving and adapting. The painting invites viewers to embrace the natural ebb and flow of life, acknowledging that while we cannot control the strength or direction of the wind, we can prepare and develop resilience, trusting in the inherent rhythm of existence.





### **Buried Thoughts**

(C04B)


111.76 cm (w) x 73.66 cm (h)  
Mixed media on canvas

2022

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*"Buried Thoughts"* represents old or outdated thought patterns, beliefs, or perspectives that need to be unearthed and examined in order to facilitate personal growth and transformation. In the process of change, buried thoughts may need to be brought to the surface, acknowledge, and released in order to make way for new ideas and possibilities.





*“ I believe basically, in art as a form of experience for perception through the sense and the imagination, and the immediacy of the kind of presence that was expressed in expressionism, the directness and close relationship of purpose and means.”*

*Datuk Syed Ahmad Jamal, Artist*

## Faez Fahmi



Faez Fahmi is a talented artist who specialises in painting and mixed media. He graduated from Universiti Teknologi MARA in Seri Iskandar, Perak, with a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts (Hons) in 2018 and later pursued his studies at the Universiti Teknologi MARA in Shah Alam, Selangor, earning a Master's Degree in Fine Arts & Technology.

Faez developed a passion for art by participating in various art competitions and exhibitions. His work has been displayed at prestigious galleries such as Segaris Art Center, Artas Gallery, and Nadine. For the past five years, Faez has been actively participating in various art exhibitions and is now a fulltime artist.

Faez was inspired to become a full-time artist by his late teacher, who encouraged him to pursue his passion for visual arts, which incidentally was his **Sparks of Change** moment. He is also inspired by other artists within the art world, which caused his work to evolve over time, from surrealism to abstract expressionism. He enjoys playing with colours and textures to create unique and unpretentious effects.

Faez is particularly interested in the beauty of nature and flora. Growing up in a village rich in plants and beaches, he has a deep appreciation for the natural world and draws inspiration from it. His work reflects his emotional connection to nature and the environment.

### **Notable Achievements**

- *“Faith” Islamic Art Exhibition*, Segaris Art Center in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *HOM Art Open*, HOM Art Trans, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Puntobition International Online Exhibition*, Galery Punto in Ankara, Turkey
- *Spotlight Exhibition*, Penang Art District at 179 The House in George Town, Malaysia

## Bumi Terbentang

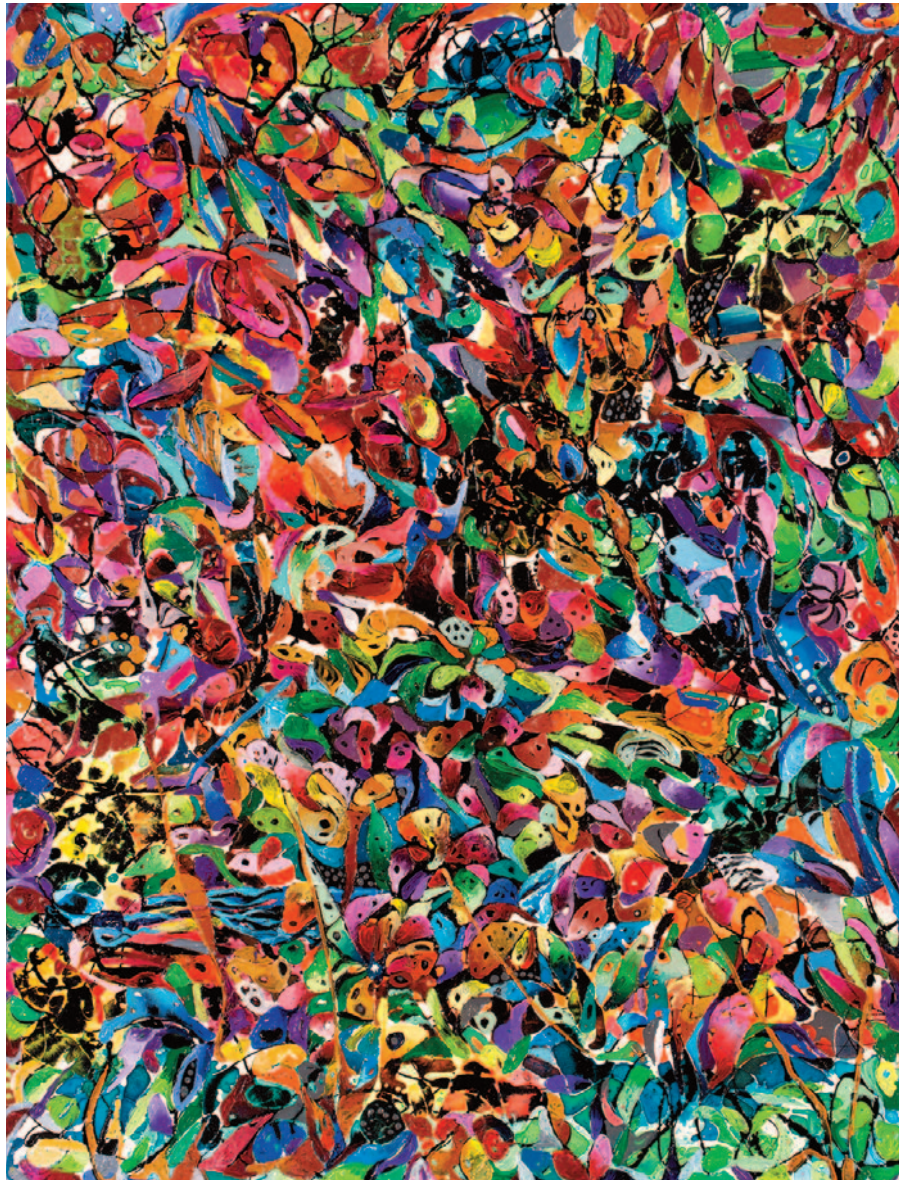
(C05A)

92 cm (w) x 122 cm (h)  
Acrylic, white cement &  
industrial paint on canvas

2023

•••

Mother Nature is a source of many inspirations. It evokes a sense of gratefulness to many, especially the artist, who often draws upon it to express his appreciation, devotion and love for The Creator and how it relates back to his feelings while creating his works.

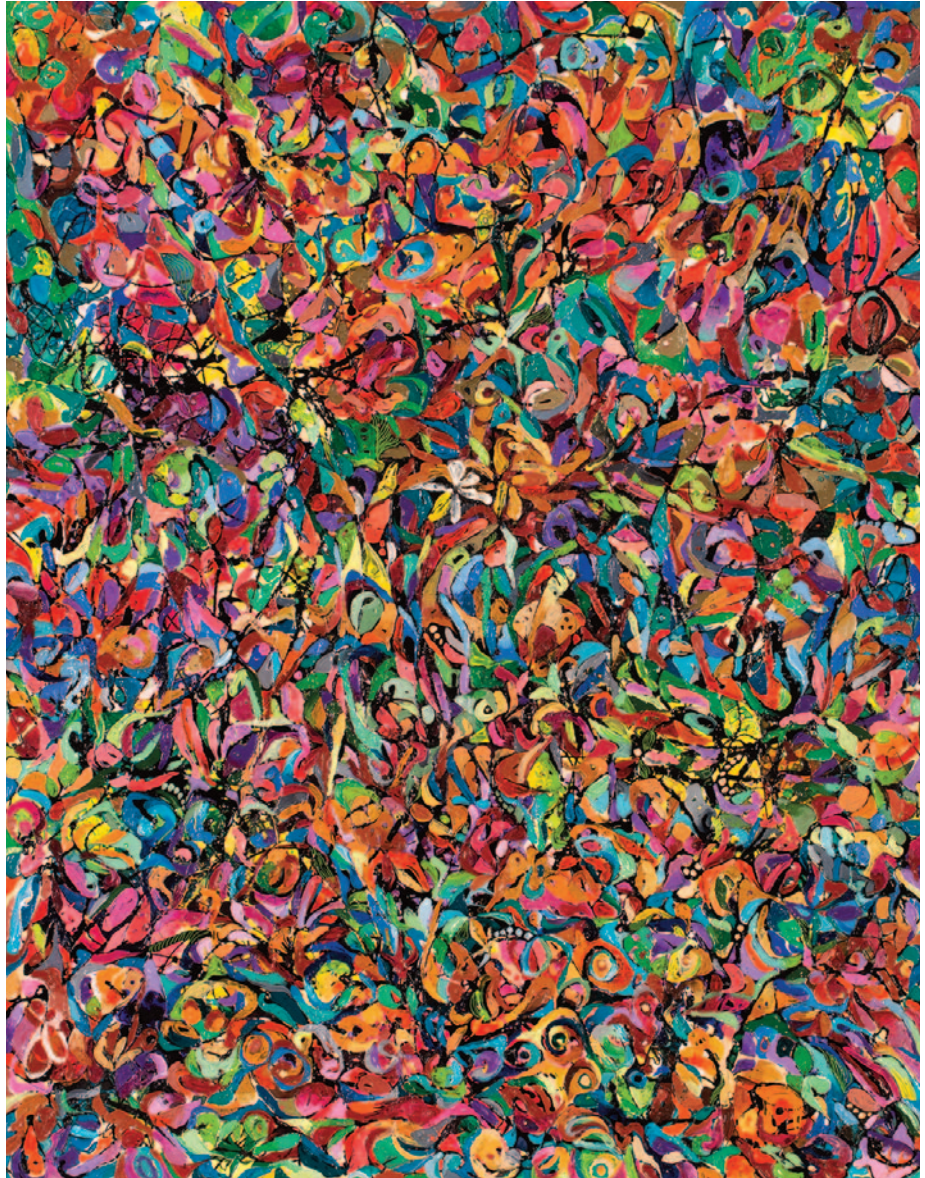


**Mekar**

(C05B)

92 cm (w) x 122 cm (h)  
Acrylic, white cement &  
industrial paint on canvas

2023



**Sun Flowers**

(C05C)

92 cm (w) x 122 cm (h)  
Acrylic, white cement &  
industrial paint on canvas

2023




**The Serenity**

(C05D)

92 cm (w) x 122 cm (h)  
Acrylic, white cement &  
industrial paint on canvas

2023





*“ Their ideologies are so different.  
It’s important that we learn to understand  
each other and be able to communicate.  
How do we gain acceptance  
and tolerance for each other? ”*

*Gan Chin Lee, Asian Modern & Contemporary Painter*

## Habsah Abang Saufi



Habsah Abang Saufi is a self-taught artist who only discovered her passion for painting that took over her life in the last few years. "It's something I cannot help doing because it is the most satisfying feeling to be able to put into visuals whatever is in my mind. I like to capture the movement in people, which convey a little story, the things that are culturally inherent in us," she says.

She believes that becoming an artist is not a sudden decision but a gradual process. She has always enjoyed doodling, but her **Sparks of Change** moment didn't happen until 2011 when she realised that painting was her true form of self-expression. Painting gave her a sense of purpose, allowed her mind to wander, and helped her forget everything else. This encouraged Habsah to participate in several exhibitions in Kuala Lumpur, Penang, and Kuching over the years.

Her years as a business partner to her fashion designer sister, Dato Tom Abang Saufi, have put her in good stead in understanding the business of fashion, capturing the industry's funny, quirky, captivating, and sometimes, the sad side of the industry. This was when her interest in batik grew as it was their primary business. She learned the entire process of batik-making and expanded her skills to painting on mediums other than fabrics.

Fashion is only one of her many inspirations. Still, her fascination for geometry has never waned from her days as a student who did her A-Levels in the UK and BSc in Mathematical Studies at Hull University. "My left and right brain are more than not at odds with each other," she says as she tries to put the logic of mathematics into her painting.

Habsah is moved by the social changes that affect our lives on this planet. She is inspired by the ingenuity of people who create innovative things and processes that improve the world, which create ripples that spark the changes in her.



## Nafas Baru

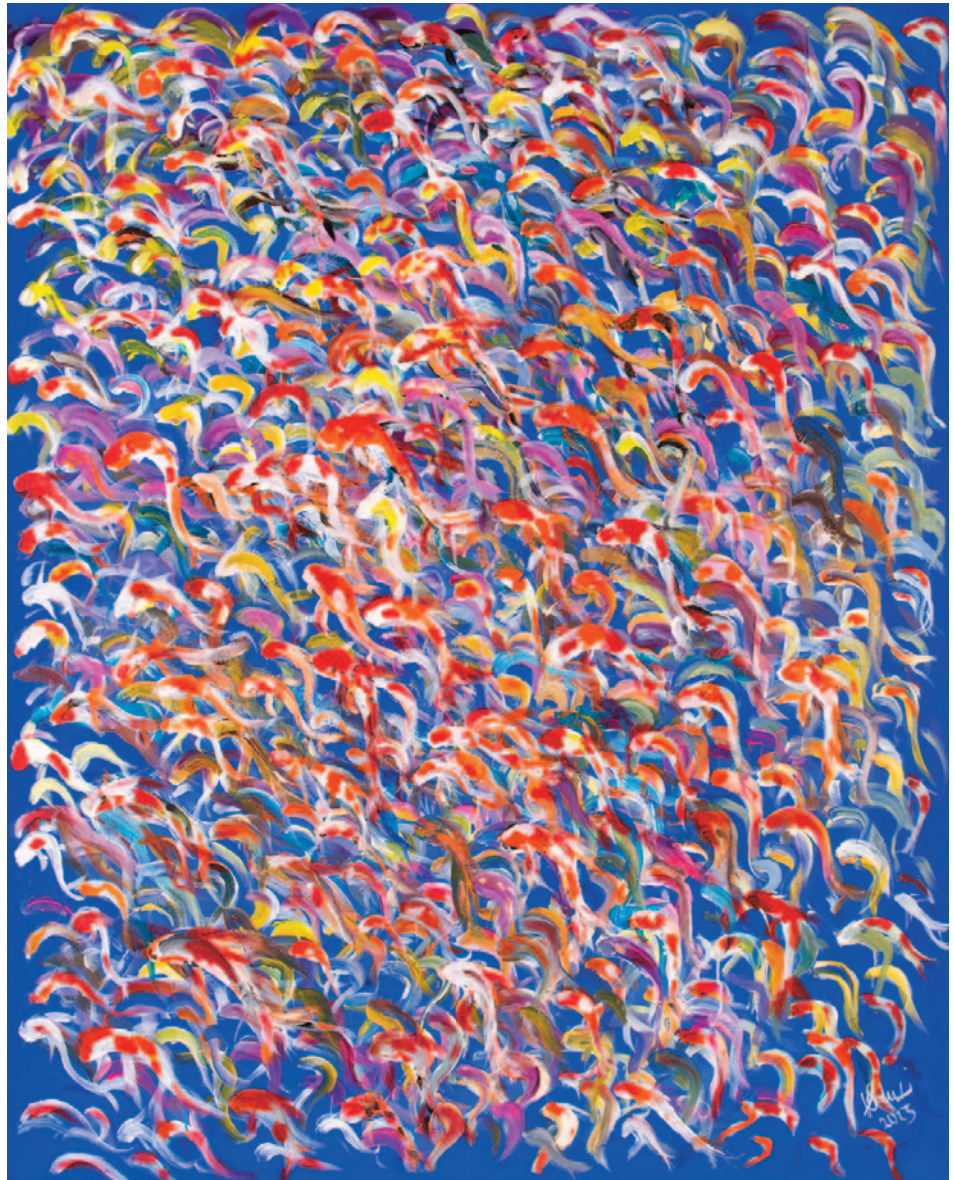
(C06A)

122 cm (w) x 152 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

"Nafas Baru" is the aspiration and hope for the future, especially among the young. Most young people are unfamiliar with politicians, their doctrines and policies. Their concern and daily struggle is survival, hoping to swim seamlessly in this competitive and colourful era. Staying afloat takes a lot of energy, but you just have to glide along.



## Forest Bathing

(C06B)

100 cm (w) x 100 cm (h)  
Mixed media on canvas

2023

•••

*'Jangan dibiarkan sampai luka berdarah'*

The natural surrounding is healing. Being intoxicated by an abundance of pure unadulterated oxygen is most beautiful. Imagine walking along a stream in the forest; nothing is more invigorating than this. Just you, surrounded by nature. Let us keep these trees and rivers that we are blessed with protected. It is for the future. These natural gifts from Mother Nature are for us to share and leave for future generations to savour.



**Ibu - The Unconditional  
Love**

(C06C)

90 cm (w) x 120 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

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Nothing is purer than a mother's love for her child. It is altruistic. It is like no other. There is nothing worse for a mother than having to bury her child. Lest we forget, the pandemic was when all these tragic situations happened. Let's not take our loved ones for granted. We all have a role to play in life. Be kind and spread the love.



## Air Is Life

(C06D)

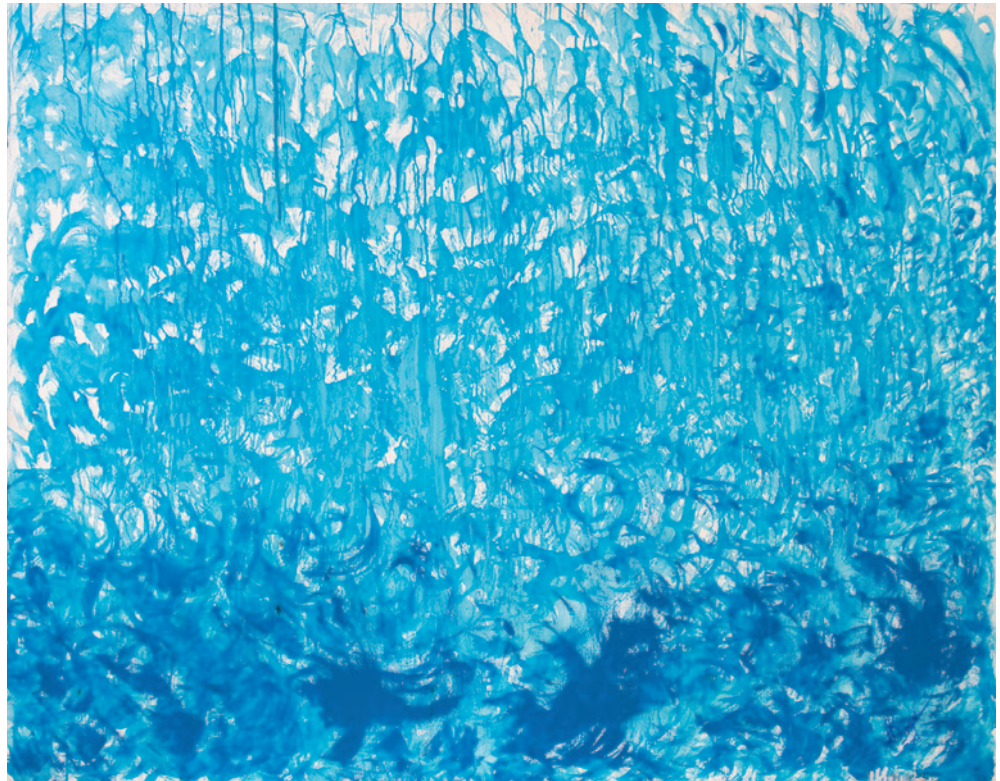
122 cm (w) x 152 cm (h)  
Acrylic ink on canvas

2023

•••

Imagine when there is not enough water left. It goes drip drip drip. Imagine being able to shower only once a week. Imagine when the rivers run dry. Imagine...

Malaysia is blessed with water, but we must never take it for granted. We must never take anything for granted. Let us all do our bit towards a change. Little footsteps towards a better future. **Sparks of Change.**



*“The arts have the power to articulate our culture, heritage, and even our strong sense of patriotism. While the late Sudirman showcased his spirit through his costumes and songs, our artists are able to convey their own sense of national identity through their evocative works.”*

*Emilia Ismail, Writer and Co-Founder of Penang Hidden Gems*

## Loqman Zainal



Loqman Zainal graduated with a Diploma and Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts from Universiti Teknologi MARA in Shah Alam, Kuala Lumpur, majoring in Painting. Currently living in Kuala Lumpur, he started his artistic career as part of the U12 art community, which launched numerous talented emerging artists.

He has participated in several group exhibitions, including KLIMEX, Mini Print at Balai Seni Negara (2018), Locals Only! at TAKSU (2021), including his very first solo exhibition in 2022, which happened at Segaris Art Centre. His **Sparks of Change** moment arrived at this solo exhibition, propelling his career to greater heights.

Most of Loqman's artworks involve nature, seascape and paddy fields. His artwork is influenced by his interest in photography, creating poetic images from the photographs he takes. He loves combining imagination with reality through deliberate stylisation whilst maintaining the significant elements of the landscape on the canvas to give a positive and romantic impact on the viewer.

### Notable Achievements

- Solo exhibition, *Interlude* at Segaris Art Center, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Art Moments Jakarta* exhibition by Segaris Art Center, Jakarta, Indonesia

## Dibalik Sepi Rimba

(C07A)

80 cm (w) x 80 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

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The work is an experience once captured through the artist's camera lens, which focuses on the beauty of nature and how therapeutic it is for him. He realises the importance of playing with colours and making creative choices to suit and emphasise the mood of the photos he took. The work intends to tell a story about the beauty of Mother Nature for generations to come.



**Mekar Sepasang**

(C07B)

80 cm (w) x 80 cm (h)  
Oil & acrylic on canvas

2023





**Sweet Forest**

(C07C)

64.5 cm (w) x 95 cm (h)  
Oil & acrylic on canvas

2023



## Maresseni

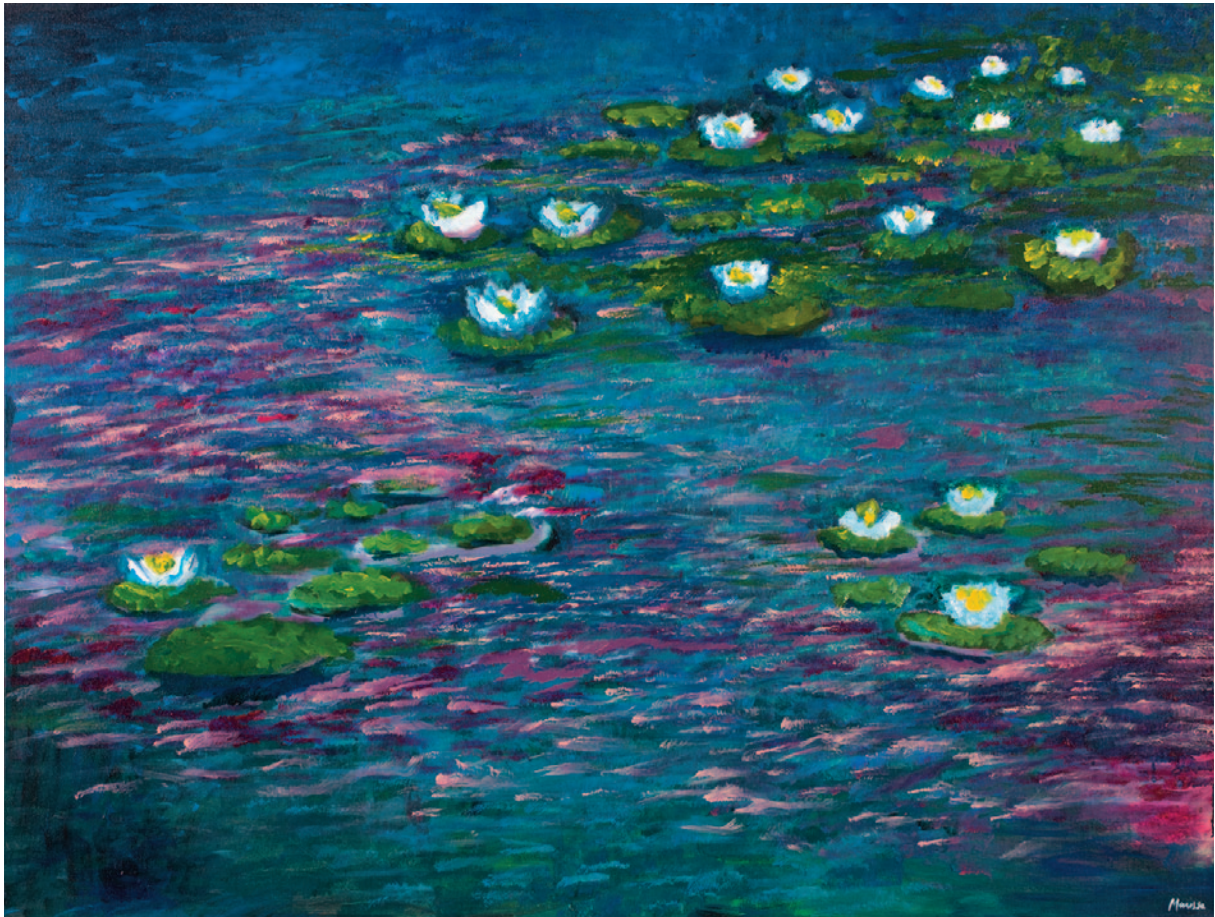


Maresseni is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Architecture at Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. Although she only recently started identifying herself as an artist, her love for art has grown over the years. "As I grew up, I gradually developed an interest in various forms of art, including crafts, musical instruments such as the piano and guitar, and other art forms," she shares.

When asked about her artistic journey, Maresseni reveals that she discovered her true artistic talent during the pandemic lockdown. "I started accepting commissions three years ago, right after the pandemic lockdown began," she says.

Maresseni's **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist occurred during the COVID-19 lockdown. "Being confined to my home during the lockdown made me pick up acrylic painting for the first time. I was surprised to see that people appreciated my art as much as I do. That was a turning point for me as an emerging artist."

Maresseni believes that everything can be considered art, and inspiration can be found anywhere. She enjoys spending time outdoors, whether it's relaxing on her porch or travelling, and cherishes both the ordinary and chaotic moments of life.



### Whatever Flows

(COBA)

121.92 cm (w) x 91.44 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

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This painting is an experiment of different arrays of styles while maintaining the artist's usual colour palette. It is an impressionistic painting of a lake scenery in France. However, what is on the canvas is not always how the artist imagined it. The artist later added bolder colours to give it life and amplify the scene.

## Putra Nazri



Putra Nazri obtained his Diploma in Fine Arts in 2011 and went on to complete his Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts (Hons) from Universiti Teknologi MARA in Shah Alam, Selangor, in 2013. Since then, he has pursued a full-time career as an artist for the past eight years, based in U12, Shah Alam.

Putra's **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist came when he began to delve deeper into his strengths, ideas, visual language, and critical thinking. He believes these aspects are crucial to his artistic journey. Putra is particularly drawn to mark-making techniques, such as scratched lines, patterns, and strokes, which he incorporates into his unique abstract style.

As the chapters of Putra's artistic chronicle continue to unfurl, it is evident that his unyielding dedication, innate creativity, and mastery over mark-making techniques converge to mould a legacy that transcends the canvas. His artistic expression not only captures the ephemeral sparks of change but immortalises them, allowing us to glimpse the world through the kaleidoscopic lens of his boundless imagination.

### Notable Achievements

- Top 13 Best Artist Malaysian Emerging Artist Award, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Finalist of Art Against AIDS Competition by KAREX Berhad, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Finalist of Nando's Art Initiative Competition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Beduk*, won 1st Prize at Pertandingan Lakar Seni Silang Budaya, Selangor, Malaysia
- Solo exhibition, *Winds of Change*, Artas Gallery, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia



### Rain Forest

(C09A)

152 cm (w) x 122 cm (h)  
Oil on canvas

2023

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Art involves experimentation and reflection on one's life experiences. As Dickens put it, "It was the best of times, and it was the worst of times. It was the season of Light, and season of Darkness. Spring of hope, and winter of despair." To create a balanced life, we must realise this truth and face them all head-on. This is the "climate" of life the artist hopes to portray. Not the literal climate, mind you, but rather a depiction of his thoughts and feelings about it.

## Raden Hisbullah



Born in 1993, Raden Hisbullah earned a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts from Universiti Teknologi MARA in Seri Iskandar, Perak, in 2019. His love for art began during his childhood when every crayon stroke opened up an exciting world of exploration.

Known for his distinct style for the past four years, Raden has consistently created a visual symphony with each brushstroke and line he draws. He seamlessly blends chaotic and dystopian themes with his insightful observations on today's society. By incorporating vibrant colours and natural elements such as flowers, leaves, and twigs, he creates a captivating and harmonious composition that is stimulating and pleasing to the eye. Despite

the boldness of the colours, the artist's ability to balance them is truly remarkable, resulting in a stunning display that captivates the viewer.

His **Sparks of Change** moment came when he won several awards, which gave him the confidence and motivation needed as an emerging artist to strive forward, carving a distinct path in producing his artwork.

Raden takes his inspiration from accidental and surrealist waves, creating intricate narratives on his canvas. His artistic palette is not limited to contemporary art but extends to the mesmerising world of Japanese Ukiyo-e art. This fusion of modern and classical influences gives his creations a unique tapestry of emotions and perspectives, revealing the unexplored realms of his inner universe.

### **Notable Achievements**

- *Contiguous Will Continue*, won Bronze in the Emerging Artist Category at the UOB Painting of the Year 2021, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Received art commissions from United Overseas Bank (UOB)

**Riding The Wave of  
Inevitable Reverse**

(C10A)

152.4 cm (w) x  
182.88 cm (h)  
Acrylic & Chinese ink  
on canvas

2023

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This work defines a doodle-based technique which has become an impression of surrealism in a unique approach emphasised by the artist. The artwork titled '*Can't Run Away From The Crashing Waves*' provides an analogy regarding the infinite life with a complicated and eternally repeating system of rules. Many problems appear in excruciating forms, such as plot twists, confusion between shadows and bodies, the cycle of time that triggers riots, and confusion between rulers rather than the weak. It becomes a cyclical wave that makes us eternally return (revert) to the same stages of the wave.



**Di Taman Impian Yang  
Asing**

(C10B)

121.92 cm (w) x 152.4 cm (h)  
Acrylic & Chinese ink on canvas


2023

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The artwork concept refers to a particular place envisioned by the painter in a visual surrealism drawn from his own experience. This strange garden represents one that no one can find, the attraction of which is that only selected people can see it. In this garden, the fish are also happy to receive the arrival of the chosen human.







*“The main impact of abstract expressionism, that of the emotive and mystical qualities, of the exteriorizations of the feelings and the sense, as a kind of direct form of mediation which telegraphs the intenseness of feelings thought and imagination through plastic means.”*

*Datuk Syed Ahmad Jamal, Artist*

## Stephanie Tam Zhu Shin



Stephanie Tam Zhu Shin, a contemporary expressionist, was born in 1998 and discovered her natural ability for visual expression at a young age. She has been a self-taught artist for over 12 years.

Stephanie's **Sparks of Change** moment was when she realised that art served as her unique language to communicate and express her inner thoughts, emotions, and ideas, transcending the limitations of words.

Stephanie appeared different from most children, showing a lack of interest in communicating and difficulty expressing herself, but art greatly improved her coordination and motor skills. Despite having Attention Deficit Disorder, Stephanie was able to concentrate long enough to produce her artworks. Art has become the channel for her to express herself, and her artworks is a reflection of her nature, categorised as abstract 'Impressionist'/contemporary art.

Stephanie draws inspiration from her emotions, the human experience, nature, and the mysteries of the unknown. She has won many awards for her paintings, and her natural understanding of colours and how they interact allows her to produce paintings naturally, with a clear visualisation of the painting before she even starts.

Stephanie's artworks are the outlets that allow us to connect with her and understand her perspective of the world.

### **Notable Achievements**

- Co-Founder of Star Horizon Art Gallery for Yayasan Nanyang, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia
- *IM More: The Tigers of Malaysia* exhibition, Turin, Italy
- *'Rising Together' Art with Heart 2022* exhibition by RHB Banking Group, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## The Hidden Strength

(C11A)

86 cm (w) x 86 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2020

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"The Hidden Strength" is an abstract artwork unveiling hidden power through vibrant spots. Red sparks passion, blue invokes introspection, grey/black signifies resilience and yellow radiates hope. It prompts exploration of hidden stories and limitless potential, empowering viewers to unleash their unique creativity and embrace sparks of change.



**Window of the Soul**

(C11B)

40.5 cm (w) x 53 cm (h)  
Acrylic on illustration board

2018

•••

The theme of this painting is the exploration and reflection of the inner human world, where the true importance lies in discovering one's value and the deep meaning within.



### **Crimson Blossom**

(C11C)

40.5 cm (w) x 53 cm (h)  
Acrylic on illustration board

2018

•••

*"Crimson Blossom: The Scarlet Flower on My Threshold"* captures the essence of an abstract creation by an artist with autism, unveiling the brilliance of her inner world through vibrant palettes and fluid contours. This masterpiece compellingly reminds us to cherish the tapestries woven within the creations of each unique soul while illuminating the infinite resonance of art as a boundless medium of expression.



## The Apple of My Eye

(C11D)

50 cm (w) x 65 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

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"The Apple of My Eye" is an abstract painting showcasing a devoted elderly couple. Dominated by red and blue-green tones, it captures their eternal love. A tender photo occupies the foreground, while the background represents their voyage through trials and tribulations. The essence of the painting lies in the everlasting presence of each other in their gaze.



**Enchanting Rhythms: The  
Dancing Daddies**

(C11E)

50 cm (w) x 65 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

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This work exudes vibrant movement and playful energy. The artist's brush confidently blends dynamic hues against a dark backdrop, creating a rich palette. Each stroke captures a harmonious dance of colours, resulting in a captivating visual symphony.



## Steve Kong



Steve Kong studied Interior Design at the Malaysian Institute of Arts. He does not consider himself an artist but someone who naturally uses art to express his emotions. His first introduction to art was at age five, and it has been a part of his life ever since.

When asked about his **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist, he replies, "I'm not the greatest at expressing myself with words, as this world has many possibilities. But an art piece can tell a story no matter the situation."

His inspiration usually comes from his work as a barista and an interior designer; for example, brewing coffee, demolition and construction. These inspirations only stay for a short moment and often come all at once, which also explains why most of Steve's artworks don't look similar.

Steve admits that he struggles to express himself through words due to the endless possibilities in the world. However, through his art, he can communicate his feelings and thoughts in ways that words cannot. Nature, city life, and human interactions inspire him, and his work invites viewers to explore his multi-layered narratives. His art reflects his emotions and stories, connecting the ineffable realm of the heart with the tangible world of human experience.



**Bloom of Blessings**

(C12A)

50 cm (w) x 59 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

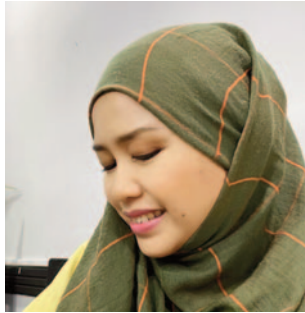
2023

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*"Bloom of Blessings"* reflects one's aspiration for hope at the lowest point in their life. Where there is light, there is hope. Green indicates all the suffering in the world. As for red, yellow, and white shines bright, bringing hope, joy and love to those who suffer.



## Syel Ramlan



Syel Ramlan was 17 years old when she realised her talent in drawing and started believing in it. Her art teacher also recognised her potential, although she lacked confidence in her abilities. During her school days, students were only allowed to use poster colour and watercolour; she preferred watercolour because of its translucence and the way it moves on paper.

As an undergraduate studying architecture at Universiti Teknologi Malaysia in Johor Bahru, she found that there were also painting assignments which allowed her to explore and understand the concepts behind each work of art. She learned to use other mediums besides watercolour, such as acrylic. She produced several paintings, including 'Self Portrait - The Changing Eyes' which earned her an 'A+'.

After working at an architectural firm in Kuala Lumpur, she had less free time to paint. However, she pursued other artistic activities that she was interested in, such as theatre and singing.

In 2016, she started painting again, leading to the realisation of SyelArtGallery.com. She rediscovered herself and found new freedom by exploring colours. She has been actively pursuing her passion as an artist for the past seven years.

Syel's **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist began when she focused on the intricate realm of calligraphy within her paintings. This shift facilitated her artistic evolution and enriched her personal growth, evident through the expanding circle of collectors who appreciate her creations.

### Notable Achievements

- Artworks displayed at Karya di Janda Baik Gallery, Pahang, Malaysia
- Full-time Design Architect with Tamu Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Team leader for a winning design team in an architectural idea competition for NAZA and Perbadanan Kemajuan Negeri Selangor

### Demi Masa

(C13A)

61 cm (w) x 123 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

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"Demi Masa" is inspired by Surah Al-'Asr from Al-Quran. The artist expresses poetry like stanzas from Al-'Asr in Jawi, writing abstractly. The reddish hue symbolises how critical time is for humans.



**Sejahtera - Peace**

(C13B)

76 cm (w) x 110 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

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*As-Salam* - is Arabic for "Peace and Prosperity". It is one of Allah SWT's 99 names. The letters representing the root word *As-Salam* are written in an abstract style.



**Pembuka - The Key**

(C13C)

76 cm (w) x 110 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

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'Fa - ف, 'Ta - ت' & 'Ha- ح' are the letters and root words of Fatihah which means 'The Opener / The Key'. The meaning of Surah Al-Fatihah, the first Surah in the Al-Quran, is written in an abstract style by the artist.



## Sayang

(C13D)

68 cm (w) x 68 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2022

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Inspired by the name of Allah SWT - 'ArRahim', which means The Most Compassionate. The Arabic letters 'Ra - ر', 'Ha- ح', & ' Mim (م)' are the root words of 'ArRahim'. The composition of cool blue colors symbolises love and tranquility.





**Qaseh. Sayang. III**

(C13E)

153 cm (w) x 122 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

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"Qaseh. Sayang. III" is inspired by the names of Allah 'ArRahman' & 'ArRahim' which mean 'The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful'. These two words are also found in the verse Bismillahirrahmanirrahim. These sacred words serve as the major theme, and the artist expresses them abstractly. The combination of colors and phrase placement evokes motion and feeling. This artwork has been produced three times with the same title and theme.

## Wan Zeti Fadhlina



Wan Zeti Fadhlina is a talented artist who has been actively creating art for four years. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Management from Universiti Tun Abdul Razak and worked in the corporate world for some time. However, she found that creating art was therapeutic in dealing with the stress of her job, which led her to pursue her passion for art despite the demands of her full-time job.

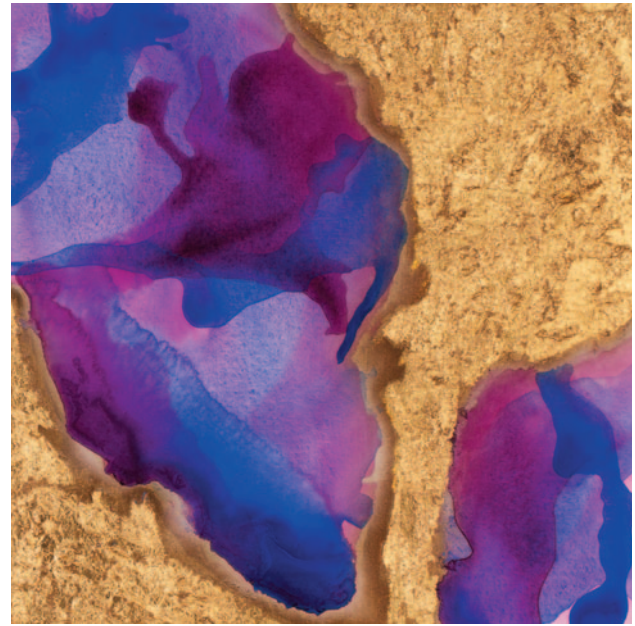
She draws inspiration from various sources, including films, TV shows, nature, and her inner emotions. Her preferred styles include abstract expressionism and pop art. Her **Sparks of Change** as an artist began in 2019 when she decided to pursue her passion for art. Since then, she has been an active artist and has created many visually satisfying pieces of artwork.

As Wan Zeti continues to carve her artistic narrative, each stroke and shade weaves a tale of resilience, courage, and the indomitable spirit of a soul that dared to dance to the tune of its own creativity. Her journey is a testament to the transformative power of passion, demonstrating that even in the face of life's challenges, the heart can navigate toward the limitless realm of artistic expression.

### Notable Achievements

- *Neon Zebra* sculpture & *Two Pop Art Painting Vases* featured in the 100th Issue of HAVEN (Options, The Edge) for Datin Ezurin's House Tour, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Lavender Haze* artwork featured in The Star Newspaper, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia
- *Kecik-Kecik Group Show* exhibition, Hin Bus Depot, George Town, Malaysia
- *Sense: Art That Engages, Anniversary Show 2022*, Zhan Art Space, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia





**Lavender Haze I & II  
(Diptych)**

(C14A)

60.96 cm (w) x 60.96 cm (h)  
each / one panel  
Mixed media on canvas

2023

•••

"*Lavender Haze*" is a feeling of being deeply in love. The sudden change that you feel internally sparks in you. The colours and ripples were inspired by the movie *Avatar: The Way of Water*. The artist felt the combination of purple and blue gave a magical and spiritual feeling. The gold texture is the artist's signature. The combination provides a sense of change from ripples to surfaces and a dreamy feel when you're in a state of Lavender Haze. The artist combined textured art using spray paint, gold leaf, and acrylic paint.

## Back to Black

(C14B)


60 cm (w) x 90 cm (h)  
Mixed media on hemp canvas

2023

•••

*"Back to Black"* is inspired by the artist's signature colour combination of black and gold. Black is often considered bold, classy and mysterious. Gold, on the other hand, represents wealth, success and luxury. Combining these two colours creates an exclusive look that draws attention to its mysterious yet luxurious colours. This artwork is made on hemp canvas to signify that a raw hemp canvas sparks change with a beautiful stroke of paint.





*“ There are vibrations, you see?  
If you sit still and stay with the trees,  
you will feel it after a long while.  
There are no words  
to describe this. Some say it’s intuition.”*

*Mad Anuar, Veteran Sculptor*

## Yuri Azzari



Yuri Azzari completed his secondary education at SMK Putrajaya. He recalls that his mom always noticed him doodling and scribbling on any paper he could find, including the back of grocery receipts.

After finishing high school at 18, he taught himself to become an artist. It has been 20 years since then.

In 2018, Yuri experienced an amazing breakthrough as an artist when he partnered with Touch 'n Go to create a unique Aidilfitri Touch 'n Go card. This made him the first differently-abled artist to collaborate with Touch 'n Go.

That same year, he also joined forces with Fit Rebel to support The National Autism Society of Malaysia. Yuri considered these collective experiences as his **Sparks of Change** moment.

Yuri's artistic style mainly revolves around abstractionism and nature. His work encourages us to reflect on the mysterious interplay between the tangible and intangible, the visible and invisible. He expertly balances abstraction and the natural world, giving us a glimpse into the universe through his transcendent vision.

### Notable Achievements

- Finalist for Anugerah Ikon Autisme by Bank Rakyat, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Four of Yuri Azzari's paintings featured on Touch 'n Go cards, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Teamed up with Fit Rebel to design yoga leggings for #AutismAwareness, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## Boat In The Rough Ocean

(C15A)

94 cm (w) x 86 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2021

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Another painting in the Ocean Series that Yuri painted during a holiday in Terengganu. On one of the days, the sea was rough, and we saw an empty boat floating and bouncing over aggressive waves. We were puzzled, as well as Yuri, why an open boat was in the ocean. Who was the boat's owner, or did he fall into the water?



## Madness In Galactica

(C15B)

76 cm (w) x 76 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

This painting depicts the madness and chaos that are taking place in the cosmos. Yuri used various bright colours and swirling movements to reflect the confusion in the universe, the shooting stars and celestial bodies, vis-à-vis in the artist's mind as well in that moment.



## Jupiter Rabbit

(C15C)

97 cm (w) x 97 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

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It is named "Jupiter Rabbit" because it is the Year of the Water Rabbit for Chinese New Year 2023. Planet Jupiter is the largest planet in the Solar system. Yuri memorises the names of all the planets in the system. As Jupiter is the most outstanding because of its brightness, it is Yuri's most mentioned planet. The planet's striking colour and swirl make Jupiter a memorable planet in the galaxy. Yuri named this work Jupiter Rabbit and applied fiery colours to it.



## Willow Rabbit

(C15D)

97 cm (w) x 97 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas


2023

•••

"*Willow Rabbit*" is a masterpiece that transports viewers into a world of natural beauty and enchantment, where wild rabbits are free to run around. It captures the innocence and grace of the rabbit while celebrating the wonders of nature. The colours evoke a sense of joy and playfulness, creating a whimsical atmosphere within the painting.

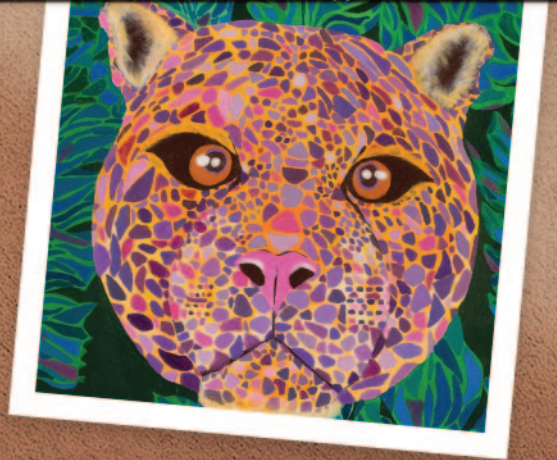






*“ You may not be able to impress people with your knowledge and thoughts, but perhaps you have some unique experience that can get people interested or amused.”*

*Datuk Lat, Cartoonist*



*Contemporary*



## Ang Xia Yi



Ang Xia Yi briefly pursued a Bachelor's Degree in Fashion Journalism at Central Saint Martins, London, in 2017. Upon returning home, she transitioned from journalism to a purely visual-based career. In 2019, she stumbled into becoming an artist and had her first group exhibition at The Back Room in Kuala Lumpur. Since then, she has been practising as an artist and has found that going back and forth between text and image is a fluid and intuitive process, despite being self-taught.

Her **Sparks Of Change** moment as an artist came when she presented textile-based works for the first time at a group exhibition called Circular Ruins (2022) with Island Gallery in New York last year. This was her first introduction to the world of textiles, and it was significant as she used inherited, familial belongings that had been around since her childhood, with some materials being over 40 years old. She shared that it felt like letting go of something she had been holding onto.

Ang Xia Yi is particularly interested in the vernacular aspects of material culture, viewing materials as carriers of intimacy, trauma and violence that transcend beyond generations. She is also interested in history, memory, identity politics and the emotional consequences of colonialism in Southeast Asia. She finds inspiration in the complexities and ugliness of human relationships that exist within the mundanity of our contemporary life.

### Notable Achievements

- *S.E.A. Focus*, Island Gallery, Singapore
- *iPhone Diary for Project 555: Small Observations of An On-Going Pandemic*, Collection of Malaysia Design Archive, Ilham Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *I Am Not Ok, Are You?* for BUKA BUKU, Open Books International collection of folding books, Wales, United Kingdom

**May You Marylee In  
Interesting Times**

(D01A)

57 cm (w) x 84 cm (h)  
Oil pastel, image transfer  
on canvas

2023

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This was made through a painterly approach to textile making using oil pastels and techniques of photographic image transfers in acts of repetition from the artists' photographic archive. The title is taken from an English expression, "May you live in interesting times", that claimed to be a translation of a traditional Chinese proverb. There is no known equivalent expression in Chinese despite being historically attributed to it, a mythologised fact likely passed down for centuries. The wordplay in the title replaces Merrily with Marylee, taken from the name of a lamb who used to roam freely in an urban community farm during its life.

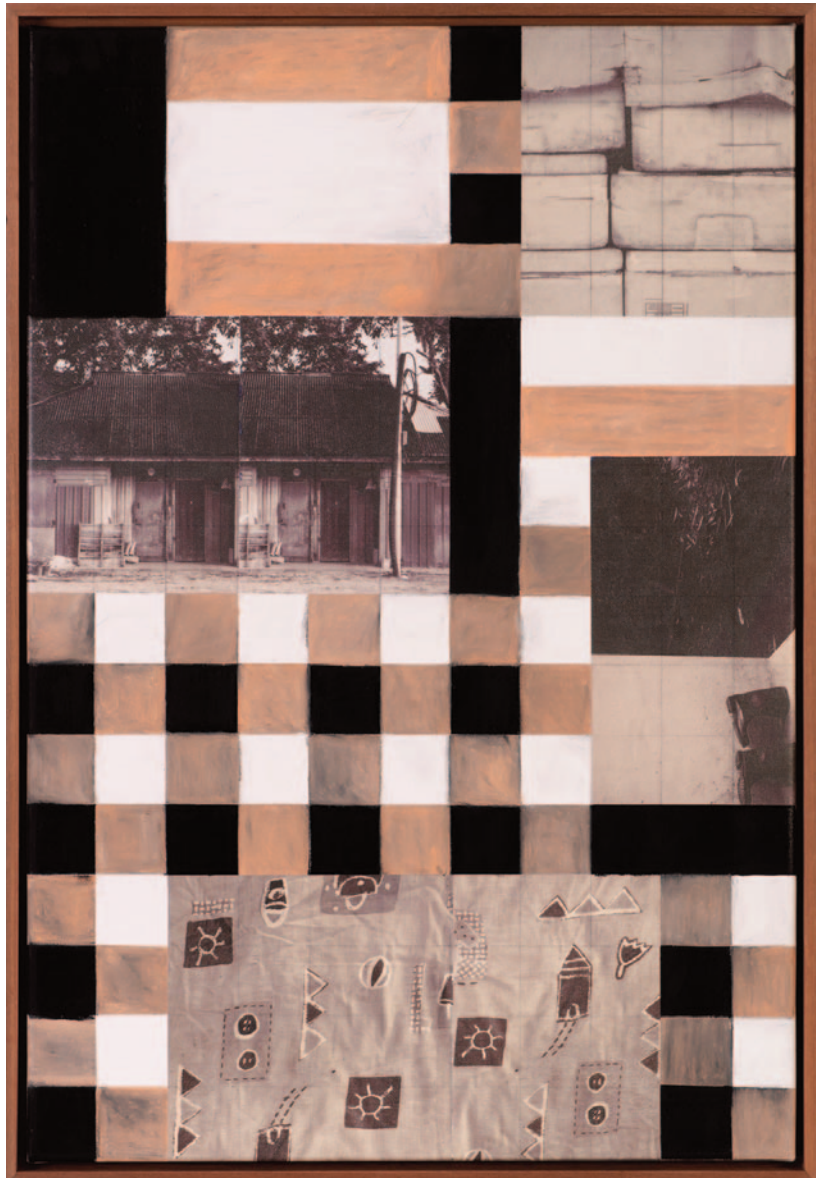



**May You Marylee In  
Interesting Times II**

(D01B)

57 cm (w) x 84 cm (h)  
Oil pastel, image transfer  
on canvas

2023





*“If your intentions are pure, if you apply your craft with a view to observe humanity and, ultimately, God himself, very often something powerful will surface.”*

*Yasmin Ahmad, Creative Director, Film Director, Scriptwriter & Writer*

## Fana Douau



Fana Douau is a contemporary artist based in Kuala Lumpur who has been actively creating art for the past six years. Her unique artworks revolve around animals and their symbolism. Although she was uncertain about painting animals, she had a desire to do so and began making art after finishing high school. In 2018, Fana started to explore her passion for art more deeply and graduated from the Malaysian Institute of Art in 2021. She experiments with various mediums, including acrylic, charcoal, and soft pastel, and has recently started to paint using fumage, a technique where she uses smoke from candles and oil lamps to create her canvases.

Fana's **Sparks of Change** moment occurred when she lost a few important people in her life, and she realised that she must be courageous and strong when making significant changes. Artistically, Fana used to focus only on figurative painting, but she has now decided to shift to animals as she finds them more meaningful as subjects for her detailed artworks.

Despite the change in her subject matter, Fana has stayed true to her simple painting style, using mediums such as charcoal and fumage. Although she wasn't initially a fan of these two mediums, with years of practice, she has developed a penchant for them, producing clean and neat outcomes while keeping her strokes free and wild.

As an artist who keeps evolving, Fana has been exploring other mediums, such as embroidering and sculpting on her paintings, which she hopes to incorporate more into her future works of art.

### Notable Achievements

- 3rd Place for Lantern Painting Competition by Setapak Mall, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Consolation Prize, Art Against AIDS Competition by Karez Berhad, Segaris Art Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *EMANATE*, Artober Group Show, Artas Galeri, Element Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Emergent II*, Galeri Prima, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Black White* exhibition, Malaysian Institute of Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Lembaran 3rd Anniversary Show* exhibition at Artas Gallery, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia



## Autoportrait

(D02A)

123 cm (w) x 123 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

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Horses possess exceptional emotional intelligence, being able to sense any signals and don't rely on verbal communication. They learn to understand what you are saying, but they are really paying attention to what you are not saying; thus, this piece was created to remind us that horses don't just observe but also understand.



## Birds of Prey

(D02B)


60 cm (w) x 91 cm (h)  
Smoke & acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

*"Birds of Prey"* symbolise gracefulness, balanced aggression, and fantastic eyesight. Just like an eagle being the most prominent bird in the sky. They are fearless and never surrender to the size or strength of their prey. It reminds us of humans with the same value and power to take a chance and make a difference.





*“All I want to do is help the country to promote local art. That is all I aspire to be as an artist.”*

*Datuk Sharifah Fatimah, Artist*

# JeFr



JeFr is a graffiti writer and visual artist based in Kuala Lumpur who has been honing his skills since early 2012. He is self-taught, like most graffiti writers, and started by marking his tags and throwies all over the city using any available medium, from paint markers to spray-paint and homemade ink. Over time, he developed his own style that incorporates both graffiti style writing and characters into his work. JeFr enjoys travelling and finding inspiration in new places, painting pieces abroad with old and new friends.

His evolving style can be seen all over Kuala Lumpur and other parts of the world, most notably being featured as one of the graffiti artists from an ASEAN country commissioned to produce a graffiti work at Cambodia's 2023 Southeast Asian Games.

His **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist came when he found a unique style that sets him apart from other artists. JeFr is inspired by abstract forms with good dynamics and colours. As his artistic journey continues, he remains a tribute to the inherent human capacity for growth and self-expression. His self-taught mastery and unwavering commitment exemplify the limitless potential of human creativity.

### Notable Achievements

- International group show curated by FT Gallery, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- Mural work for Cambodia 2023 Southeast Asian Games alongside seven ASEAN artists
- International Graffiti Event by Joy in Bottle Fest, Chongqing, China
- *Meeting of Styles* exhibition, Hue, Vietnam



### Shift Force I

(D03A)

91 cm (w) x 91 cm (h)  
Acrylic & spray paint

2023



### Shift Force II

(D03B)

91 cm (w) x 91 cm (h)  
Acrylic & spray paint

2023

•••

The concept behind this work is to show how leaving our comfort zone will eventually put us in a better life stage and make us grow confidently. The elements represent different obstacles or problems we may face, but it's not that bad if we take a step back and learn to look at every situation from different perspectives.

## Malina Su



Malina Su is a former Military Officer of the Malaysian Armed Forces who has since moved on to a career in television and theatre with 10 on 10 Pictures and Enfiniti Productions. She is also the owner of Green Light Media Sdn. Bhd., a children's magazine publication company.

Malina discovered her passion for art after attending a basic watercolour class for adults at the Malaysian Institute of Art. She also attended a few short art classes in Paris. She has been active as an artist for about seven years and still considers art her hobby.

Her **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist came later in life when she realised she could draw and paint. She started with still life and eventually developed a technique that is only used by a few artists in Malaysia and the world. Malina is proud of her unique approach to art.

Yet, it is not only the technique that Malina takes pride in; it is the spirit of innovation that fuels her pride. She is an artistic pioneer, unafraid to tread where few have ventured.

### Notable Achievements

- *Inspiration - Imagination - Interpretation* exhibition, Mosque of Malaysia at the Islamic Art Museum, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Art Is Fair* exhibition, Fahrenheit88, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *'Rising Together' Art with Heart 2022* exhibition by RHB Banking Group, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *In Her Eyes* art exhibition, Sime Darby Sales Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## Behind Bars

(D04A)

111 cm (w) x 156 cm (h)  
Mixed media on canvas

2023

•••

Symbols of fragility. This polychromatic piece welcomes your interpretation. Sometimes, we are defined by others as the odd one out. Be proud that we are different. There are no rules to it.





**Contra Mundum**

(D04B)

156 cm (w) x 111 cm (h)  
Mixed media on canvas

2023

•••

I choose to go against the beliefs of others even if I am perceived as the odd one out. To achieve something means to change our complacent ways. We may go against the tide sometimes. But it's okay as long as we reach the goal we set out to achieve.



“*Seni untuk semua.*”

*Syafiq Yusof, Film Director*

## Maryam Zhafira



Maryam Zhafira is the youngest of three siblings, currently 11 years old. Despite being a person with disability, she has never let her challenges hold her back. With the love and support of her family, she continues to thrive. Maryam has always been eager to join her older brothers, Hamza (17) and Faruq (15), in their adventures. When she was just four years old, she discovered her talent for drawing and colouring during a physiotherapy session. Her artwork brings joy to those around her as she radiates love and warmth.

Maryam started painting at the age of six. She found art classes to be a more enjoyable alternative to her occupational therapy sessions. Her talent has been nurtured by a dedicated art teacher over the years.

Maryam's love of painting inspired her to start selling her artwork in 2019 to raise funds for charity. Her **Sparks of Change** moment is when she brings joy to others through her colourful creations. Her paintings is a reflection of her mood, and she loves blending colours to create beautiful rainbow canvases before adding other elements.

Due to the pandemic, Maryam now attends a home school centre after struggling with online schooling. In her free time, she keeps herself busy with painting, drawing, and a newfound interest in Lego. She also enjoys dancing to K-Pop tunes and karaoke sessions, just like many other young girls.

### Notable Achievements

- Raised more than RM200,000 for charity through the sale of her artworks
- *'Rising Together' Art with Heart 2022* exhibition by RHB Banking Group, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

### Graceful Evening

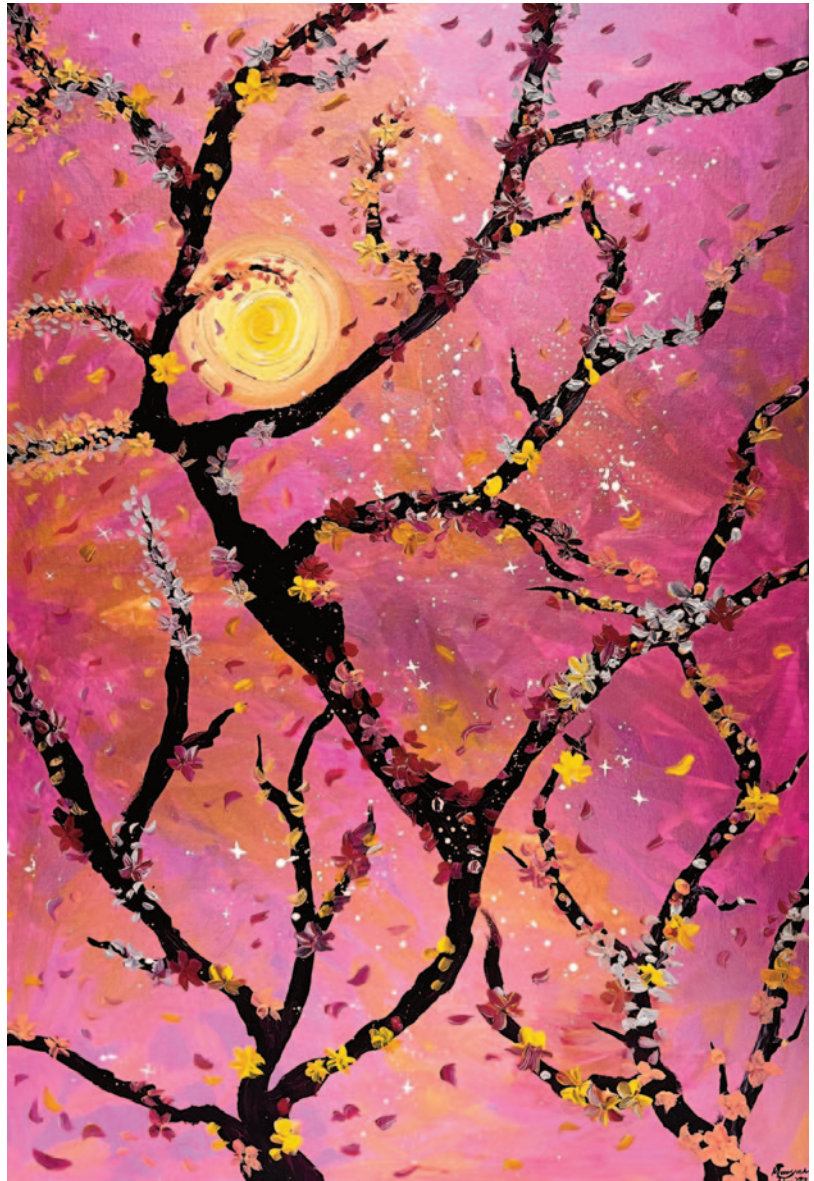
(D05A)

60 cm (w) x 90 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2022

•••

Maryam loves to blend colours and create rainbow skies. It reflects her outlook in life where she sees only beauty around her. She is confident in her choices of colours to blend and the beautiful outcome of her creation. The trees with pink and white blossoms are gifts for her mother who loves the sakura tree.



**Kyoto Garden**

(D05B)

70 cm (w) x 70 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023





*“ I will use my talent to continue to promote understanding and respect among Malaysians.”*

*Datuk Lat, Cartoonist*

## Muhammad Nur Syafiq



Muhammad Nur Syafiq pursued a Bachelor of Fine Arts at Universiti Teknologi MARA in Machang, Kelantan, from 2013 to 2015. He continued his studies at Universiti Teknologi MARA in Shah Alam, Selangor, completing his degree in the same subject from 2016 to 2018. After completing his degree, he began his career as an artist, now spanning five years.

Nur Syafiq marks the year 2023 as his **Sparks of Change** moment, during which he plans to create numerous artworks and paintings based on his observations and experimentation in the field of art. He believes that maintaining consistency and discipline in his work will be essential to achieving the best results.

Nur Syafiq's artwork often centres around themes of nature and landscapes, with butterflies being a particular source of inspiration for him. He enjoys exploring, observing, and translating the natural environment onto the canvas. He creates art for various reasons, such as capturing the beauty of a moment, place, person, or object and expressing his ideas through his work.

For Nur Syafiq, the key to success as an artist lies in maintaining discipline, continually progressing, and keeping the creative process flowing. He aims to stay on track and achieve more creative milestones.

### Notable Achievements

- Open Category, 2nd Place for The Art of Paintergrity Competition with the theme '*Integrity*', Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Student Category, *Emerges of Hope* won 1st Place for Art Against AIDS Competition with the theme, '*Hope*', Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Adult Category | Seni Insekta 2022, *The Flying Jewels - Rajah Brooke Butterfly*, won 1st Place in Pertandingan dan Pameran Seni Visual 2D Berinspirasi Serangga by Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Memoria* at Galeri Prima, Bangsar and *Nyawiji* exhibitions at Segaris Art Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## Landscape Specimen I

(D06A)

90 cm (w) x 90 cm (h)  
Acrylic paint & gloss varnish  
on canvas

2023

•••

The Landscape Specimen Series represents Mother Nature captured on canvas in the form of a painting. The artist fuses the jungle landscape and cleverly incorporates it into the shape and pattern of a Flying-day moth (*Papilio Lorquinianus*), inspired by his obsession with butterflies. The series is also painted based on photos taken inside a jungle the artist had previously visited, which now has been impacted by climate change and development.



**Landscape Specimen II**

(D06B)

90 cm (w) x 90 cm (h)  
Acrylic paint & gloss varnish  
on canvas

2023







**Landscape Specimen III**

(D06C)

120 cm (w) x 90 cm (h)  
Acrylic paint & gloss varnish on canvas

2023

## Nazreen Nor



Nazreen Nor pursued a Bachelor of Fine Arts at Universiti Teknologi MARA in Shah Alam, Selangor, and began his career as an artist after working as an art tutor for two years.

Nazreen's **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist happened when he resigned from his job as an art tutor due to COVID-19 and began his journey as a full-time artist, actively creating artwork for the past four years. Initially, he expected it to be more challenging, but he found it even better than anticipated, and he loves what he does now more than ever.

As an artist, he enjoys observing and sketching random things that interest him. Through his art, Nazreen offers us a glimpse into the kaleidoscope of his perception, a visual symphony composed of nuances, shades, and strokes. His journey is one of resilience, adaptability, and an unwavering commitment to pursuing his creative passions.

As he continues to bring his canvases to life, he leaves an indelible mark on the artistic landscape, inspiring others to embrace change, harness their potential, and dance fearlessly along the precipice of transformation.

### Notable Achievements

- *Two Men Show: Isa Ishak x Nazreen Nor | Alam* exhibition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Nadine Open Show* exhibition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *KAWAN U12* exhibition at Segaris Art Center, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Tribute to Malaysians* at Galeri Prima, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## Merpati Putih 1

(D07A)

81 cm (w) x 96.5 cm (h)  
Oil on canvas

2023

•••

Observation is a critical component of being an artist.

This work is rooted in realism, as it has always been the source of inspiration for the artist intrigued by colour and mood. The piece stays within the realm of the elements and subjects available surrounding the artist.



**Merpati Putih 2**

(D07B)

81 cm (w) x 96.5 cm (h)  
Oil on canvas

2023



**Cerek & Tiga Cawan**

(D07C)

79 cm (w) x 94.5 cm (h)  
Oil on canvas

2023



**Mangkuk Tingkat**

(D07D)

79 cm (w) x 94.5 cm (h)  
Oil on canvas

2023



“*Bagi saudara-saudara artis, saya ingin menyarankan, bukan gelaran jadi ukuran, tetapi bakti yang disumbangkan.*”

*Datuk Sudirman Hj. Arshad, Award-winning Entertainer*

## Shahnaz Azlin



Shahnaz Azlin holds a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts from Universiti Teknologi MARA in Shah Alam, Selangor. He gained experience in the field while he was still studying. He became more serious about his career in the arts during an internship where he was exposed to a world of artists and the art scene in Yogyakarta. Since graduating in 2018, he has participated in numerous group exhibitions.

His **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist occurred during the dark and challenging pandemic, when he was offered a fresh start with the Two Men Show exhibition at Artas Gallery. This new start rekindled the fire of his artistic pursuit, propelling him forward with renewed determination.

Shahnaz holds a special place in his heart for nature, which he views as an all-powerful muse. His deep connection with the natural world stems from his love of camping and hiking. These experiences in the wilderness serve as both a sanctuary and an inspiration that blends harmoniously with his creative spirit. His canvases reflect the echoes of his experiences, capturing moments of change, resilience, and the unbreakable bond between the artist and the world that fuels his creative spirit.

### Notable Achievements

- Special Mention Award, Mr. DIY Art Competition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Winner of People's Choice Category in Bakat Muda Sezaman, Balai Seni Negara, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Inside Out | Two Men Show: Shahnaz Azlin x Syafiq Kholid* by Core Design Gallery, Subang Jaya, Malaysia
- *ArchiXCaping | Two Men Show: Izzudin Basiron x Shahnaz Azlin* by Artas Gallery at Westin Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Finalist Anugerah Seni MIDF, Galeri Seni Tunku Nur Zahirah, Universiti Teknologi MARA in Shah Alam, Malaysia





### Follow The Wind

(DOBA)

95 cm (w) x 64 cm (h)  
Mixed media on canvas

2023

•••

My observations of nature inspire my paintings. Through Mother Nature, I borrow and develop images taken by myself through the camera lens, then incorporate the captured images into my work. I use layer-by-layer techniques, colour by colour, paint by paint, and lines upon lines to create depth and show a characteristic of life and our connection to nature. Not only are we dependent on nature in life, but philosophically, we can learn lessons by just observing it.

**Life's A Climb**

(DOB8)

110 cm (w) x 110 cm (h)  
Mixed media on canvas

2023





**Tiang-Tiang**

(D08C)

142 cm (w) x 54 cm (h)  
Mixed media on canvas

2021-2023




**Layer of Grass, Layer of Life**

(D08D)

95 cm (w) x 64 cm (h)

Oil on canvas

2023



*“ God gives everyone the same amount of talent. It's just up to you to korek (dig). ”*

*Yasmin Ahmad, Creative Director, Film Director, Scriptwriter & Writer*

## Sky Iskandar



Known by many as an actor and model, Sky Iskandar is an emerging artist who has been an active painter for the past three years. His deep interest in art began when he was just 16 years old but he only started his artistic journey while working with renowned fashion designer, Bernard Chandran after graduating from Universiti Teknologi MARA where he studied Hospitality and Tourism Management.

Sky's personal **Sparks of Change** moment marked his life's turning point through painting when he found that he could express his innermost thoughts and feelings via a canvas, leading to transformative shifts in his art and journey towards personal development. Today, he is dedicated to creating pieces that inspire and encourage others to take a moment to pause and reflect on their own lives amidst the nonstop hustle and bustle and struggles of modern-day living.

His interest revolves around calligraphy, Sufism, and Safia Latif's works, as he discovers and finds inspiration in human nature's complexities, including their bodies and faces.

### Notable Achievements

- *Sæurs* short film, Official Selection at Landshut Film Festival Munich, Germany
- *Sæurs* short film, Official Selection at BIFAN Fantastic Film Festival, South Korea
- *Sæurs* short film, Official Selection at London Short Film Festival, United Kingdom

## Jelajah

(D09A)

85 cm (w) x 127 cm (h)  
Mixed media on plywood

2023

•••

We won't know anything until we try. Curiosity taking over until it reaches a point of obsession can lead to extraordinary discovery and exploration. The illusion is that the destination is the finish line, but the reality is the act itself is the destination.



## Look No Further

(D09B)

42 cm (w) x 53 cm (h)  
Mixed media on plywood

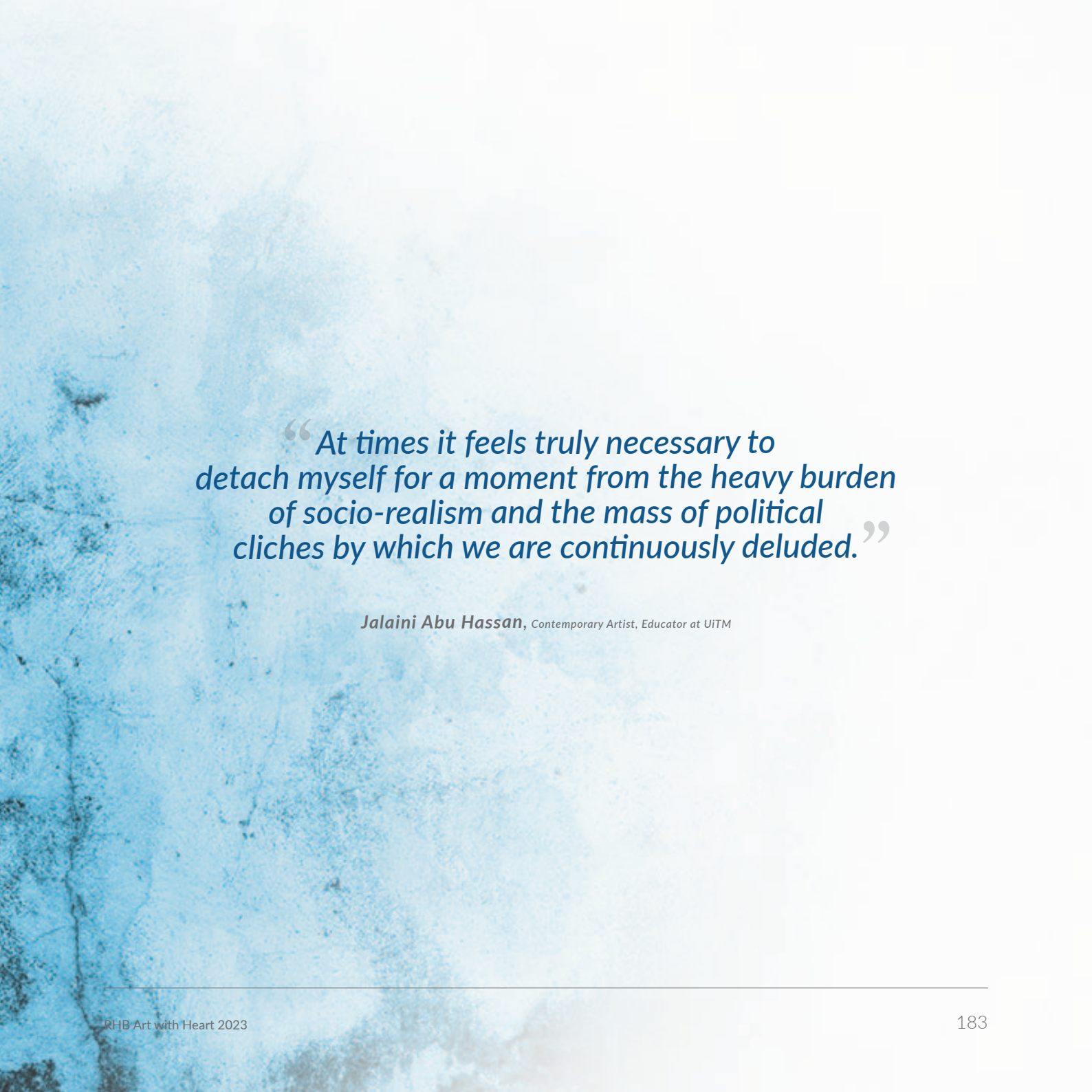
2023

•••

Not caring if something happens can make it happen faster. When you push for something, you send out a frequency that it's not yours and delay it. In the *Gene Keys* by Richard Rudd, a quote goes, "Thus it is said that only when all hope of finding the grail is lost can the grail finally be found."



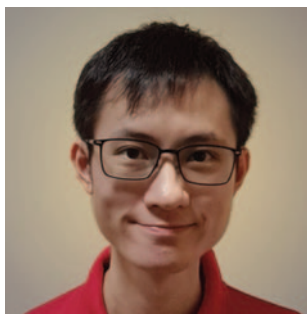




*“At times it feels truly necessary to detach myself for a moment from the heavy burden of socio-realism and the mass of political cliches by which we are continuously deluded.”*

*Jalaini Abu Hassan*, Contemporary Artist, Educator at UITM

## Tan Ken Ming



Meet Tan Ken Ming, a 24-year-old artist who was diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome at the age of 12. Born in 1998, his early development was typical until he turned one, where his development slowed dramatically, and he started showing signs of hyperactivity. His parents brought him for assessments during his formative years, and he attended speech and occupational therapies. During his early primary school education, he was guided by a clinical psychologist, Dr. Lua, who worked with special needs children, helping him develop his language skills and basic social skills.

Despite his condition, Ken Ming has always had a passion for art, drawing from the moment he could hold a pencil properly. He attended art classes from a young age and went to an Art College after completing his secondary education in IGCSE. He continued to pursue his passion for art, learning painting techniques from various teachers. With the support of his family, he now produces artworks on his own, some of which have been sold, with the proceeds going to various charities.

Ken Ming has been active as an artist for the past four years, and his **Sparks of Change** moment was when he felt the urge to explore new ways of expression and techniques. This pivotal juncture illuminated his artistic journey, propelling him to transcend boundaries and sculpt his own artistic identity.

Animals, whether extinct or fictional, fascinate Ken Ming, and this is evident in his work. Zoology, myths, and legends inspire him, and he weaves an intricate tapestry with each brushstroke on canvas, bearing the indelible imprint of his unique perspective and unquenchable curiosity. His art becomes a testament to the human spirit's innate capacity to meld the tangible and the fantastical, transcending limitations and painting a vibrant tableau that bridges the gap between the known and the imagined.

### **Notable Achievement**

- As an emerging artist, he successfully sold 15 paintings to buyers and collectors locally and abroad in 2023

## Springtime

(D10A)

75 cm (w) x 100 cm (h)  
Collage & mixed media  
on canvas

2023

•••

Birds in spring, cheery amidst  
mother nature. Flowers  
bloom. Oh, what a delight!  
This artwork reflects the  
beauty of spring in its  
grandeur.



**Panda in the Bamboo  
Grove**

(D10B)

75 cm (w) x 75 cm (h)  
Collage & acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

Watching a panda eating bamboo is a glimpse of its unique diet and a chance to marvel at these beloved creatures' natural beauty and harmonious existence. This artwork inspired the artist to revive his passion for wildlife conservation through various means.



**Spirit of the Amazon**

(D10C)

62 cm (w) x 92 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2021

•••

The emerald winds of the jungle call forth the mighty jaguar spirit of the Amazon rainforest. Whoever harms the rainforest will be severely punished.



## The Tortoise And The Hare

(D10D)

90 cm (w) x 90 cm (h)  
Collage & acrylic on canvas

2022

•••

A fable-inspired piece that got the artist up and running. A slow-footed tortoise challenges an over-confident hare to a race in which the tortoise wins by a landslide. Slow and steady wins the race. The inspiration of this piece is to take your time and think outside your thought process.



## The Red Giraffe

(D10E)

46 cm (w) x 62 cm (h)  
Collage & mixed media  
on canvas

2022

•••

In Africa's hot, steamy  
grasslands, a red-coloured  
giraffe supposedly lives. This  
animal is so rare that the only  
documents of its existence are  
records in journals and diaries.  
Said documents turned out to  
be a hoax! Can you believe it?





CONCEPTUAL







## Areej Taufik



An artist with a science background, Areej Taufik earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Food Technology from Universiti Putra Malaysia and the University of Leeds, United Kingdom. She has also written several articles on the local and international food industry. However, art and being creative have been integral to her life since her teenage years.

Her interest in fine art began in high school, as she scored A1 for the Pendidikan Seni Visual subject in her Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia despite being in the science stream. Although she pursued a science-based career, her love for art has never faded. Instead, it rekindled during the COVID-19 lockdown, turning her from a hobbyist into a serious artist.

Areej's **Sparks of Change** as an artist began when she was pregnant with her firstborn in 2022. Her motherly instinct made her approach to art more intuitive and abstract, with most of her artworks inspired by relationships, culture, food, cats and nature.

### Notable Achievements

- Wrote more than ten articles on palm oil's food and nutritional aspects
- Contributed three chapters to an Elsevier-published book titled "Innovation of Food Products in Halal Supply Chain Worldwide" (Academic Press | 2023)

## Fractionated i

(E01A)

70 cm (w) x 100 cm (h)  
Mixed media, acrylic  
foil leaves on stretched canvas

2023

•••

"*Fractionated i*" is an homage to the colourful rainbow mountains that inadvertently change. Through time, the minerals of the mountains have been moved or shaken by the earth's plates and carved by wind and rain. Much like these, the foundations of ourselves have either been splintered or fractionated into smaller pieces as we grow. Sometimes we remove pieces that no longer fit, but other times we find ourselves scrambling for the parts we've lost. The painting exudes the laborious applications of scrap-painting acrylic paints into odd shapes, filling in the background colour, meticulously applying the gold foil leaves, and varnishing.



## Imperfect Reflection

(E01B)

70 cm (w) x 100 cm (h)  
Acrylic on stretched canvas

2023

•••

The Ikat pattern is interesting, made of fibres that vaguely form attractive shapes. "*Imperfect Reflection*" explores the growth in relationships. Our relationships thrive on the threads of our imperfection. Every stroke was flicked with a brush, making multilayers of rhythmic patterns. The colours are rich, complimenting one another, much like our imperfect traits that mirror those of the people we form meaningful relationships. As we grow closer to one another, we become the better, flawed version of ourselves.



## Changing Rhythm ii

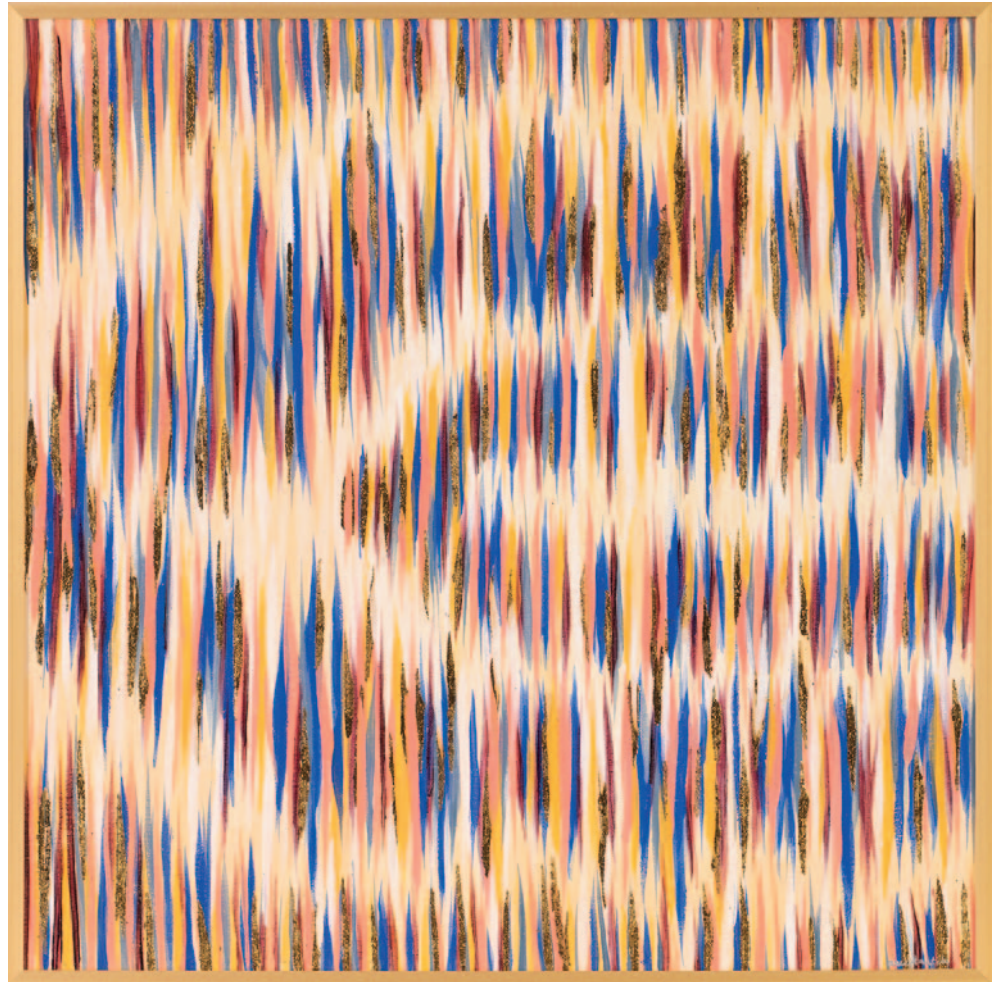
(E01C)

70 cm (w) x 70 cm (h)  
Mixed media, acrylic & gold  
foil leaves on stretched canvas

2022

•••

This work is part of the Changing Rhythm Series that began in 2022. The painting symbolises the struggles during the artist's first pregnancy. It was tough for her to go through a difficult pregnancy while juggling work, feeling trapped mentally and physically. The Ikat pattern here mimics the hollow walkways by the river in Firenze a never-ending illusion. The gold foil beautifies the 'trap', signifying the iridescent dreams the artist had in mind.



## Bethany Balan



Bethany Balan attended Swinburne University of Technology in Kuching, Malaysia, where she studied graphic and multimedia design. Even as a child, she was naturally creative and enjoyed drawing and crafting, but it wasn't until her first art exhibition in 2019 that she began to see herself as an artist.

When the pandemic hit, and she left her full-time job, she found herself with the time and opportunity to focus on developing her skills and personal style as an artist.

Bethany's **Sparks of Change** occurred when she realised that her art could evoke an emotional response. She believes that art can communicate feelings that are too complex for words, allowing her to express her experiences and emotions through her creations.

As an artist, Bethany sees herself as a mirror and truth keeper of society. She draws inspiration from her culture and the process of reclaiming it, using her art to offer unique perspectives that others may not have considered before.

### Notable Achievements

- Poet and exhibition artist for *Sem/bunyi* exhibition by Borneo Bengkel at the George Town Literary Festival, George Town, Malaysia
- *DALAM* exhibition, Think & Tink, Kuching, Malaysia

## Burning Out But At Least I'm Burning

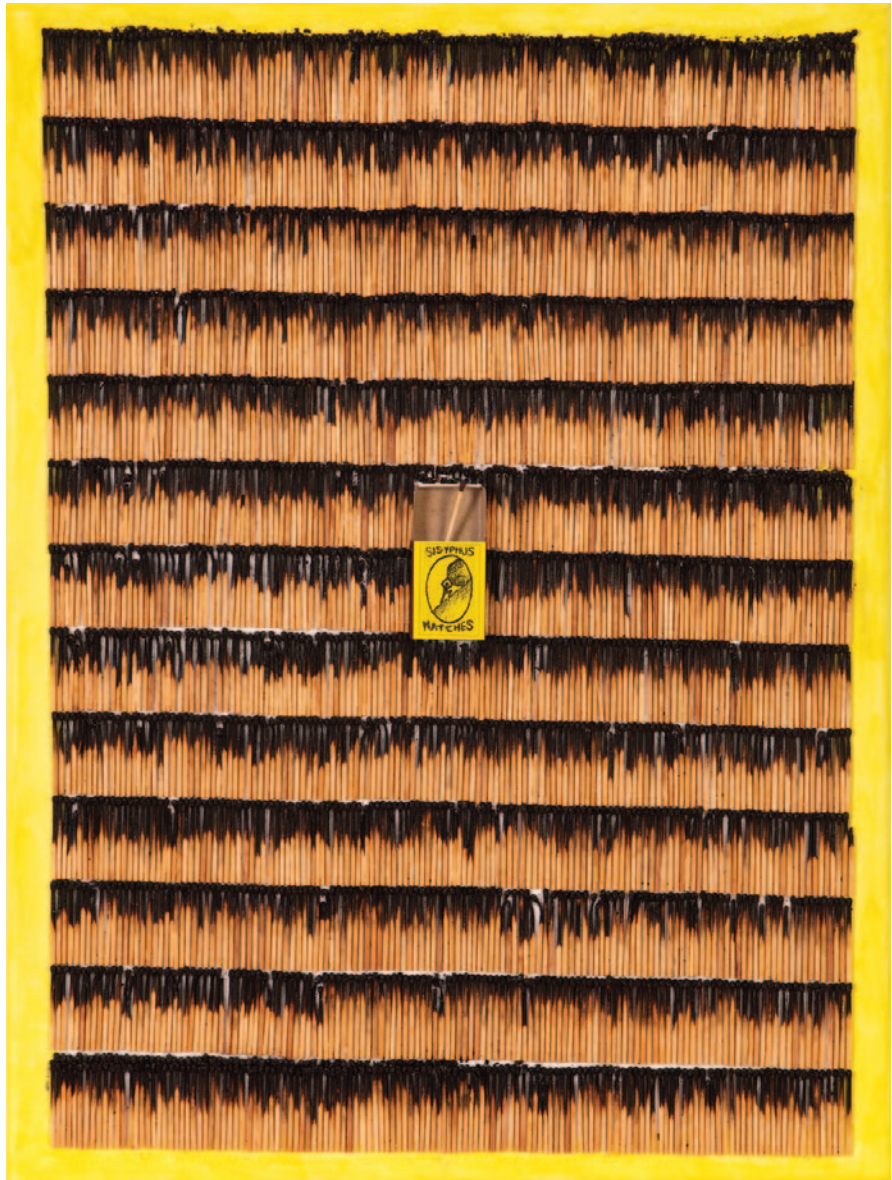
(E02A)

45 cm (w) x 60 cm (h)  
Mixed media

2023

•••

A spark is seen as a positive thing but also destructive. When a match is struck, it lights up its surroundings but sacrifices itself in the process. This piece speaks to that sense of futility and self-destruction many activists and community builders face. Depending on your interpretation, this piece could be viewed as pessimistic or a symbol of hope in adversity. Yes, many sacrifices were made to get here, but one match is still left. Will you be the next **Sparks of Change**? It's your turn now.



## Leong Sok Yeng



Leong Sok Yeng received her Diploma in Illustration from the Malaysian Institute of Art. She first entered the art world by exhibiting her artwork at the Art Against AIDS exhibition in 2020, and has been actively creating artwork for three years.

Sok Yeng's **Sparks of Change** as an artist came when she had the opportunity to showcase her artwork and was appreciated for her work.

She comes from a long line of traditional Chinese medicine practitioners. Inspired by her background, Sok Yeng focuses on elements of Chinese herbs as the primary subjects of her paintings, portraying balance and harmony in nature.

Sok Yeng creates unconventional visuals to inspire the younger generation's curiosity in traditional Chinese medicine and practices. She uses a variety of media to create her art, including watercolour, colour pencils, acrylic, and digital art, continuously exploring new ways to portray her paintings.

### **Notable Achievements**

- *'Rising Together' Art with Heart 2022* exhibition by RHB Banking Group, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- National Art Gallery's Young Art Entrepreneur (YAE!) programme, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Recipient of Art Against AIDS 2020 Award, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Collaborated with The LINC KL for an art showcase, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia





### The Crimson Gems

(E03A)

80 cm (w) x 54 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

The power of transformation lies within the smallest of things. Like the humble red dates in Traditional Chinese Medicine, which holds many health benefits and represents a **Sparks of Change** for your well-being. These little crimson gems have been treasured for centuries for their ability to nourish the body and uplift the spirit. As we embrace the wisdom of ancient traditions, let the red dates be a reminder that even the tiniest actions can ignite powerful transformations.



**The Alchemy Of Harmony:  
Yin And Yang**

(E03B)


94 cm (w) x 64 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

*"The Alchemy Of Harmony: Yin And Yang"* is a captivating exploration of the profound symbolism of Yin and Yang, and it represents the fundamental forces of balance, unity, and the power of change. Through vibrant colours and visual harmony, it invites contemplation on the delicate interplay of opposing forces in our lives and the importance of finding equilibrium within ourselves for optimal well-being.

Just like the dance of Yin and Yang, it encourages us to embrace and appreciate our differences within ourselves and our communities. By seeking harmony, we have the potential to bring about positive transformations that ripple through our surroundings.



*“ Art can’t be forced.  
You won’t get it. Just let it flow.”*

*Eddie Putera, Diorama Artist and Photographer*

## Ong Yong Da



Born in 1996, Ong Yong Da has limited speech, but his cheerful smile always brightens one's day. Though his words may be few, every bit of him - his actions and how he connects with people, either through his art or his smile - speaks volumes. He has shown a love for drawing since young, spending hours doodling with crayons and colour pencils.

Yong Da started painting with acrylics in 2006. He has actively participated in many exhibitions and auctions locally and internationally, organised by parents' support groups, Charity Foundations, and non-governmental organisations to raise funds and spread awareness for people with special needs.

Between 2011 and 2014, Yong Da's artwork was featured at Art Expo Malaysia. His artworks are found in galleries, corporate offices and homes of art collectors. In 2021, he was among the ten winners of the IM Group Foundation's International Arts competition.

Yong Da's **Sparks of Change** occurred when he returned to the art scene in 2020 after a six-year hiatus from exhibitions, having fully recovered from puberty-related epilepsy he has had since 2011. Another significant moment was when he confronted his anxiety and depression during the COVID-19 lockdown by reconnecting with nature, where he rediscovered his freedom, happiness and peace.

Yong Da draws inspiration from his life experiences and infuses his artwork with a distinct mood.

### Notable Achievements

- *'Rising Together' Art with Heart 2022* exhibition by RHB Banking Group, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *IM More The Tigers of Malaysia* exhibition, Turin, Italy
- Selected to represent Malaysia at Art Expo Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Artworks exhibited and sold in Australia, Hong Kong, Italy, Thailand and the United States
- Paintings displayed at corporate offices such as Anika Insurance Brokers, Deloitte Malaysia and MXM International

**Forest Sunlight**

(E04A)

71.12 cm (w) x 101.6 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2021

•••

Beautiful sunlight shines  
through the majestic Bukit  
Kiara forest reserve. What  
colours do you see?



**Bukit Kiara Forest Reserve**

(E04B)

106.7 cm (w) x 127 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

Spending a few hours at the Bukit Kiara forest reserve every morning, watching its beauty change and evolve at different hours of the day. Peace, happiness and health are abundant.



**Untitled 2022**

(E04C)

48.3 cm (w) x 86.4 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2022

•••

Your thoughts and feelings are  
enough. No one can tell you  
what you may see.



## Shafnaz Shazalli



'Garis, bentuk, warna yang dilukis, melukis kata.' ~ Shafnaz Shazalli.

Born in 1986, Shafnaz Shazalli, who hails from Taiping, Perak, earned her Bachelor's Degree in Architecture from the International Islamic University Malaysia. She has been an artist since her final year as an architecture student in 2010.

Shafnaz's **Sparks of Change** moment transpired while volunteering as an art teacher in Chow Kit, Kuala Lumpur. She taught art to 100 underprivileged children, pro bono basis between 2014 and 2021. She considers art an effective way for children to communicate and develop confidence, emotional intelligence and self-expression.

Shafnaz is interested in design, visual arts, music and theatre. She expresses herself through her artwork easily, driven by her eclectic personality and inspired by her poems and surroundings. With pen, ink, and acrylic as her chosen mediums, Shafnaz creates paintings starting from her present surroundings. Her personal experiences as a modern woman in today's society often serve as her subject matter. Although the outcome of her painting is unknown, her artwork tells her story and will resonate with others.

Shafnaz never loses sight of her passion as an architect while making art. The 'lines' she sees in her paintings connect all the elements of her artwork. Her artwork evolves and grows on the canvas to include her love, fears, joys and frustrations.

Shafnaz is a modern artist who embraces change fearlessly.

### Notable Achievements

- When all the kids she taught in Chow Kit could express their feelings through art and how they wanted to achieve more
- Rantai Art Festival, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- PAM-MAYAS Art Exhibition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Ikon Malaysia* exhibition, Galeri APS, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



### Detik itu (i)

(E05A)

120 cm (w) x 140 cm (h)  
Acrylink & ink on canvas

2023

•••

Everyone experiences sadness, anger, struggle, uncertainties, and those feelings constantly change. It is natural and part of life. Sometimes, a negative emotion may even help you. Our world puts too much focus on happiness and treats it as unnecessary, but really, it can slow you down and give you the perspective you may need in your life. It can help you keep track of your relationships and dreams. In other words, sadness doesn't mean you are not coping with a situation. Instead, it enables you to accept that situation and move on. It is an important emotion that can help you adapt, focus, grow and persevere.



**Detik itu (ii)**

(E05B)

120 cm (w) x 180 cm (h)  
Acrylic & ink on canvas

2023

•••

Often we give up because we cannot accomplish the difficult task of making a massive and immediate change. That is when small changes become extremely valuable. One shift at a time, small changes will eventually lead you to the desired big one you have been aiming for.



*“Sesebuah negara bertamadun dibentuk oleh seni dan budaya yang berkembang mekar, dengan sumbangan hebat dan berinovasi yang membangkitkan kualiti terbaik dalam diri manusia.”*

*Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Malaysia's 4th and 7th Prime Minister*

## SM RAJA



SM RAJA, born in 1995, is a Kelantan native who earned his Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts (Hons) from Universiti Sains Malaysia in 2019. During his time at Universiti Sains Malaysia, he actively participated in art exhibitions and won multiple competitions.

His exhibition journey started in 2016 at The Ledge Gallery's Art Market Exhibition in Kuala Lumpur, followed by the KedahKu Indah Exhibition at the Padi Museum in Alor Setar, Kedah, and Nando's Art Initiative Exhibition in Kuala Lumpur in 2017. He also exhibited his work at the 3R Sculpture Exhibition at Dataran Merdeka, Kuala Lumpur.

After finishing his studies in Penang, he moved to Shah Alam, Selangor. He exhibited his work at various galleries such as AP Art Gallery with Pelayaran, Titik Merah Collective, Rumah Seni Selangor (RUsSel), Segaris Art Centre, HOM ART Trans, White Box (Nandos), and Galeri Prima.

"None of my work sold in my first year as an artist. After that, I took the drastic step of returning to the dot style and technique I studied at Universiti Sains Malaysia. This change was significant as it successfully attracted collectors to buy my work. That was my **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist." ~ SM RAJA.

SM RAJA's use of art elements - colour, shape, space and composition - is vastly influenced by nature. His love for historical stories serves as a source of inspiration to convey messages to the new generation.

### Notable Achievements

- *NEGARAKU*, Consolation Prize Winner in Digital Art Category for Nando's Art Initiative Competition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Orang Utan*, Winner of Pertandingan Sculpture 3R Antara Universiti 2016, 3R Sculpture Exhibition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## Dirgahayu Malaysiaku

(E06A)

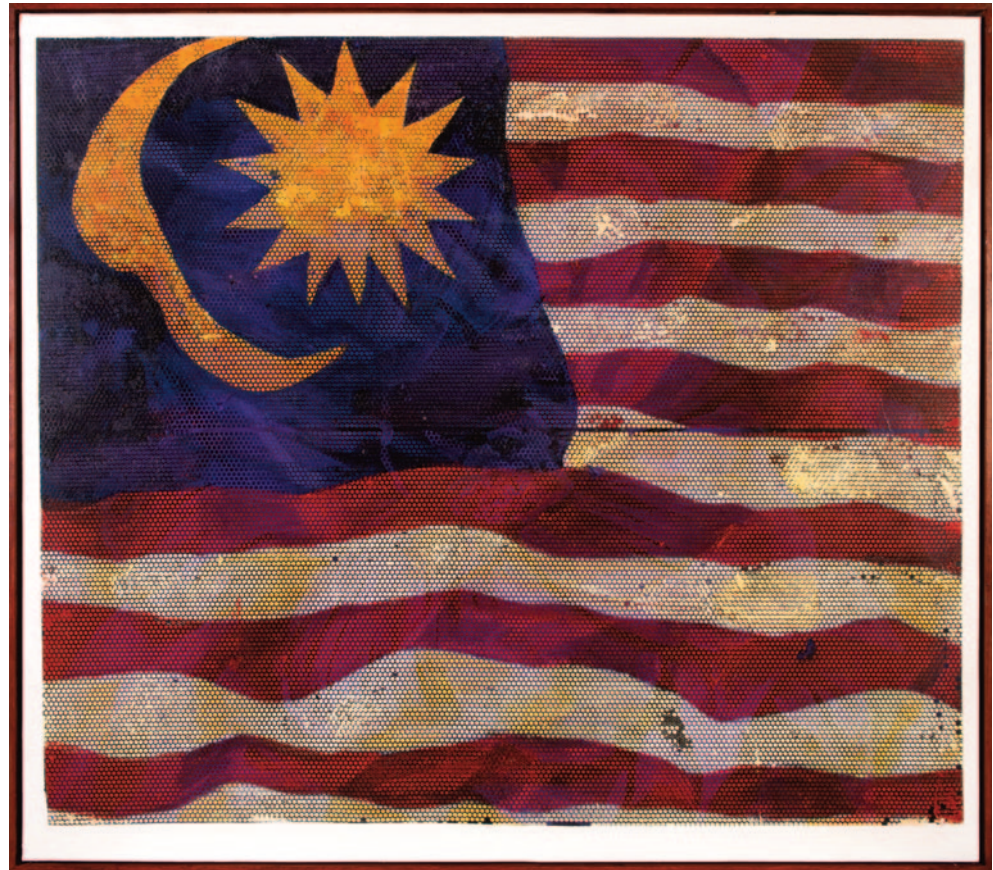
124 cm (w) x 137 cm (h)  
Top acrylic

2023

•••

The history of Malaysia inspires my work; in 1958, the *bunga raya* was named the national flower among seven other choices. The *bunga raya* is also symbolic of the history of the formation of Malaysia (Unification of the Peninsula, Sarawak, Sabah and Singapore).

It is in line with the combination of dots I have incorporated into my artwork to form a visual of the Malaysian flag and the *bunga raya* as the background of the work. There are some spots of imperfection in the painting, but the visual of the Malaysian flag remains perfect.



## Syafiqah Sanusi



Syafiqah Sanusi was born and raised in Selangor. She earned a Diploma in Fine Arts from Universiti Teknologi MARA in Seri Iskandar, Perak, in 2020 and a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts from Universiti Teknologi MARA in Shah Alam, Selangor. Her passion for drawing and painting began when she was young, and she later took art classes in secondary school. She explored it seriously while in college, where she started showcasing her artwork in galleries and building up her portfolio of works.

Syafiqah's **Sparks of Change** as an artist occurred when she was featured in her first group exhibition at a local art gallery. This significant event made her realise that she could create something meaningful for others to appreciate and gave her the confidence to pursue her art.

As an artist, Syafiqah is interested in exploring the themes of memory and nostalgia. She is inspired by the idea that memories shape a person. She believes that art can capture and preserve these memories beautifully and meaningfully. Additionally, she is passionate about creating art that is accessible and inclusive, one that people from all walks of life can enjoy.

### **Notable Achievement**

- Participated in more than 15 group exhibitions locally

## The Blooming Batik

(E07A)

61 cm (diameter)  
Acrylic on canvas

2022

•••

As we progress, losing touch  
with our traditions and culture  
is easy.



**Batik Lepas**

(E07B)

91.44 cm (w) x 91.44 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

As we progress, losing touch  
with our traditions and  
culture is easy.





**Inner Peace**

(E07D)

91.44 cm (w) x 121.92 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023



**Si Gadis**

(E07C)

91.44 cm (w) x 91.44 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2022

•••

As we progress forward, the Malay batik sarong has been modernised. Thus, the idea is to visualise the cultural collision between a Malay and Western cultural symbol.



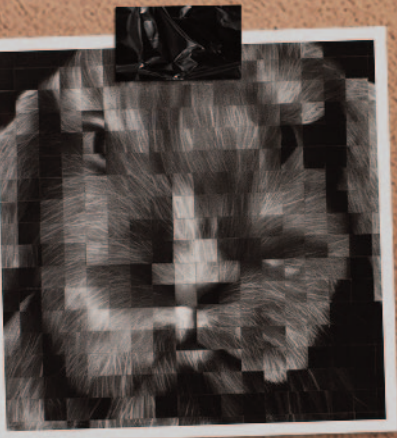
*“Seni tak menipu, dan tak boleh menipu seni.”*

*Dato' Ramli MS, Music Director*



Realism





## Akid One



Akid One holds a Diploma in Animation from International College of Yayasan Melaka and has been an artist since 2012. His creative journey began when he was 17 and first sold his watercolour paintings before progressing to painting on walls. For Akid, the walls are his canvas where he brings narratives to life, encapsulating the vivid emotions of his creations.

As an artist, change holds great significance for him, as it can be either of oneself or a country. His **Sparks of Change** was when he contemplated stepping away from the canvas. However, the universe had other plans, sending him various signs and stopping him from quitting.

Akid's subjects vary, but depending on the theme, he mainly focuses on characters/humans, portraits, animals, and nature. For Akid, nature unfolds in breath taking splendour, and it is for him to channel its beauty onto the canvas.

### Notable Achievements

- Street Art Festival, Melbourne, Australia
- *Brave*, the largest mural recorded in the Malaysian Book of Records, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

27

(F01A)

50.8 cm (w) x 76.2 cm (h)  
Spray paint

2023

•••

The number 27 represents Surah 27, called *An-Naml* in the Quran, titled '*The Ants*'. The artist is fascinated with how it brings forth a particular meaning regarding their nature of working harmoniously. The way ants work is quiet but always with excellent results. There is a lot to learn from them.



## Anisa Abdullah



Anisa Abdullah pursued a Fine Arts major in Painting at the Universiti Teknologi MARA in Shah Alam, Selangor and has actively participated in art exhibitions for over a decade. Her **Sparks of Change** occurred when she held her first solo exhibition, *Cebis-Cebis* (2013), which fuelled her desire to become a full-time artist.

Her passion for creativity extends beyond traditional painting. She enjoys experimenting with techniques like paper collages and exploring unique colour combinations in fashion.

Anisa Abdullah finds inspiration in all aspects of life. She carefully observes the world around her, both the mundane and the extraordinary, to discover the beauty and poetry of existence. The sounds of nature, human emotions, and the interplay of light and shadows feed her creative spirit.

Anisa's artistic journey is a constant exploration of self-discovery and growth. Her passion fuels her creativity, and she expresses herself through art, fashion, and personal style.

### Notable Achievements

- First solo exhibition, *Cebis-Cebis*, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Second solo exhibition, *GEMERSIK*, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia
- *Dapur Ibu*, 1st Prize Winner of Amari SPICE Art Competition, Pulau Pinang, Malaysia
- Residency at NAFAS Residensi, Yogyakarta, Indonesia



## Bubblegum

(F02A)

60.96 cm (w) x 60.96 cm (h)  
Collage paper on canvas

2023

•••

As a child, I have always loved creating things from scraps. Things or toys that I don't get to buy. It brought memories of when I used to make decorative cards, and now I am inspired to express myself freely and spontaneously by creating bubblegum and candy. This work isn't attached to any subject matter but encouraged me to create shapes and various size cuttings of paper collages, lines, and a pop of colours as sweet as bubblegum and candy.




**Candy**

(F02B)

30.48 cm (w) x 30.48 cm (h)  
Collage paper on canvas

2023





*“ Art changed my life.  
Now I have a purpose in life.  
My work inspires people around the world.”*

*Eddie Putera, Diorama Artist and Photographer*

## Arikwibowo Amril



Born in 1988, Arikwibowo Amril is a masterful figurative artist specialising in charcoal. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts (Hons) from Universiti Teknologi MARA, Selangor, in 2012. He began his artistic journey full-time upon graduation and has been actively participating in various group exhibitions such as Configuration at G13 Gallery in 2015, Shah Alam Biennale at Tapak Gallery, Shah Alam in 2016, Bintang 5 at Segaris Art Center in 2018 and many more.

Arikwibowo also participated in various residency programmes, such as NAFAS Residency in 2014 and the Perahu Art Connection Residency in 2016, both in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

In 2018, he presented his first solo exhibition titled *Hukum Alam*, which was held at HOM Art Trans, Kuala Lumpur, showcasing works that are a culmination of a six months residency programme called ARES organised by the gallery and mentored by established artist Bayu Utomo Radjikin.

Figurative art has always been his favourite subject matter. To him, this art form has the power to make a bold and impactful statement that resonates deeply with viewers, capturing the essence of the human experience in its purest form.

Arikwibowo defines his **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist when a 'sudden moment' urged him to explore new mediums, techniques, and concepts to push the boundaries of his creative expression.

### Notable Achievements

- Finalist for Bakat Muda Sezaman, Balai Seni Negara, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Work After (Edvard Munch)*, Jury's Pick Winner for Art Against AIDS Art Competition by KAREX Berhad, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *'Rising Together' Art With Heart 2022* exhibition by RHB Banking Group, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia





### Threenity (Rabbit)

(F03A)

255 cm (w) x 113 cm (h)  
(Three panels)

Charcoal on paper & paper cut  
mounted on canvas

2023

•••

The idea behind separating my work into fractions is to invite the audience to challenge and see the pictures I produced. Through this work, I wanted to convey the unity where the significance of each fraction becomes one, as, without unity, the goal is challenging to reach. Unity also means oneness, where it takes encouragement to build.

## Lim Soon Hock



Lim Soon Hock graduated in Fine Art from the Malaysian Institute of Art. This emerging artist embarked on his art career two years ago and has yet to look back since.

Soon Hock's **Sparks of Change** came about when Her Majesty Tunku Azizah Aminah Maimunah Binti Sultan Iskandar acquired one of his artworks. This gave him the confidence and motivation to continue producing artworks that reflect the surrounding community.

Soon Hock draws inspiration from his personal experiences and observations, reflecting his surroundings in his art. His paintings are a symphony of colour and form, with each stroke carrying the essence of the world he inhabits. He finds inspiration everywhere, from bustling city streets to serene landscapes. His artistic vision is ever-evolving, distilling the world into paint strokes and expressions of form.

Soon Hock's art is a canvas of growth, reflecting his passion and transformative life moments. Each stroke breathes life into his surroundings, weaving a tapestry transcending reality.

### Notable Achievements

- One of his art works was acquired by Her Majesty Tunku Azizah Aminah Maimunah
- *Hot or Cold*, Spotlight Award, Mr. DIY Art Competition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Stage of Life*, Consolation Prize Winner, Art Against AIDS Art Competition by KAREX Berhad, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Lembaran 3rd Anniversary Show* exhibition at Artas Gallery, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia
- *Memoria* exhibition, Galeri Prima, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



### Fogton Car

(F04A)

95 cm (w) x 64 cm (h)  
Mixed media on canvas

2023

•••

Cars are an essential mode of transportation in Malaysia, and cars are also the most common cause of car accidents in Malaysia. In this work, I express the traffic difficulties I faced after a car accident. The car is the meanest form of transportation but the most convenient tool in the world, and for some, it is a tool for showing off, and for the rest, it is a way of life.

## Shops And Stall

(F04B)

95 cm (w) x 125 cm (h)  
Mixed media on canvas


2023

•••

Everyone is running around in life. Busy with life, and it often takes a long time to succeed in buying a stall. Another aspect of this work is to express the meaning of running around for survival in a big city. Let's slow down and take a break, whether it's at a café or a stall.







*“Bakat jangan disia-siakan,  
hidup juga jangan  
disia-siakan, itu adalah anugerah Allah.”*

*Datuk Hajah Habsah Hassan, Legendary Lyricist*

## Rais Azmi



Rais Azmi was born in Kuala Lumpur in 1993. He obtained a Diploma in Fine Arts from Universiti Teknologi MARA in Lendu, Melaka, in 2014 and later earned a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts (Hons) from Universiti Teknologi MARA in Seri Iskandar, Perak, in 2016.

Rais's pivotal **Sparks of Change** occurred after finishing his Fine Art and Technology graduate degree at Universiti Teknologi MARA in Shah Alam, Selangor. It was during this time that he decided to change his technique from Realism to Impressionism.

Rais went to Singapore for a three-month internship as an assistant art teacher to broaden his artistic experience and knowledge. He has exhibited his work at various galleries in and around Malaysia, such as National Art Gallery (Creative Space), Gallery Chandan, Galeri Prima, Segaris Art Center, Galeri Shah Alam, Creative Space 2, Artseri, Seri Pacific Hotel, Aswara Art Gallery, White Box, Publika, Pelita Hat, Titkmerah, Artesque, and Kapallorek Artspace. Rais has also participated in a group exhibition, Architecture and Design Product Exhibition, which was held by Fakultas Teknik Unsyiah, Aceh, Indonesia.

By playing around with several brush stroke techniques, Rais's work has become more realistic with an expressionist tone. His subjects mainly revolve around children and childhood, old memories and daily life.

### Notable Achievements

- *'Rising Together' Art with Heart 2022* exhibition by RHB Banking Group, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Solitary Wall*, won 3rd Prize in the Visitor's Choice - On Site, Bakat Muda Sezaman, Balai Seni Negara, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Self Portrait*, Consolation Prize for the Winsor & Newton Self Portrait Contest, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Participated in the *Architecture and Design Product Exhibition* at Fakultas Teknik Unsyiah, Aceh, Indonesia

## In Bloom I

(F05A)

91.44 cm (w) x 121.92 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

These two works symbolise my appreciation for the women (flowers) in my life. The colourful women depicted in this work are based on the imperfections that complement each step of my journey.



**In Bloom II**

(F05B)

91.44 cm (w) x 121.92 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023



*“ Kita nak anak cucu kita belajar sampai  
pandai supaya tidak hilang  
songket (seni) sampai bila-bila.”*

*Hajah Zainab @ Ngah Bt Mamat, Songket Icon*

## Zulaiha Zulkapli



Back when Zulaiha Zulkapli pursued a Graphic Design and Multimedia certificate at the Entrepreneurs Development Institute in Kuala Lumpur in 2001, she did not seriously consider becoming a full-time artist. To her, art helps her to pass the time. Zulaiha is a practising artist with an established art career for the past eighteen years.

She believes her past challenges are her **Sparks of Change**, transforming and motivating her future. When she was five years old, she lost her hearing. The once vibrant symphony of life that surrounded her gradually faded, leaving behind a deep silence that echoed within her soul. Through her paintings, Zulaiha creates a colourful world that transcends the boundaries of sound

and silence. Each brushstroke recognises her relentless determination to capture the essence of nature's countryside and harmonious soundscape.

Zulaiha's art testifies to the resilience of the human spirit, a medium through which she triumphantly overcomes the limitations of her past and depicts an inspiring tale of hope, inspiration, and transformation. As she continues her creative journey, Zulaiha's art invites us to look into life's canvas and discover the beauty surrounding us.

### Notable Achievements

- President of Persatuan Pelukis Pekak Malaysia
- Represented Malaysia for Abilympic International in Bordeaux, France
- Project manager for The World Deaf Artists Exchange Exhibition in Korea
- Art valuer for artworks by deaf artists in the Asia region



**Rindu Waktu Itu 2 Series** •••

(F06A)

164 cm (w) x 116 cm (h)  
Oil on canvas

2023

Most of the artworks are about life. Growing up as an average child and everything else expressed in memory-filled work is very much missed. Since losing my hearing at age five, the sound of wind blowing, the water flow and the birds' chirping have disappeared entirely, and what remains is only a lonely, quiet life. So, on a piece of canvas, all the longing is expressed. Every work hides a thousand meanings that are impossible to forget.



**Berteduh Di Bawah  
Rahmat-Mu 2 Series**

(F06B)

82 cm (w) x 68 cm (h)  
Oil on canvas

2022



**Ku Buka  
Tirai Semalam**

(F06C)

101 cm (w) x 120 cm (h)  
Oil on canvas

2021



**Ombak Hati  
Sang Nelayan**

(F06D)

101 cm (w) x 122 cm (h)  
Oil on canvas

2022

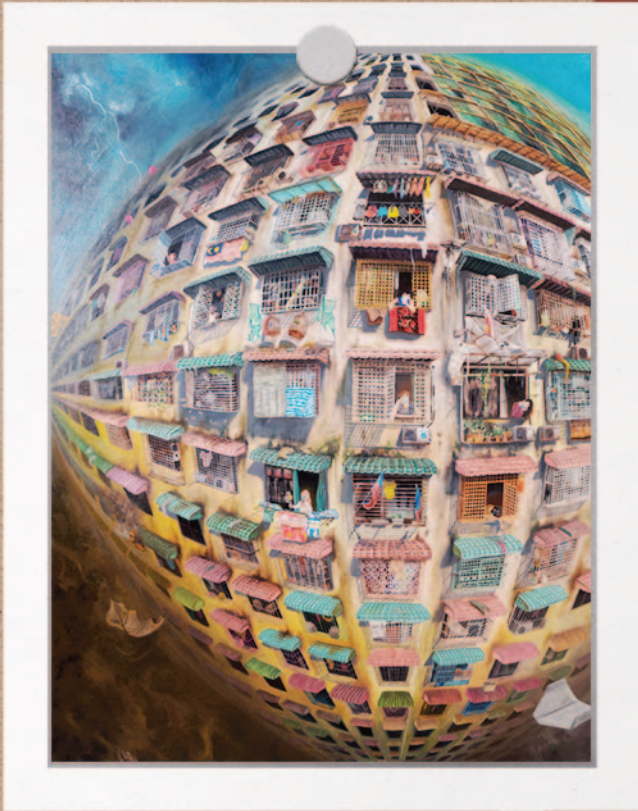
*Ombak Hati Sang Nelayan*

*Sepi...  
Tapi tenang  
Usang...  
Tapi gagah  
Pohon memayung memberi  
redup  
Air menampung memberi redup  
Air menampung terasa ringan  
Nyiur melambai pergi dan  
pulang  
Memaku semangat sang  
nelayan  
Bisiknya,  
Jangan kkuatir...  
Usar gusar...  
Wahai hati beranak ramai  
Walau kecil dapatmu  
Walau debu  
Berkahnya setinggi gunung  
Kenyangnya seluas laut*



*“ Saya takut kehilangan seni, kalau tak diberi penekanan hari ini, saya rasa akan pupus ditelan zaman. Dunia tanpa sempadan macam-macam berlaku, budaya kita banyak berubah.”*

*Hajah Azizah Mohd Yusof, Tekat Benang Emas Icon*





Surrealism

## Afiq Romi



Afiq Romi earned his degree from Universiti Teknologi MARA in Shah Alam, Selangor. He launched his career as an emerging artist by actively participating in art competitions and open calls for exhibitions.

Since graduating in 2021, Afiq has been an active artist. His **Sparks of Change** moments are when he comes in contact with people and environments, which allows him to explore and adapt to new aspects of life. This profoundly impacts his art, making it deeply personal.

Afiq's canvas is a sacred space where emotions, memories, and dreams converge to create intricate narratives. Objects of significance, emotional faces, and meaningful landscapes become threads weaved in his stories. His creations are not just images; they are echoes of the human experience, magnified through the prism of his unique perspective. As Afiq continues to infuse his art with his being, he stands as a living testament to the power of creativity, the impact of change, and the profound beauty that emerges when the soul finds its voice.

### Notable Achievements

- Top 13 Best Artists for Malaysia Emerging Artist (MEA) Award by CIMB Foundation, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Sun and Moon*, Growth exhibition at Galeri Puteh, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Antara*, New Media Art Exhibition, Kapallorek Artspace, Perak, Malaysia
- *Pitu x Jogja*, group exhibition, Sangkring Art Space, Yogyakarta, Indonesia



### Everyday Essential

(G01A)

66.5 cm (w) x 50 cm (h)  
Graphite on paper

2023

•••

A still-life drawing of a sunflower, a few rings and a perfume bottle. The sunflower symbolises unconditional love and adoration and is a flower that always brightens others' moods. Adjacent to the sunflower, the rings reflect personal stories and experiences, while the perfume adds a layer of intrigue and ambiguity.



### Onces A Reverie

(G01B)

66.5 cm (w) x 50 cm (h)  
Graphite on paper

2023

•••

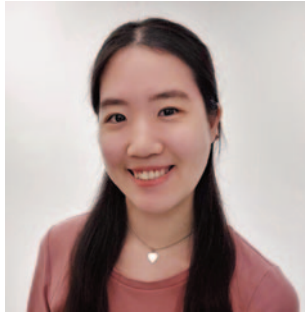
A field of moonflower is the central focal point. Known for their ethereal beauty and nocturnal blooming, they symbolise the idea of mystery and the ability to blossom even during dark times. As the sole source of illumination, the light above illuminated and shone beautifully on the flowers. At the same time, the mirror in the back serves as a symbol that inspires contemplation and self-reflection among the viewers.



*“Sekarang mudah, semuanya di depan komputer namun yang membezakan adalah jalan penceritaan dan moral.”*

*Hassan A. Muthalib, Malaysia's Father of Animation*

## Danielle Lin



Born in 2001 in Ipoh, Perak, Danielle Lin received her art education at the Malaysian Institute of Art, Kuala Lumpur, in 2019. Her acrylic paintings span from the realistic to the whimsical, drawing inspiration from various sentimental memorabilia.

As she based her paintings on real-life environments and life lessons from the human experience, her work raises questions about present social concerns, such as the environment and the future of our younger generation. She believes that being unafraid to be vulnerable as an artist is essential when creating a lasting connection between the art and the viewer.

Although Danielle has been active as an artist for around two years, it has been a rollercoaster ride for her. Her **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist was climbing out from a spell of self-doubt after being told by a gallerist that her artwork topics were not good enough for the art industry.

She finds inspiration everywhere but is particularly intrigued by irony, satirical humour, duality, and the unexpected. Danielle was the second runner-up in Pertandingan Potret Tokoh Pendidikan held by UPSI National Education in 2020. She received a Grand Prize Award in Bakat Mahasiswa organised by the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia, Balai Seni Negara Malaysia, and the Malaysian Institute of Art in 2021.

Her work received a consolation prize in the 2020 Art Against AIDS Competition by KAREX Berhad and recently won a consolation prize in the Seta Karya KL Hotel Art Contest.

### Notable Achievements

- *'Rising Together' Art with Heart 2022* exhibition by RHB Banking Group, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Received the Best Student Award from the Malaysian Institute of Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



### Octopus Lime

(G02A)

120 cm (w) x 90 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

This painting is meant to be hung in the interior of a house, serving as a reminder to open one's mind to unexpected or bizarre possibilities and to break outside of one's comfort zone.




**Braid and Eggs**

(G02B)

120 cm (w) x 90 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

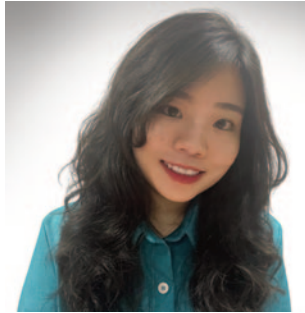
2023



*“Perhaps, in the end, there are no such things as creative people; there are only sharp observers with sensitive hearts.”*

*Yasmin Ahmad, Creative Director, Film Director, Scriptwriter & Writer*

## Hui Qin Chua



Hui Qin Chua, born in 1996 in Pontian, Johor, graduated with a Diploma in Fine Arts from the Malaysian Institute of Art in 2019. Her works primarily address feminist issues. She employs charcoal and soft pastels to produce surreal drawings and ventures into new media and unconventional materials to create installations. Hui Qin's works have been selected as the Jury's Choice for two consecutive years in the Spotlight competition hosted by Penang Art District in 2019 and 2020.

Hui Qin has been steadfast in her artistic journey for the past six years. She began her career as an artist by participating in art competitions or exhibiting her work to gain exposure and recognition. She considers her **Sparks of**

**Change** moment as an artist was when she won awards in several competitions or when art collectors purchased her artwork.

Her creations delve into societal issues and her personal experiences. She produces expressive works in various forms and materials through observation, drawing and exploration. As she continues to breathe life into her canvas, Hui Qin is a beacon of inspiration, encouraging us to boldly confront the world's complexities, embrace the **Sparks of Change** and let our creative spirits soar to uncharted heights.

### Notable Achievements

- *'Rising Together' Art with Heart 2022* exhibition by RHB Banking Group, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Founded the Senmu Art Studio and has painted over 50 murals in different states within Malaysia
- Made personal breakthroughs when she jumped from canvas to performing arts to installation art

**Twilight's Embrace  
Series 1**

(G03A)

97 cm (w) x 127 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2017

•••

The copper base colour embodies the groundedness of the motherland, representing stability and a deep connection to ancestral roots. It serves as a reminder of the endurance and strength found in the natural world and its vital role in sustaining life.

*"Chromatic Convergence: Twilight's Embrace"* invites viewers to contemplate the beauty of a new day, embrace the transformative power of light, and reflect on the intricate interdependence between humanity and the natural world. It serves as a reminder of the cyclical nature of life, inspiring a sense of hope, renewal, and appreciation for the abundance of energy and life surrounding us.





**Twilight's Embrace Series 2 |  
Chromatic Convergence**

(G03B)

121.92 cm (w) x 91.44 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

...

The refraction of the surroundings manifests as a series of mesmerising lines and patterns, meticulously aligning with the artwork's central theme. The lines seem to converge, leading the viewer's gaze towards the heavens and the vast expanse of the sea. This artwork's alignment of the sky and sea symbolises the harmonious relationship between opposing forces, where the celestial and earthly realms coalesce.

Using chrome as the base colour, "Twilight's Embrace Series 2 | Chromatic Convergence" captures the essence of a fleeting moment when light and darkness dance harmoniously. It invites the audience to contemplate the balance between opposing elements, inspiring reflection on the beauty that emerges when disparate forces align.



*“Seni itu ada kaitan dengan kerohanian, apabila seseorang itu mula melukis, dia dapat menikmati keindahan, dia mungkin lebih merasai keindahan berbanding orang tidak melukis. Rasa itu sukar untuk dinyatakan. Mungkin tiada ayat yang tepat untuk menggambarkan tentang aras dan keindahan itu.”*

*Datuk M. Nasir, Composer, Singer, Actor and Painter*



Wong Sze Yoong, also known as WSY, completed his Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts at Universiti Sains Malaysia in Gelugor, Penang, and is currently pursuing his graduate degree in visual arts at Universiti Malaya in Kuala Lumpur. He began his journey as a part-time artist, which allowed him to fully immerse himself in the art scene and develop his skills further.

WSY has been actively creating art since completing his degree at Universiti Sains Malaysia. When asked about his **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist, he revealed that the process of creating new art challenges his skills and patience, and inspires him to push his limits. Completing each artwork transforms him, altering his attitude, thoughts, and capabilities.

WSY is deeply fascinated with the simple objects that he uses daily. He is inspired by these daily objects and his various incidents and experiences. He continually strives to create new and unique artworks.

#### **Notable Achievements**

- *Behind The Grille*, won Gold in the Emerging Artist Category, United Overseas Bank (UOB)
- Amari SPICE Art Competition, Consolation Prize, Penang, Malaysia

26

(G04A)

180 cm (w) x 180 cm (h)  
Acrylic & oil on canvas

2022

•••

The artist paints himself in the middle of his 26-year lifelong home. Here, we gaze alongside the artist in this self-portrait of anticipation and nostalgia. Out the balcony, we peek at childhood memories and the perplexities of the future in adulthood. It unearths a joy from the mere sight of a paper aeroplane gliding over the grilled units as it also triggers lingering anxiety about an uncertain future.





22


(G04B)

130 cm (w) x 99 cm (h)  
Acrylic & oil on canvas

2017

...

The title, 22, marks the point of the artist's artmaking journey. It was at that age when this **Sparks of Change** set his course. With its cluttered and detail-heavy demands, this piece proved a challenge for the artist as he pushed his limits. The drawing process of this piece helped shape the skill, maturity and thoughts of the artist himself. We see how the subject matter shows the culture, heritage and background of the artist. Yet, as much as these items display the artist's material world, it further mirrors his spirit and determination of his inner self.



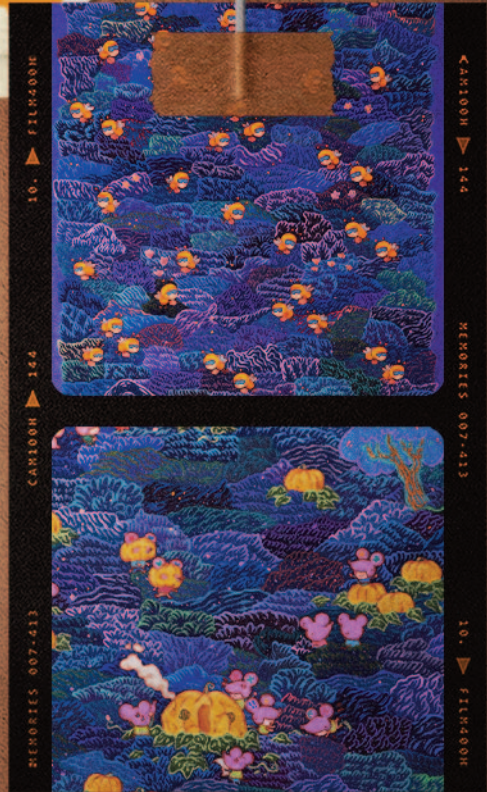
*“The arts are like salt in food.  
You don’t eat salt on its own,  
and yet you cannot live without it.”*

*Dr Ang Ming Chee, General Manager of George Town World Heritage Incorporated*





POP



## Aimman Hafzal



Born in 1995 in Muar, Johor, Aimman Hafzal has been active as an artist for four years since he obtained a Master's Degree in Fine Arts and Technology from Universiti Teknologi MARA, Jalan Othman, Petaling Jaya, Selangor in 2019. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts (Hons) from Universiti Teknologi MARA in Shah Alam, Selangor and a Diploma in Fine Arts from Universiti Teknologi MARA in Seri Iskandar, Perak.

He began his artistic journey by participating in art competitions as a student and then continued to showcase his work in local and international exhibitions after graduating. His notable achievements include the Major Award for Anugerah Seni MIDF 2017 and the Best Technical Art for Energy

Present & Future for PETRONAS Art Competition, PETRONAS Gallery. He has also participated in a residency programme at Saung Banon Arts, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

Aimman's **Sparks of Change** moment happened when he received positive feedback on his painting style, encouraging him to continue creating quality works to gain a solid placement within the art industry.

He has been actively participating in local and international art exhibitions such as Sanggar Bambu dan Lingkaran Persahabatan Exhibition at Yogyakarta, Indonesia, Mindscape Malaysia-India Intercultural Exhibition, Meter at Galeri Prima and Carca-Marba at Core Design Gallery.

Aimman is known to create artwork based on well-known characters. However, recently, he is focused on creating his own identity as an artist by creating original characters inspired by animals.

### Notable Achievements

- *Flo-Rest | Two Men Show: Aimman Hafzal x Fadzril Fakaruddin* by Artas Gallery, Element Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *Spice*, group exhibition, Core Design Gallery, Subang Jaya, Malaysia
- *I Am An Artist 1.0*, Core Design Gallery, Subang Jaya, Malaysia
- *'Rising Together' Art with Heart 2022* exhibition by RHB Banking Group, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



**There's An  
Imposter Among Us**

(H01A)

49 cm (w) x 79 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

The artist is known for finding inspiration in well-known characters from movies and animations as a playful way to tell stories in his artwork. At this time, the artist has decided to take a different approach and create an original character inspired by animals to develop his own identity as an artist.



**Not Your Club House**

(H01B)

49 cm (w) x 79 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023



**The Apes Society**

(H01C)

49 cm (w) x 79 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023



**Keep Me Beezy**

(H01D)

49 cm (w) x 79 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023



*“ Kita adalah serumpun, namun  
terpisah oleh keadaan diluar jangkauan;  
kita boleh menjadi satu, jikalau hidup bersatu padu. ”*

*Datuk Seri Amar Alli Kawi, Former Sarawak Deputy Police Chief*

## Irfan Syamil Mohamad



Irfan Syamil Mohamad obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Architecture from the International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, in 2017. He initially aspired to become a footballer but decided to pursue art and began planning his personal life goals while he was still in college. After completing his studies in 2020, he began drawing seriously with colour pencils.

Irfan's **Sparks of Change** moment as an artist came when he realised that not everyone possesses the same talent he has. He was determined to become a professional drawing artist and represent Malaysia.

Currently, Irfan is focused on creating hyper-realistic, large-scale drawings inspired by Australian artist CJ Hendry. Her art influenced and motivated him which is why he credits her as being the reason he is where he is today.

## Tonalità Di Blu

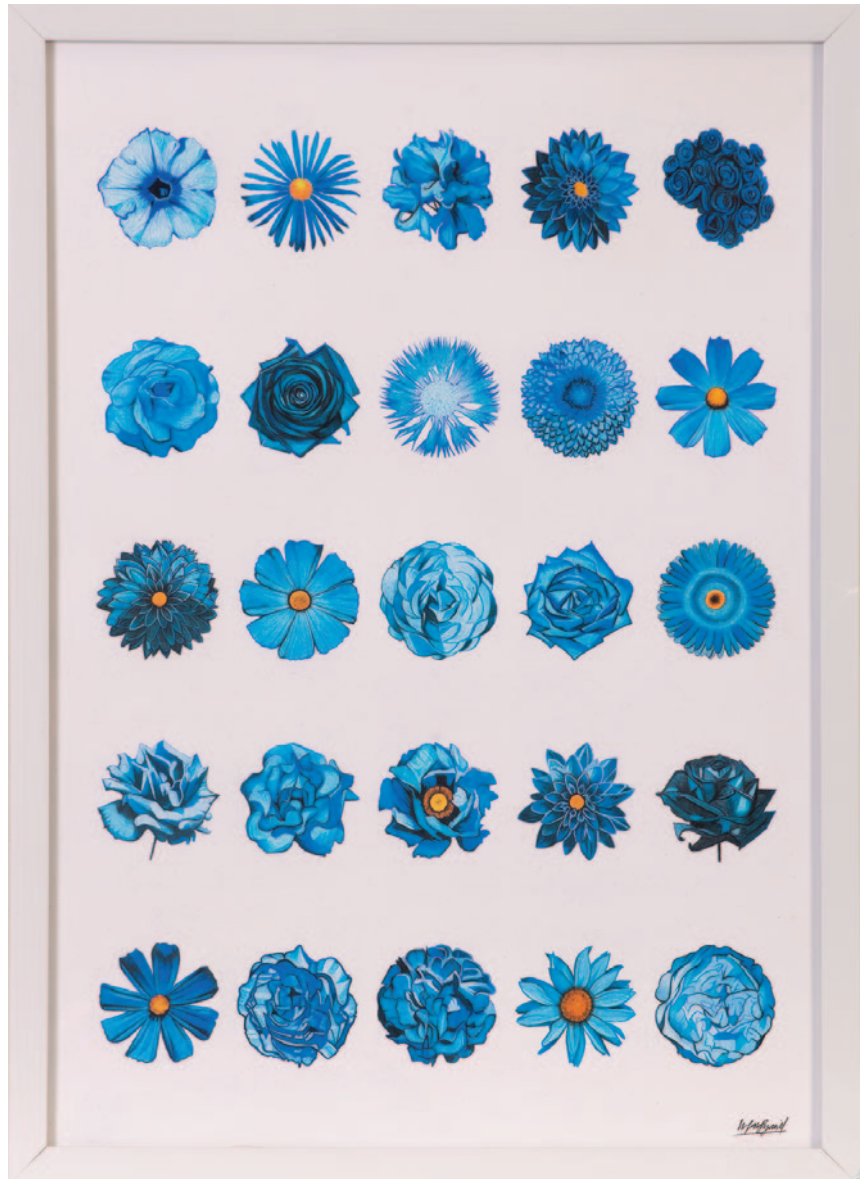
(H02A)

46 cm (w) x 63 cm (h)  
Colour pencils on paper

2022

•••

Drawing these flowers brings the artist profound peace as he loses himself in their intricate beauty. With each stroke, the ethereal blue flower comes to life on paper as each bloom carries its own unparalleled uniqueness, a reminder that even in a world of similarities, we are all extraordinarily unique in our ways.



## D' Floreo

(H02B)

46 cm (w) x 63 cm (h)  
Colour pencils on paper

2023

•••

The artwork is a gentle reminder to all who view it, urging them not to dwell excessively on their flaws and insecurities. Embrace your quirks, flaws, and imperfections, for it is through them that we are imperfectly perfect.





**Paint Blob**  
**by CJ Hendry**

(H02C)

63 cm (w) x 88 cm (h)  
Colour pencils on paper

2023

•••

In the abstract chaos of this "*Paint Blob*", the artist found a canvas for inspiration. Just as 'she' excelled in her unique strengths, I discovered a resonance between her art and mine, capturing it with colour pencils rather than a paintbrush.



## Izzuddin Basiron



Izzuddin Basiron pursued a career in art after obtaining his Diploma in Fine Arts from Universiti Teknologi MARA in Machang, Kelantan. He then earned his Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts (Hons) from Universiti Teknologi MARA in Shah Alam, Selangor. Following this, he participated in an exhibition at the HOM Art Trans Young and New show in Ampang, Kuala Lumpur.

He has been actively involved in the art scene for eight years now. His career took a significant turn when he was honoured with the MEA Awards, which marked a pivotal **Sparks of Change** moment in his artistic journey.

Izzuddin has been passionate about architecture since childhood and has always dreamed of becoming an architect. His love for architecture has inspired his artwork, where he incorporates lines, forms, and structures to create poignant narratives. Each of his artworks is a tribute to the fusion of dreams, reality, and the timeless connection between passion and creative purpose.

### Notable Achievements

- Top 13 Best Artists for Malaysia Emerging Artist (MEA) Award by CIMB Foundation, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- *SAW Singapore Art Week*, Taksu Singapore, Singapore
- *ArchiXCaping | Two Men Show: Izzudin Basiron x Shahnaz Azlin* at Artas Gallery, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia
- *PURE Painting: An Exposition of Non-Figurative Art*, Balai Seni Maybank, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## Senja

(H03A)

76 cm (w) x 76 cm (h)  
Acrylic on canvas

2023

•••

Both “*Senja*” and “*Rembang*” were initially photographed by the artist depicting two different sceneries in both paintings. The change of time throughout the day brings forth a beautiful shade of light.



**Rembang**


(H03B)

60 cm (w) x 60 cm (h)

Acrylic on canvas

2023





*“As poetry, it functions in a variety of ways – as a form of storytelling, as social realist critique and expression, and as a reflexive monologue supporting the visual agenda of the paintings.”*

*Jalaini Abu Hassan*, Contemporary Artist, Educator at UITM





