
NEWS RELEASE

'THEY' Wins 19th UOB Painting Of The Year Competition

Oil painting by full-time artist Fan Shao Hua sends powerful and thought-provoking social message

Singapore, 8 July 2000 - A poignant depiction of modern life has clinched the top prize of S\$20,000 in the Open Section of the 19th UOB Painting Of The Year Competition organised by the United Overseas Bank (UOB) Group. The winning oil painting - simply entitled ***They*** - is the work of art of 37-year-old Mr Fan Shao Hua, a full-time artist.

Dr Kenson Kwok, the Chief Judge for this year's Competition said of the winning piece, "Fan Shao Hua's painting beckons the viewer to step back and assess the dynamics (or the lack of it) of the family and of inter-generational relationships. The message is a powerful one, and the work is strikingly composed and very well painted."

The winner in this year's Junior Section (for 18-year-olds and below), is Mr Lee Wai Peng. Mr Lee has also chosen to paint a topic that conveys a sobering social message, viz., that of killer litter. In the words of the judges, "***Phua Tao Deng***" (*Hokkien for Killer Litter*) is an unusual oil composition of great immediacy that draws the viewer into the position of a potential victim. The architectural setting of a HDB block is simply and convincingly evoked, and the colours of the painting reveal a commendable level of maturity for an 18-year-old."

Response To The Competition

This year's Competition, which closed on Saturday, 1 July 2000, attracted a total of 275 entries from 195 participants. The detailed breakdown is as follows:

	Number Of Entries
Open Section	191
<i>comprising</i>	
• Abstract Medium	56
• Representational Medium	102

- Traditional Chinese Medium 33

Junior Section 84

comprising

- Abstract Medium 16
- Representational Medium 42
- Traditional Chinese Medium 26

Results Of The Competition

Award/Prize	Winner	Title Of Painting	Medium
Open Section			
The UOB Painting Of The Year Award S\$20,000 and The UOB Painting Of The Year Trophy	Mr Fan Shao Hua	They	Oil
First Prize: Abstract Medium Category S\$8,000	Ms Lim Jun	Between Thoughts 2000	Acrylic On Canvas
First Prize: Representational Medium Category S\$8,000	Mr Goo Chuen Hang	The Avenue	Pastel
First Prize: Traditional Chinese Medium Category S\$8,000	Mr Tay Bak Chiang	Emotions By The Quay	Chinese Ink
Certificate Of Distinction Awards S\$1,000 each	Mr Ea Huat Chuan	Still Life	Acrylic
	Ms Lee Mun Yee	The Cell (3)	Charcoal & Pastel
	Mr Ler Hock Chuan	Serenity	Oil
	Ms Lu Ping	Root	Oil
	Ms Tan Lay Choo	Moment In Time	Chinese Ink & Colour On Paper
Junior Section*			
The UOB Most Promising Young Artist Award S\$1,000 and The UOB Most Promising Young Artist Trophy	Mr Lee Wai Peng (aged 18 years)	Phua Tao Deng	Oil
Certificate Of Distinction Awards S\$200 each	Ms Joyce Lim Sijia (aged 18 years)	Untitled	Oil
	Ms Wendy Tng Swee Kheng (aged 12 years)	My Sister On A Daddy Ride	Mixed Media
	Ms Jacelyn Tng Swee Lin (aged 7 years)	World Of Weath	Mixed Media
	Ms Wu Lanxi (aged 16 years)	Flower In The Sea	Acrylic
	Ms Zeng Yue Shi (aged 10 years)	Park	Mixed Media

* The Junior Section is open to all entrants aged 18 years and below (born on/after 1 January 1982).

Panel Of Judges

This year's panel of judges comprises three local and two overseas judges. They are:

Local Judges

- Dr Kenson Kwok (*Chief Judge*)
Director, Asian Civilisation Museum
- Mr Lim Yew Kuan
Artist and
Former Principal of Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts
- Associate Professor Victor R Savage
Head of Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences
National University of Singapore

Overseas Judges

- Mr Nguyen Quan (*from Vietnam*)
Artist, Art Writer, Lecturer of Art History & Art Theory *and*
Deputy Director of Fine Art Publishing House
- Mr Xu Xi (*from USA*)
Artist

The 19th UOB Painting Of The Year Exhibition

All 15 prize-winning and 37 highly-commended entries from the Competition are on display at the 19th UOB Painting Of The Year Exhibition. The Exhibition also includes a collective display of the recent works of last year's Painting Of The Year winner, Mr Tan Kay Nguan.

The Exhibition, open to members of the public, is held on the 1st, 37th and 38th Storeys of UOB Plaza 1, 80 Raffles Place from 8 to 21 July 2000, 9.00 am to 5.00 pm daily. Admission is free.