



43rd UOB Painting of the Year

Message from the Chairman
of UOB Art Advisory Panel

Message from
Guest-of-Honour

UOB Painting of the Year
Milestones

UOB Painting of the Year
Iconic Award Trophy

Doing right by our
communities through
#ArtforGood

43rd UOB Painting of the Year
(Singapore) Launch

Established Artist Category
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Emerging Artist Category
Singapore

Established Artist Category
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Emerging Artist Category
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About UOB Art Collection

Message from the Chairman of UOB Art Advisory Panel

Art transcends boundaries, inspires dialogues, and reflects the rich tapestry of cultures and ideas that shape our world. UOB believes in the power of art to unite people, foster understanding, and encourage creative expression.

We are committed to growing together with the businesses, communities, and individuals across Southeast Asia for the long term. The UOB Painting of the Year (POY) competition, now in its 43rd year, reflects this dedication. Over the decades, our flagship competition has extended its reach beyond Singapore to Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand, and Vietnam. We are creating regional impact in Southeast Asia, by enhancing business connectivity, and giving back to the communities we operate in, including through our support for art.

The winning entries of this year’s UOB POY competition represent the finest expressions of creativity, talent and vision from the region’s established and promising artists. These artworks often reflect the artists’ unique interpretations of their surroundings, personal stories, or broader social issues. They resonate with a global audience, highlighting Southeast Asia’s evolving role on the international art stage.

As a leading patron of the arts in Asia, UOB is committed to nurturing artistic talent in the region. With UOB returning as the Lead Partner of Art Central Hong Kong and Art Jakarta, these UOB Art Spaces at the art fairs provide a global platform for UOB POY artists to showcase their works to collectors, galleries, and the broader art community.

To actively support the development of artists, we are establishing the UOB Artist Alumni Network. This platform will connect and facilitate collaboration between Southeast Asian artists from UOB POY competition and Greater China’s artists from UOB Art in Ink Awards. The network will provide mentorship from established artists and offer opportunities for artists to enhance their skills through artwork commissions, exhibitions and residency programmes.

UOB also brings creativity directly into the spaces where people live, work and play through our Art-in-Branches initiative, which showcases artworks by UOB POY artists. This initiative strengthens the connection between the Bank and the communities it serves. We will continue to present art in formats to bring it closer to the communities we support, while also providing more platforms for artists to showcase their works.

Heartiest congratulations to all our winners and thank you to our esteemed judges and partners who have made our journey in art possible. Guided by our purpose of “Building the future of ASEAN”, UOB will continue to deepen our support for the arts across Asia and provide artistic talents with the opportunities to reach greater heights.

Mr Wee Ee Cheong

Deputy Chairman and CEO, UOB
Chairman, UOB Art Advisory Panel



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Message from Guest-of-Honour

Singapore is a nation that embraces its cultural diversity, and our vibrant arts scene is a vivid reflection of this identity. The arts in Singapore play a crucial role in fostering social cohesion, nurturing creativity, and providing a platform for self-expression. They do not only showcase our rich heritage, but also represent our shared aspirations for the future. As we continue to evolve as a global city, the arts continue to deepen our sense of identity and belonging, while strengthening our connections with the wider world.

The Government recognises the importance of a dynamic and flourishing arts ecosystem. Over the years, we have made significant investments to nurture talent, foster a creative ecosystem, and provide opportunities for artistic expression. Agencies such as the National Arts Council (NAC), National Heritage Board (NHB) and other cultural institutions support artists and cultural practitioners through exhibition and presentation opportunities, grants, residencies, training programmes, and infrastructure development, designed to provide artists with the resources they need to innovate and excel.

At the heart of our support for the arts is the belief that the arts belong to everyone. This is why we have introduced initiatives to widen access to the arts and expand the diversity of arts spaces across Singapore. From arts festivals in the heartlands to public art installations and school programmes, we hope to give every Singaporean the opportunity to experience and participate in the arts. As we nurture homegrown talent and cultivate a deeper appreciation for the arts in Singapore, we also aspire to build a thriving arts ecosystem that is internationally recognised for its creativity and diversity.

Last year, UOB was recognised by NAC as an Honorary Patron of the Arts, having received the Distinguished Patron of the Arts more than 20 times. I look forward to UOB’s continued support in giving people the opportunity to appreciate the diverse works from the region.

Congratulations to all the winners of the 43rd UOB Painting of the Year competition. I wish you the best in your pursuit of artistic excellence and I hope you continue to fly our flag high on the international stage.

Desmond Lee
Minister for National Development



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About UOB Art Collection

Uncovering artistic talent and deepening art appreciation over 40 years

UOB plays an active role in communities across the region, most notably through our long-term support of visual arts. We believe that art can transcend language, culture, geography and time. This aligns with our commitment to connect and to strengthen bonds in our communities.

Over the last four decades, UOB has championed Southeast Asian art through a wide range of visual arts programmes, partnerships and outreach initiatives across Asia. The annual UOB Painting of the Year art competition, which is held in Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam has helped to uncover a new generation of great Southeast Asian artists and contributed to greater awareness and appreciation of art.

Honorary Patron of the Arts Award Recipient
22-time Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award Recipient
Founding Partner of the National Gallery Singapore

2024 UOB Painting of the Year MILESTONES

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About UOB Art Collection

MILESTONES

UOB
and **Art**

Championing Southeast Asian Art

Uncovering artistic talent and deepening art appreciation over 40 years

1980s



Mr Goh Beng Kwan, first winner of UOB Painting of the Year and Singapore Cultural Medallion award recipient

The first UOB Painting of the Year award trophy designed by Brother Joseph McNally, leading arts educator and founder of LASALLE College of the Arts



> 1990s

1982

Launches UOB Painting of the Year with Ministry of Culture in Singapore



Awards Catalogue in 1982

1983

Invites Singapore's famous pioneer artist, Dr Chen Wen Hsi to lend his expertise through judging

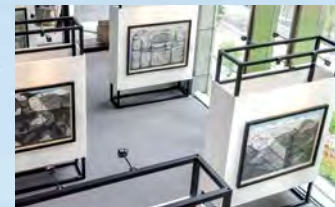


Panel of judges for 1983 UOB Painting of the Year. From left to right: Mr Srihadi Sudarsono, Mr Damrong Wong-Uparaj, Dr Chen Wen Hsi, Mr Christopher Hooi and Mr Choy Weng Yang

> 2000s

2006

Launches UOB Art Gallery at UOB Plaza 1 in Singapore to raise the appreciation of art



Raising art appreciation through the UOB Art Gallery at Raffles Place in Singapore

2009

Establishes UOB-Fukuoka Asian Art Museum Residency Programme to nurture artistic talent



Artist's Conversation series at schools with UOB Painting of the Year artists



Profiling artists on international stage

> 2010s

2010

Launches UOB Painting of the Year in Thailand



First UOB Painting of the Year (Thailand) in 2010

2011

Launches UOB Painting of the Year in Indonesia and Malaysia



First UOB Painting of the Year (Malaysia) in 2011

2013

Introduces the competition's top regional award, UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year

2015

Opens UOB Southeast Asia Gallery at National Gallery Singapore, housing the world's largest collection of modern Southeast Asian Art



UOB is the Founding Partner of the National Gallery Singapore

Establishes UOB Art Academy in Hong Kong to expand art outreach

2018

Launches the purpose-built UOB Art Gallery at UOB Plaza in Shanghai, China



Opening of the UOB Art Gallery at UOB Plaza in Shanghai in conjunction with the official opening of UOB China headquarters building in 2018, graced by Mr Chan Chun Sing, Minister for Education, Singapore



Celebrating Southeast Asian Artists at the 2019 Awards Ceremony

> 2020s

2020

Introduces e-submission for UOB Painting of the Year across four countries

Transforms our art outreach programme amid challenging times through the regional launch of UOB Art Explorer, an online visual arts programme



Inviting UOB Painting of the Year artists to #KeeptheGoodGoing by bringing art to disadvantaged children

2021

Celebrates 40th anniversary of UOB Painting of the Year



Singapore President, Madam Halimah Yacob gracing the 2021 Awards Ceremony

Launches UOB Digital Art Grant in partnership with National Arts Council Singapore

Launches new award trophy design, modelled after *Vitalità* bronze sculpture commissioned by UOB



2022

Sigs a three-year Memorandum of Understanding with National Arts Council Singapore to position Singapore as an arts hub for Southeast Asia



MOU Signing Ceremony between UOB and NAC

Launches SkyArtverse by UOB in Decentraland, the first immersive art theme park in the metaverse

2024

Renews partnership with National Gallery Singapore for an additional five years

Establishes a five-year strategic partnership with Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA), University of the Arts Singapore (UAS)

Launches #ArtforGood edible art menus by UOB Painting of the Year artists and Pan Pacific Hotels Group restaurant partners

Extends to include entries from emerging artists for UOB Art in Ink Awards (China)



Signing Ceremony between UOB and NAFA, UAS

2024

2023

Launches UOB Painting of the Year in Vietnam



First UOB Painting of the Year (Vietnam) in 2023

Launches UOB Art In Ink Campus Edition in China and lists UOB Art Academy as charity in Hong Kong

Launches #ArtforGood fashion wearables co-designed by UOB Painting of the Year artists and artists with special needs

Launches the first UOB FinLab-NAC Acceleration Programme to strengthen capabilities of art organisations

Wins the inaugural lifetime Honorary Patron of the Arts award by the National Arts Council

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Emerging Artist Category Singapore

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UOB Painting of the Year Iconic Award Trophy

Design inspired by *Vitalità* by Anna Chiara Spellini

On the 40th Anniversary of the UOB Painting of the Year regional art competition in 2021, we introduced a new iconic award trophy design. It is modelled after *Vitalità* (生命力), a bronze sculpture by foremost Italian sculptor, Ms Anna Chiara Spellini. The sculpture was specially commissioned by UOB.

In the concept of 'dao' (道), the vital energy of the universe is 'qi' (气). Embodying the 'qi' in the visceral line of this sculpture, Ms Spellini has endowed the form of *Vitalità* with the vigour of being ready to move upward and forward. It is a life force that creates newness, growth, good fortune and abundance for all.

Vitalità begins life as a pillar of strength that also represents a form of physical movement, as though stepping forward. The front of the sculpture is arched backward, while the back is like a curved bow, ready to spring out.

The iconic UOB Painting of the Year award trophy, which also demonstrates the spirit of the UOB brand, aims to illuminate the passion of artists, inspiring their imagination and ingenuity as they express their artistic vision.

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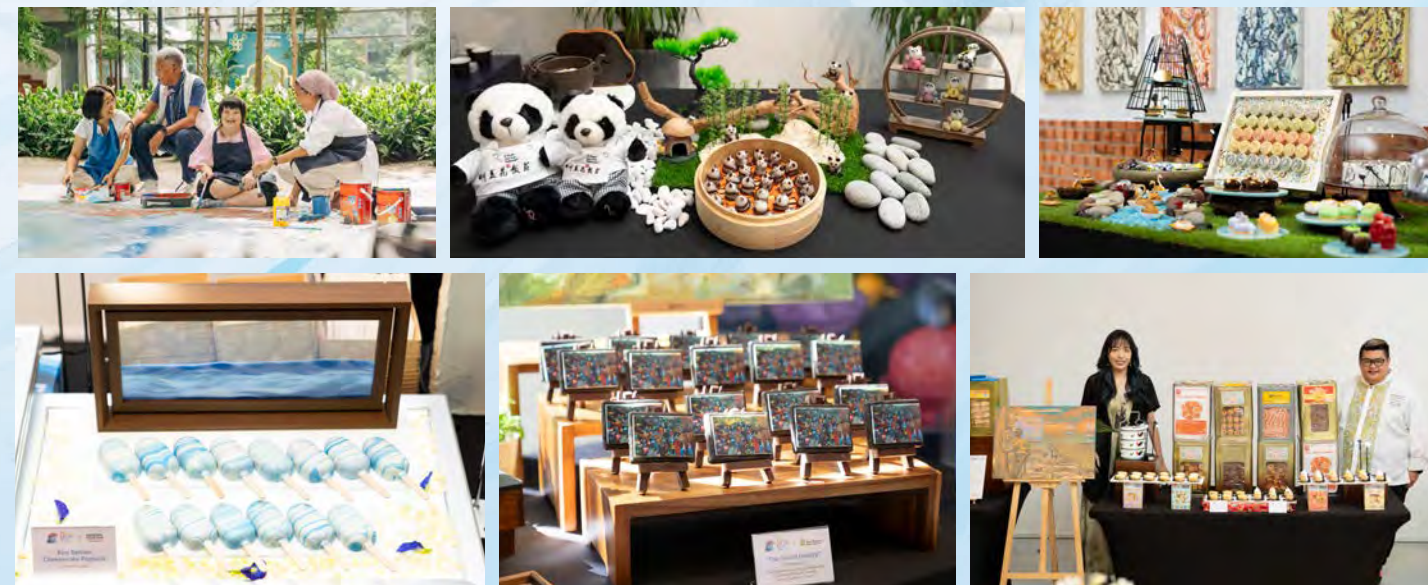
Doing right by our communities through #ArtforGood

We nurture Southeast Asian artists through overseas artist residencies and international art fairs, engaging our art community, ecosystem partners and UOB Painting of the Year (POY) artists to drive social impact and cultivate a deeper appreciation of art among young artists and children from disadvantaged backgrounds. Last year, in line with our #ArtforGood initiative, we presented a collection of 36 limited-edition art wearables co-designed by 10 UOB POY artists and artists with special needs from JOURNEY by TOUCH Community Services. These initiatives encourage collaboration with partners on art workshops, commissioned artworks, outreach and volunteerism to uplift our communities.



43rd UOB Painting of the Year (Singapore) Launch

To bring art closer to the community, the 43rd UOB POY is launched with a multi-sensory food art showcase. This unique dining experience featured artistic creations crafted by UOB POY artists in collaboration with six executive chefs from Pan Pacific Hotels Group. Inspired by artworks from UOB POY artists, these edible art were made available to the public at various restaurants. A portion of the proceeds from the menu sales, along with all proceeds of artworks donated by UOB POY artists, will go to local charity ART:DIS, a non-profit organisation dedicated to providing opportunities in the arts for persons with disabilities.



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Best of 2024 UOB Painting of the Year

SINGAPORE | Established Artist Category



2024 UOB Painting of the Year

Artist: Yong Wee Loon
Title: *A Sip Through Time*
Medium: Acrylic on canvas
Size (cm): 100 x 261 (Diptych)

A Sip Through Time transports viewers down memory lane with nostalgia and artifacts that barely exists in our modern world today.

It captures a time warp coffee shop boasting an eclectic mix of objects, vintage posters, shrines, clocks, traditional sweets and an array of seemingly random things hoarded by the owner. The addition of a QR code and surveillance camera marries both past and future worlds into one. The artist hopes his art will evoke emotions and transport one to their happy place and time.

About the artist

Yong Wee Loon has always enjoyed artmaking in the realism style to capture nostalgic memories which would otherwise be lost or faded away for future generations. He hopes the viewers can connect with the subjects he depicts, sparking personal memories tied to the time and place.

Wee Loon was awarded the Silver Award, Emerging Artist Category in the 2017 UOB Painting of the Year (Singapore). His artistic journey has continued to evolve as he explores various styles and mediums such as abstraction and mixed media.



Gold

Artist: Tan Chin Boon
Title: *An Immortal's Realm*
Medium: Chinese ink on rice paper
Size (cm): 97 x 90

An Immortal's Realm depicts the tranquility of a wetland with small hidden elements of nature hidden in his impression of an ethereal realm, drawing viewers into the peace and quietude that nature offers. The only sounds are the rustling of leaves, the fluttering of flower petals, the cheerful chirping of birds, and the gentle rippling of fish in waters.

The artist grew up in the 'kampung' of Singapore's early years where his memories are joyfully filled with trees, flowing water, flowers, birds, fish and bugs. He uses Chinese ink to reminisce and illustrate the flowing movements of water in the wetlands through marbling techniques and the precise control of excess ink.

About the artist

Tan Chin Boon graduated from Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore in 1972 and honed his craft under the leadership of pioneer artists Chen Chong Swee and See Hiang Toh, among others.

Specialising in seal carving and Chinese ink, his artworks boost a strong personal style and bold modern compositions. He adopts the xieyi (写意) style in Chinese painting (exaggerated forms and freehand brush work) to exude imagination and elegance in simplicity.



Silver

Artist: Dana Lam
Title: *The Look Back*
Medium: Oil on canvas
Size (cm): 100 x 140

The Look Back spotlights the artist's late dog, Samuel, who along with the artist, developed difficulties with their hips in their middle ages – she had osteoarthritis in one hip, and him, hip dysplasia and osteoarthritis in both hips.

While her condition improved with physiotherapy and exercise, his only worsened over time. Eventually, he was nearly immobilised, losing control over his limbs and bowels. By that time, he had also bit her, marking her with his pain. Amid the daily trauma, there was a strange beauty and peace that came through as she painted this artwork with gratitude for their lives. Samuel passed on 20 July 2024 by euthanasia.

About the artist

Dana Lam is an artist, writer and performer. She was previously a reporter and president of a local charity, Association of Women for Action and Research (AWARE).

Her visual journal, *The Art of Being a Grandmother: An Incomplete Diary of Becoming* (2023) was shortlisted for the 2024 Singapore Literature Prize. *Still Life* (2019) which she wrote and performed featured a year of painting and *Motherheads*, a suite of 50 (of 100 portraits) from *Still Life* was shown in 2020 in a group exhibition at The Substation, Singapore.



Bronze

Artist: Wu Xiaoxun
Title: *Passive Panic*
Medium: Oil on canvas
Size (cm): 136 x 120

Passive Panic reflects the panicked fear that was felt as the pandemic swept across the world. With the face mask now embodying fear, it is hoped that there will never be another time to experience this same panic again.

Many might think a hyper-realistic artwork can now be easily generated by photography or artificial intelligence in this digital era. Yet, the artist fervently believes in laboring over every stroke to express his emotions and thoughts through his perspective.

About the artist

Wu Xiaoxun graduated from Department of Fine Arts of Beijing Normal University, China, in 1986 and studied in Japan thereafter. He has participated in many art exhibitions across China and Japan, before coming to Singapore in 2003.

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2024 Most Promising Artist of the Year

Artist: Joanna Maneckji
Title: *That Blessed Mood*
Medium: Paper collage on card paper
Size (cm): 60 x 84

That Blessed Mood illuminates a mother and child reclining in a hammock basking in a sunny afternoon garden, enjoying the peace and contentment. Motherhood can be joyous, but also pose a challenging time for many women, like her.

The process of creating a collage artwork is deeply restorative for her, offering a way to turn difficult memories into a vision of wholeness and healing. The materials used carry meaning as well. Beneath the delicate, antique photo album paper that represents the skin lies a layer of a Financial Times article, with the powerful words, "I'm not afraid". It symbolises strength beneath fragility, a reminder of the resilience found in the journey of motherhood.

About the artist

Joanna Maneckji is a Singaporean author, educator and collage artist who transforms seemingly random pieces of paper into expressive works of art that challenge perceptions, spark joy and promote self-understanding.

Her first body of work was the eight illustrations for her children's book titled *Letters to My Grandfather*, a tale about love and loss published in 2023. This year, an illustration titled *A Place Far Away* from the book has been exhibited at the traveling show *Postcards from Utopia* in Sarasota, Florida and at the Illustrators' Gallery at Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore in the Singapore Children's Book Festival.



Gold

Artist: Maurice Chan
Title: *Desolation*
Medium: Chinese ink on rice paper
Size (cm): 60 x 121

Desolation presents a moorland landscape where solitude and silence prevail. The artwork leads the viewer's gaze toward distant hills beneath a dramatic, swirling sky, creating a metaphor for introspection and existential reflection. The artist challenges viewers to take the first step towards self-awareness where their questioning, along with seeking and embracing silence, can lead to a transformation.

The artwork implies that within desolation lies the potential for profound insight and growth, where boundaries of existence are expanded and enriched.

About the artist

Maurice Chan is a scientist by profession. His artwork explores themes of solitude, existence and meaning, and inspires introspection and fosters empathy, inviting viewers to reflect on their place in the world and their relationships.



Silver

Artist: Beryl Kwok
Title: *460042*
Medium: Oil and acrylic on canvas
Size (cm): 120 x 120

460042 depicts the opposite view from the artist's residential flat while living with her mother. She has a special interest in buildings that bear the marks of time, viewing them as testaments to achievements, successes, legacies and civilisation. This particular view has taken on greater significance during her work-from-home days.

The artwork of Singapore's public housing combines realism and abstraction, and when viewed together, flattens into a pattern to reveal its own distinct character and beauty when observed individually.

About the artist

Beryl Kwok has been painting from a young age and continues to pursue this craft as an art educator and a practicing artist. She believes that the value of pursuing art is its ability to force one to relook at their mistakes and achievements over and over again while seeking self-improvement.

She has previously exhibited at *NOISE* with Singapore Art Museum (2012), DBS Regatta Singapore (2015), Ministry of Education Singapore's *Aedge Exhibition* (2018 and 2019) and *Singapore Festival* (2013), Hong Kong.



Bronze

Artist: Chan Mi Ki
Title: *Transit of Hope*
Medium: Oil on canvas
Size (cm): 101 x 76

Transit of Hope captures the resilience of Singaporeans in challenging times. Set in a Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) public transport carriage, the artwork portrays masked commuters whose weary, yet hopeful, expressions reflect a shared commitment to endure and adapt.

Their gestures symbolise unity in adversity, merging individual stories into a collective narrative. This piece invites viewers to recognise hope as an enduring force, reminding us that even in uncertain moments, light follows darkness and that our collective strength will propel us forward.

About the artist

Chan Mi Ki is a regional communications manager by profession and specialises in oil and charcoal painting. While always nurturing a passion for art, her love for art was deepened during her overseas career stint in London. Her profession allows her to marry art with storytelling.

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SINGAPORE | Emerging Artist Category



2024 Most Promising Artist of the Year
Emerging Artist Category
SINGAPORE

Artist: Joanna Maneckji
Title: *That Blessed Mood*
Medium: Paper collage on card paper
Size (cm): 60 x 84



Gold
Emerging Artist Category
SINGAPORE

Artist: Maurice Chan
Title: *Desolation*
Medium: Chinese ink on rice paper
Size (cm): 60 x 121

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Silver
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SINGAPORE

Artist: Beryl Kwok
Title: 460042
Medium: Oil and acrylic on canvas
Size (cm): 120 x 120



Bronze
Emerging Artist Category
SINGAPORE

Artist: Chan Mi Ki
Title: *Transit of Hope*
Medium: Oil on canvas
Size (cm): 101 x 76

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INDONESIA | Established Artist Category



2024 UOB Painting of the Year

Artist: **Muhammad Yakin**
Title: ***The Idol of Unmoved Uncaused Cause Mover***
Medium: **Mixed media on linen**
(Acrylic ink, Musou black ink, iridescent and gold leaf)
Size (cm): **180 x 145**

The Idol of Unmoved Uncaused Cause Mover explores the theme of idealisation by combining fragmented figures into a cohesive whole.

Drawing inspiration from a wide range of figures, ideas, and ideologies, and weaving them together in search of the “ideal”, the fragmented backgrounds underscore that ideals often remain elusive dreams. The light cast on the figures represents hope and enlightenment amidst inner conflict. Layers of monochromatic grey ink on linen reflects the complexity of this journey, emphasising the search for ideals is a winding path, not singular but multifaceted, reflecting the 21st century individual's pursuit of ideals in an overwhelming sea of information.

About the artist

Muhammad Yakin graduated from the Indonesian Institute of the Arts Yogyakarta, Indonesia where he currently lives and works.

His art reflects his observations of the “grey area”, a realm of uncertainty and ambiguity. Yakin currently focuses on exploring humanity's search for truth amid the complexities and contradictions of an uncertain universe.

Yakin won the 2019 UOB Painting of the Year (Indonesia), Most Promising Artist of the Year, Emerging Artist category. In 2021 he held a solo exhibition at Ace House Collective, Yogyakarta, Indonesia and took part in several group exhibitions.



Gold

Artist: **I Wayan Sudarsana**
Title: ***Tubuh di antara Tubuh (Bodies Among Bodies)***
Medium: **Acrylic on canvas**
Size (cm): **100 x 120**

Tubuh di antara Tubuh (Bodies Among Bodies) examines how many organisms share similar structures and lifecycles, though physically distinct. This concept inspires the hybrid imaginative creatures in the artwork.

The artist merges the physical traits, textures, and colours of both plants and animals to highlight the interconnected and complementary roles on the beings on Earth. The bird-like creature represents the vision of shared characteristics and essential needs that link diverse organisms, all intrinsically bound by nature.

About the artist

I Wayan Sudarsana is a Balinese painter based in Yogyakarta, where he studied at the Indonesian Institute of the Arts, Indonesia. His work is deeply influenced by Bali's natural environment and cultural heritage with a recent focus on nature's cycles, including the flora and fauna.

He has exhibited in various solo and group exhibitions, both locally and internationally, including *Selojene Pop Up* (2022), *Sangkring Art Space; Art Jakarta Garden*; and *Art Future Taiwan* (2024). His art has also been shown in international art fairs such as the *Gwangju International Art Fair*, *Busan Annual Market of Art*, and *Cangwon Young Asian Art Festival*, Korea. He was a finalist in the 2015 and 2017 UOB Painting of the Year (Indonesia) competition, Emerging Artist category and one of his works was ranked top 10 at the 2017 Basoeki Abdullah Art Awards.



Silver

Artist: **Diana Puspita Putri**
Title: ***Puan Hari Ini (Today's Women)***
Medium: **Mixed media on canvas**
(Acrylic and oil)
Size (cm): **110 x 170**

Puan Hari Ini (Today's Women) highlights the shift in women's roles in society as they move away from traditional expectations of marriage and motherhood towards personal empowerment.

Inspired by the Semsar Siahaan's painting, *Olympia, Identity with Mother and Child* (1988), this artwork visualises the change from a woman's perspective, highlighting how the decline in marriage rates in Indonesia reflects the evolving views of modern women. Marriage has become a choice, with many women opting not to marry or have children based on personal readiness rather than societal norms.

About the artist

Diana Puspita Putri graduated from Indonesian Institute of the Arts in Yogyakarta, Indonesia with a focus in Fine Arts. She believes that art is a beautiful form of human expression and memory, aiming to capture life's fleeting moments through her work.

Diana has received various accolades, including the 2016 UOB Painting of the Year (Indonesia) Bronze award, Emerging Artist category and the 1st winner of Polban Islamic Fair Comic Contest in 2014. Her works have been featured in numerous exhibitions, including *For Love of Unforgotten Time* at LAV Gallery, Yogyakarta; *Embrace Minnesota Street Art Project*, California; *Superfine Art Fair* at Fort Mason Art Center, California; and *Forever Young* at Unicorn Gallery, Jakarta in 2024.



Bronze

Artist: **Immartyas Ghinaa Renata Aziizah**
Title: ***Existence is a Voyage on a Broken Vessel***
Medium: **Mixed media on silk**
(Cut-out silk, hand-made ink, PVC glue, beeswax, petroleum jelly, bleach, pigment, polyurethane coat on silk organza)
Size (cm): **160 x 110**

Existence is a Voyage on a Broken Vessel depicts the enduring emptiness one must live with when losing a loved one. The artist experienced this void when her father passed away suddenly. The emptiness is likened to a delicate shell left behind when an insect molts – a fragile trace, faint lines etched from a past life.

In creating this work, the artist felt as though she was sculpting the emptiness itself, piecing together lingering emotions. The carefully arranged fabric forms varying textures and reliefs, with a central void symbolising her father's perpetual absence.

About the artist

Immartyas Ghinaa Renata Aziizah is an artist based in Bandung. She graduated from the Faculty of Art and Design at the Bandung Institute of Technology, Indonesia.

Immartyas' artistic practice is in drawing and printmaking. Driven by deep interest in exploring the inner workings of the human soul, she has recently developed a painting technique that creates a translucent effect.

Since 2017 Immartyas has participated actively in numerous international and local exhibitions and was part of a printmaking residency at Chetak 12 in Ampang, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in 2019.

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Artist: **Muhammad Yakin**
Title: ***The Idol of Unmoved Uncaused Cause Mover***
Medium: **Mixed media on linen**
(Acrylic ink, Musou black ink, iridescent and gold leaf)
Size (cm): **180 x 145**



Gold
Established Artist Category
INDONESIA

Artist: **I Wayan Sudarsana**
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Medium: **Acrylic on canvas**
Size (cm): **100 x 120**

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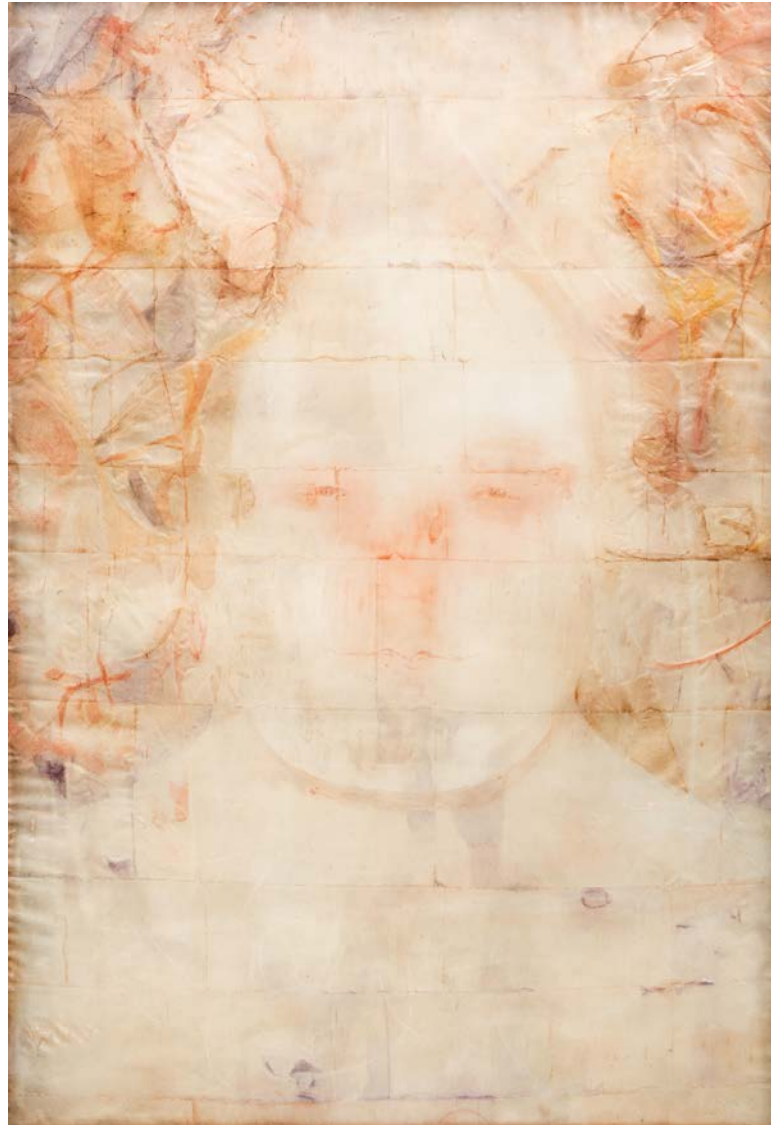
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Silver
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INDONESIA

Artist: Diana Puspita Putri
Title: *Puan Hari Ini (Today's Women)*
Medium: Mixed media on canvas
(Acrylic and oil)
Size (cm): 110 x 170



Bronze
Established Artist Category
INDONESIA

Artist: Immartyas Ghinaa Renata Aziizah
Title: *Existence is a Voyage on a Broken Vessel*
Medium: Mixed media on silk
(Cut-out silk, hand-made ink, PVC glue, beeswax, petroleum jelly, bleach, pigment, polyurethane coat on silk organza)
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INDONESIA | Emerging Artist Category



2024 Most Promising Artist of the Year

Artist: Bawana Helga Firmansyah
Title: *Catatan Belakang (Back Note)*
Medium: Collage on wooden board
Size (cm): 86 x 141

Catatan Belakang (Back Note) is the artist's attempt to confront the lasting impact of feudalism that still permeates the social structures and daily life in Indonesian society. The history of feudalism is often obscured by the romanticised narratives of the independence revolution.

The artist arranges books as fragments of historical events overlays them with charcoal and soft pastels drawings as interpretations and interventions in the documentation of history. Scorched impressions on the plantation contours evoke a sense of destruction, while the figure of a Dutch East Indies regent in military boots highlights the continuity of Indonesia's history, which remains deeply entwined with militaristic imagery. In contrast, the depiction of lush landscapes symbolise the reality that, despite the memories of independence, feudal structures persist and are replaced by new figures in power.

About the artist

Bawana Helga Firmansyah is an editorial illustrator born in Bandung who explores the realm in comics and illustration extensively. His childhood passion for doodling led him to a career in visual arts where he expresses his thoughts on social phenomena.

Since 2017, he has received recognition in various competitions, including winning 2nd place in the poster competition at Bapusipda (2017), the Jabart Drawing competition (2023) in the Bumi Langit and Superhero category, and Kreasi x Bumi Langit Drawing competition (2023). He has exhibited in Indonesia and internationally at the University of Indonesia (2022), Mola Art Gallery exhibition (2024) and at Eko Nugroho Studio (2024).



Gold

Artist: Mar Kristoff
Title: *Forever?*
Medium: Mixed media on cotton canvas
(Water-based airbrush paint and gesso)
Size (cm): 146 x 108

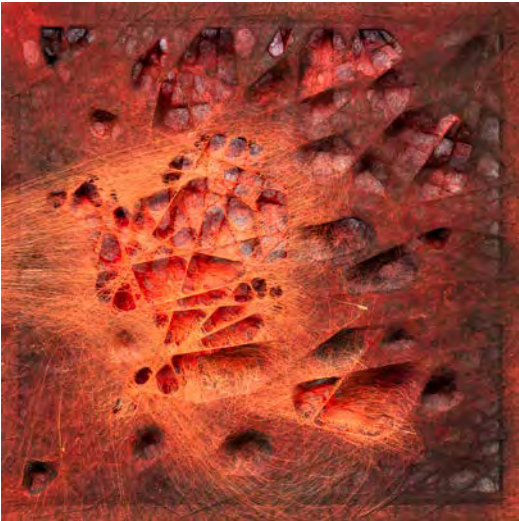
Forever? is drawn from a personal family photograph of the artist's father placing a wedding ring on his mother's finger during their wedding ceremony. The artist digitally manipulated the photo to explore the passage of time and the fleeting nature of memory. After his father's passing, the artist questions the meaning of his parents' vows they once held, in particularly the phrase "till death do us part." What becomes of such a promise when one partner is no longer there?

The projection onto the canvas allows the artist to revisit old memories and uncover new meanings in moments long gone. Through this process, he is reminded of the enduring nature of love, complex yet sincere.

About the artist

Mar Kristoff is a multidisciplinary visual artist known for his monochromatic airbrush painting technique. He focuses primarily on drawing and painting, drawing inspirations from personal and family photographs, found images, and his own life experiences to explore the themes of identity, memory, existentialism and concept of time.

Since 2021, he has participated in notable group exhibitions, including the *Salon Et Cetera* (2024) at Ace House Gallery, Yogyakarta; *TOREH* (2023) at Nonfrasa Gallery, Bali; and *One Piece Club Indonesia: Coalesce* (2023) at ROH, Jakarta. In 2022, he received recognition as the New Emerging Visual Artist in Hypebeast Indonesia's Next 100 list.



Silver

Artist: Lena Guslina
Title: *Titian Sunyata (Journey through the Void)*
Medium: Acrylic on nylon threads
Size (cm): 120 x 120

Titian Sunyata (Journey through the Void) delves into human existence through hand painting. The artist uses her hands to foster a connection with the paint and engage her whole body in the process. She replaces traditional canvas with woven nylon threads to express themes of fragility and transparency.

Titian means bridge and *Sunyata* means emptiness in Sanskrit language. It symbolises an inner journey through a void in search of human existence.

About the artist

Lena Guslina is an artist, dancer and choreographer who performed actively in cities of Indonesia. During the pandemic, she started painting as a new form of expression. Her paintings are created using a unique technique, where she splashes paint directly with her fingers.

Lena has participated in several solo and group exhibitions in Bandung which include *Nuansa Rupa* (2022) at Pullman Bandung; *Merajut Kemerdekaan* (2023); *Ku Mau Diriku* (2022); and *Titian Tubir* (2024) at Orbital Dago Gallery, Bandung.



Bronze

Artist: Suriabumi Santipurna
Title: *Terjerat (Entangled)*
Medium: Acrylic on canvas
Size (cm): 120 x 180

Terjerat (Entangled) illustrates the struggles of feeling trapped by personal challenges. What might seem easy for others can feel overwhelming, as each person has different abilities. In the artwork, the artist is portrayed as the pig, trapped by tasks that feel like entanglements. The tapeworm represents the struggle, but not because of the exam or the challenge of making art. Instead, it embodies the frustration of coming up with a title and story for this very artwork.

About the artist

Suriabumi Santipurna, known as Bolo, is a first-year student at Erudio Indonesia Junior High School.

Bolo has been painting since the age of three and has participated in the UOB Painting of the Year competition since he was seven, becoming a finalist several times. His work has been featured in various exhibitions such as *Ruru Kids* (2020) and *ArtJog MMXXII: Expanding Awareness* (2022).

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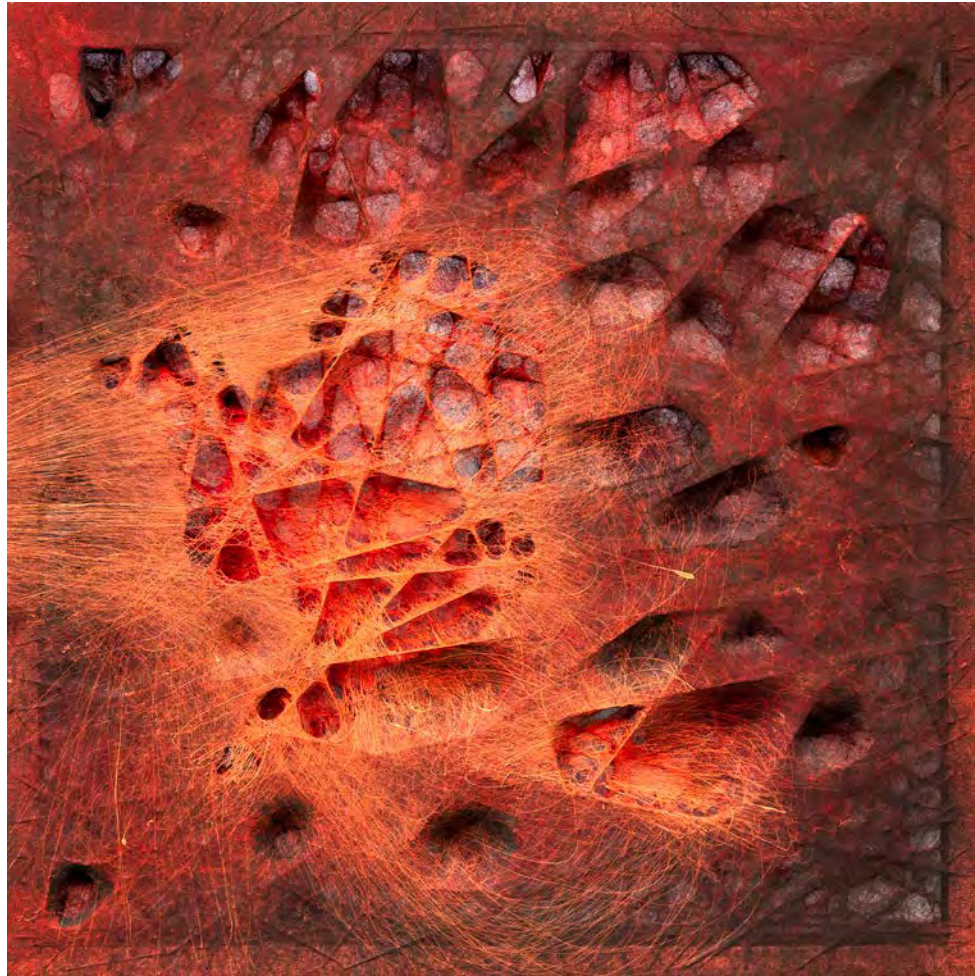
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Artist: Lena Guslina
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(Journey through the Void)
Medium: Acrylic on nylon threads
Size (cm): 120 x 120



Bronze
Emerging Artist Category
INDONESIA

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M A L A Y S I A | Established Artist Category



2024 UOB Painting of the Year

Artist: Hasanul Isyraf Idris
Title: *Durio*
Medium: Guoache on paper
Size (cm): 174 x 173

Durio presents a captivating exploration and observation of nature, developed over four years of documenting biodiversity at the artist's retreat studio in Perak, located between mountainous forests and a rural settlement.

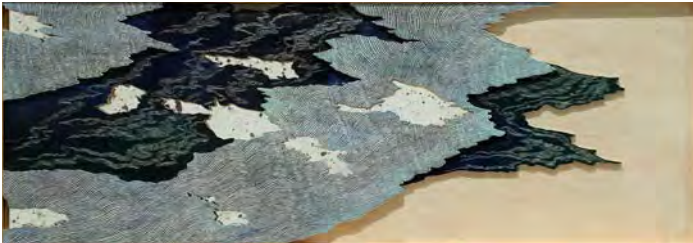
The artwork features detailed drawings of the Durian (scientifically known as Durio) tree's life cycle and highlights the important role of stingless bees in pollination. To explore plants and animals further, the artist uses a Scanning Electron Microscope to create a high-resolution scan of seeds, leaves, and butterfly eggs.

The artwork invites viewers to appreciate the slow passage of time in this remote setting, encouraging reflections on modern environmental issues, self-care, and self-awareness. The calm atmosphere evokes contemplation of life's fleeting nature within the universe.

About the artist

Hasanul Isyraf Idris is an artist trained at Mara University of Technology (UiTM), Perak, Malaysia. His diverse practice includes painting, drawing, installation, video and sculpture. Through his art, he expresses his personal struggles with his surrounding and experiences.

Hasanul has held solo exhibitions in Singapore, Jakarta, and New York, and his work has been featured in institutional exhibitions in Taiwan, Paris and the 13th *Edition of Asia Contemporary Art Week* in Dubai.



Gold

Artist: Hug Yin Wan
Title: *Reflections of Water*
Medium: Mixed media on plywood
(Woodcut, mirror, acrylic and oil paint)
Size (cm): 61.5 x 171.5

Reflections of Water delves into the theme of impermanence, inspired by the iconic actor Bruce Lee's philosophy about the adaptability of water. Using woodcut techniques on plywood, the artwork features repetitive lines that mimic flowing water. Hollow sections embedded with mirrors reflect both the viewer and their surroundings, creating an interactive experience.

This artwork symbolises life's constant changes where everything flows, adapts, and transforms like water. It invites viewers to reflect on the impermanent nature of existence and discover their own insights within this concept.

About the artist

Hug Yin Wan, graduated with a Diploma in Fine Art from Dasein Academy of Art, Malaysia in 2015. Raised in a Buddhist family, he believes in the concept of impermanence in life and reflects the belief in his artwork which captures fleeting moments and changes.

Yin Wan was awarded the first prize in Mix Media category at the Tanjong Heritage Awards in 2015, the Grand Prize in the Fine Art category of the Nando's Art Initiative Competition in the same year. He was also awarded the 2016 UOB Painting of the Year (Malaysia), Bronze Award, Established Artist category. His works have also been exhibited in various local galleries.



Silver

Artist: Muhamad Amsyar Bin Ramly
Title: *Langit dan Bumi (Heaven and Earth)*
Medium: Mixed media on canvas
(Soil and acrylic)
Size (cm): 175 x 136

Langit dan Bumi (Heaven and Earth) is a meditative artwork that explores spiritual remembrance using dot mark-making. The painting uses the pointillism technique to create ethereal spaces that changes with the viewer's perspective evoking mystery and emotion. The dots are carefully spaced and sized to express fundamental human feelings and connect viewers to the concept of 'zikr,' an Islamic practice of remembering God through repetition.

This work expresses the divine beauty and harmony of creation, presenting a spiritual interpretation rather than a literal portrayal of nature.

About the artist

Muhamad Amsyar bin Ramly graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts (Honours) from Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Shah Alam, Malaysia in 2015.

Based in Kuala Lumpur, he has actively contributed to the Malaysian art scene since 2017 and has developed a diverse body of work across various styles and media. He received the Malaysian Emerging Artist Award (MEAA) in 2022 and showcased his first solo exhibition, *Pixels* at Sareng Gallery, Kuala Lumpur.



Bronze

Artist: Mairul Nisa Binti Malek
Title: *Perepat (1996)*
Medium: Mixed media on wooden box frame
(Film, preserved tree root, collaged archival documents, needle, washed cyanotype, thread and cement)
Size (cm): 147.5 x 145 (Diptych)

Perepat (1996) captures the resilience of the Perepat village community in Sarawak by contrasting the scars from labour-intensive work with the educational opportunities available to the younger generations.

The diptych format features the perepat tree as a symbol of perseverance, presented in a grid and puzzle to highlight the interconnectedness and individuality. The artwork uses layered film photos, containers framing delicate materials and archival documents stitched with red thread illustrating the economy's lifeblood. The yellow cyanotype mimics firefly light, while cement represents the tension between tradition and modernity.

The artist invites viewers to honour the villagers' sacrifices and appreciate the shared humanity in diverse communities.

About the artist

Mairul Nisa Binti Malek is a visual artist from Sarawak, currently based in Shah Alam. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master's Degree in Fine Art and Technology from Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Shah Alam, Malaysia, where she is pursuing a PhD in Art and Philosophy.

Mairul explores personal narratives and socio-political themes in her work. She received the 2023 UOB Painting of the Year (Malaysia), Most Promising Artist of the Year, Emerging Artist category and has exhibited both locally and internationally.

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Highly Commended

Artist: Zac Lee
Title: *Embrace*
Medium: Oil on canvas
Size (cm): 91 x 158

Embrace depicts a solitary figure that symbolises the fleeting passage of time through its youthful and aged silhouette. The artwork illustrates life's bittersweet essence, highlighting that the true significance of life lies in shared memories and connections that transcend time.

About the artist

Zac Lee holds a Diploma in Fine Arts from the Kuala Lumpur College of Art, Malaysia (1990) and a Diploma in Illustration from The One Academy of Design, Malaysia (1993). He received the Freeman Fellowship at the Vermont Studio Center, USA in 2006 and was selected for the Three Shadows Residency in Beijing, China in 2010.

Zac was awarded as a finalist for the Sovereign Asian Art Prize in Hong Kong in 2014 as well as the Best Theme Award at the Royal Society of Portrait Painter Annual Exhibition London in 2023. He has participated in various local and international exhibitions such as the Asia Week New York in 2015 and 2016.



2024 UOB Painting of the Year

Established Artist Category

M A L A Y S I A

Artist: Hasanul Isyraf Idris
Title: *Durio*
Medium: Guoache on paper
Size (cm): 174 x 173

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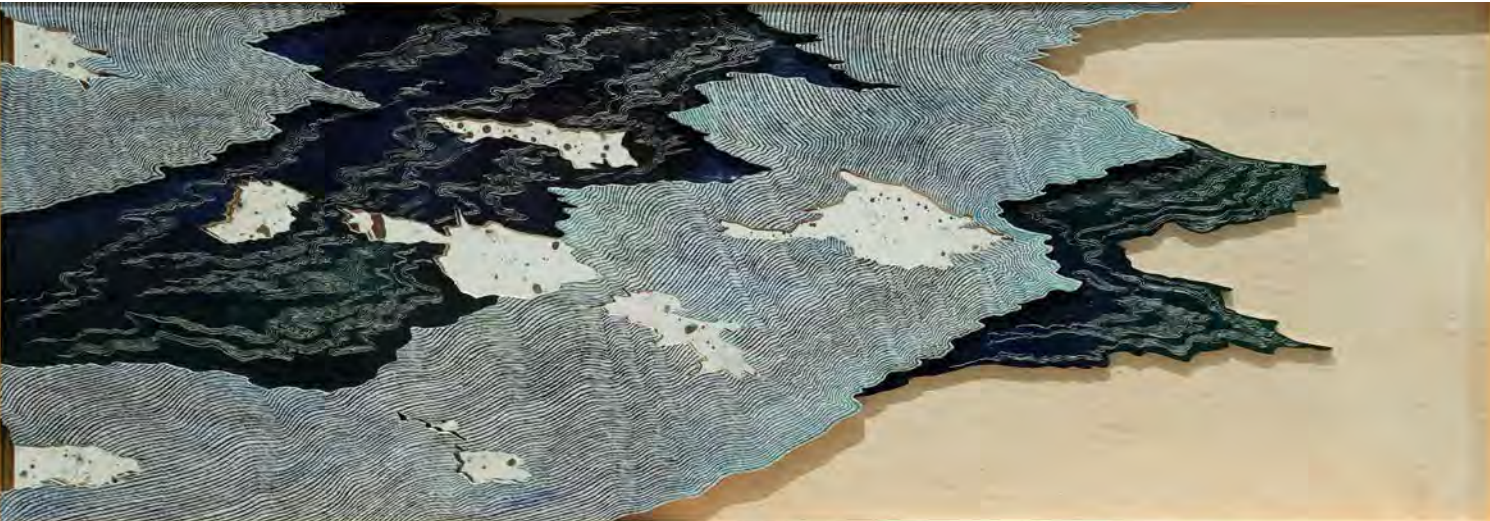
Established Artist Category
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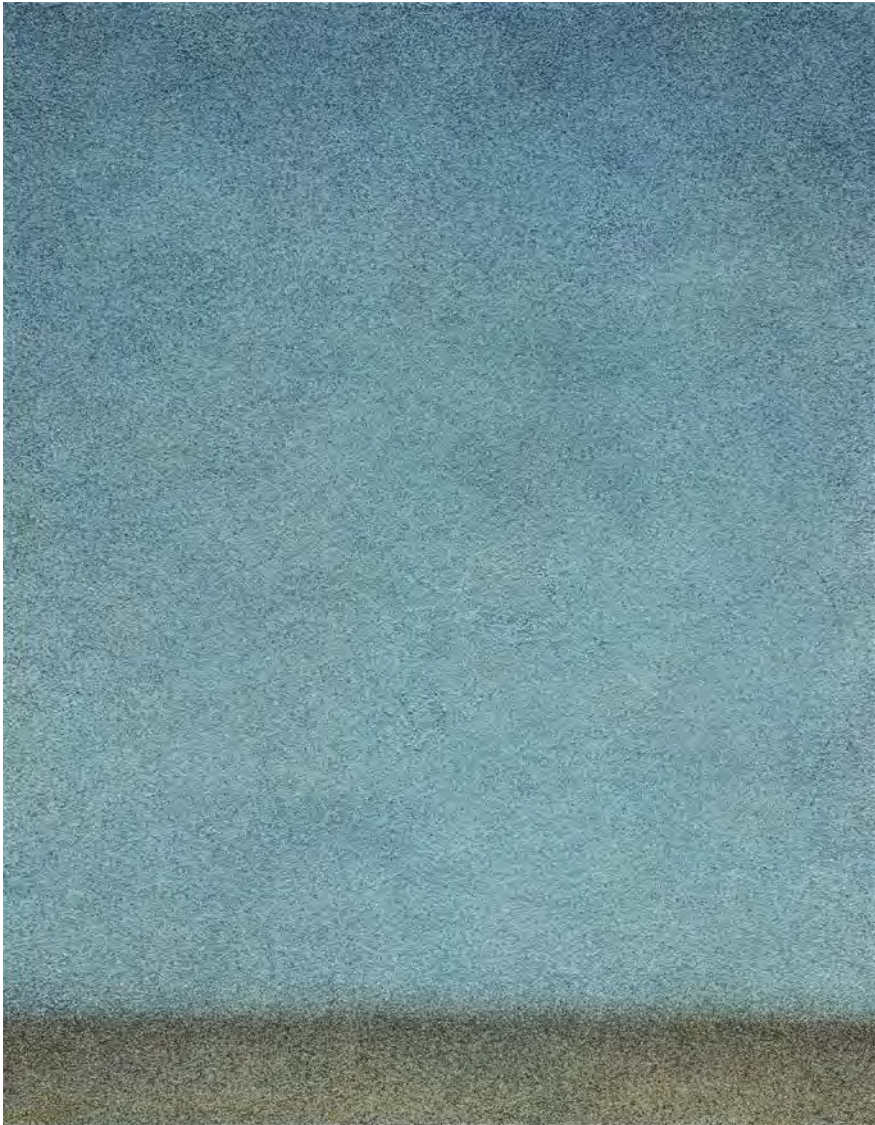
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Gold
Established Artist Category
MALAYSIA

Artist: Hug Yin Wan
Title: *Reflections of Water*
Medium: Mixed media on plywood
(Woodcut, mirror, acrylic and oil paint)
Size (cm): 61.5 x 171.5



Silver
Established Artist Category
MALAYSIA

Artist: Muhamad Amsyar Bin Ramly
Title: *Langit dan Bumi (Heaven and Earth)*
Medium: Mixed media on canvas
(Soil and acrylic)
Size (cm): 175 x 136

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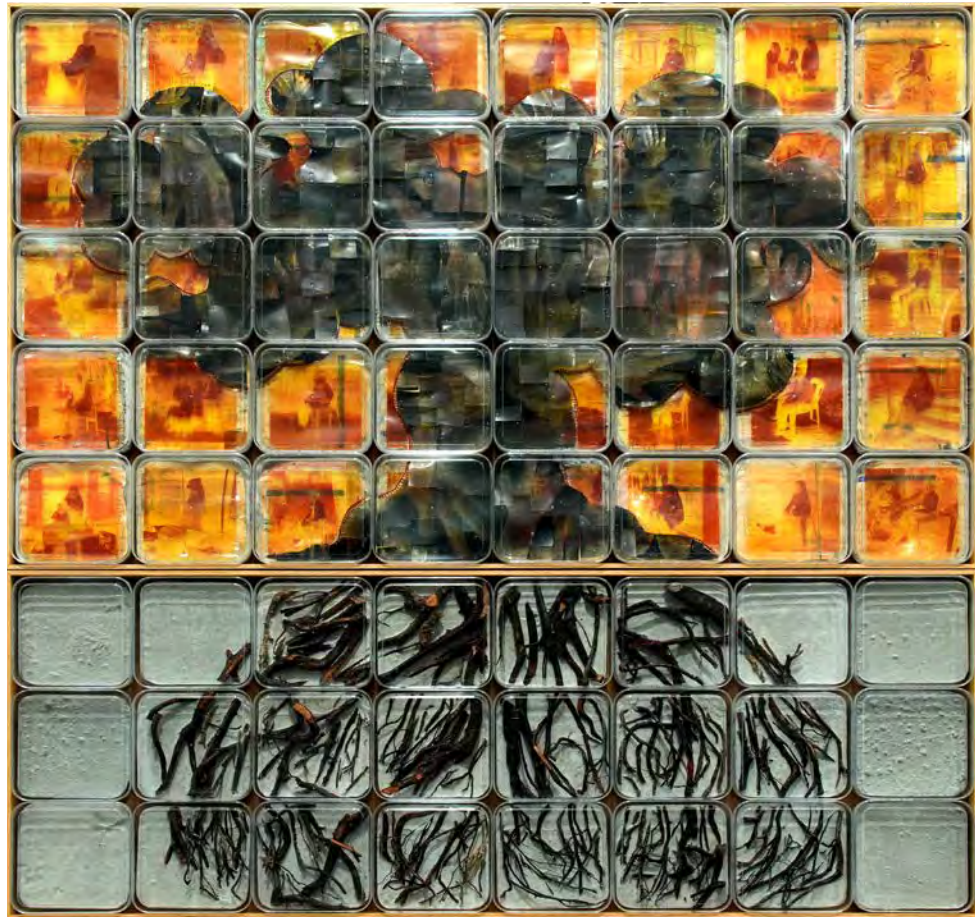
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Bronze

Established Artist Category

MALAYSIA

Artist: **Mairul Nisa Binti Malek**

Title: ***Perepat (1996)***

Medium: **Mixed media on wooden box frame**
(Film, preserved tree root, collaged archival documents, needle, washed cyanotype, thread and cement)

Size (cm): **147.5 x 145 (Diptych)**



Highly Commended

Established Artist Category

MALAYSIA

Artist: **Zac Lee**

Title: ***Embrace***

Medium: **Oil on canvas**

Size (cm): **91 x 158**

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M A L A Y S I A | Emerging Artist Category



2024 Most Promising Artist of the Year

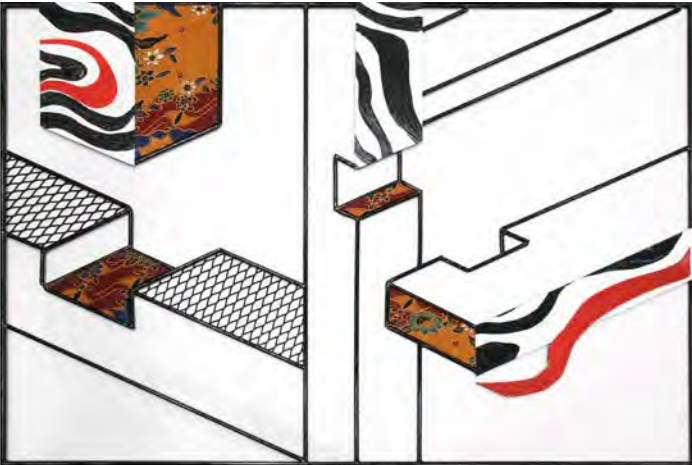
Artist: Nurul Shahida Binti Ibrahim
Title: *Baruh (Lowland)*
Medium: Mixed media on jute canvas
(Thread and acrylic)
Size (cm): 126 x 95

Baruh (Lowland) depicts the harsh realities of life and the resilience hidden beneath a tranquil rural landscape.

Growing up at the foot of Mount Jerai as a farmer's child, the artist experienced the beauty of rice fields turning golden at harvest. However, this beauty masked significant struggles from crabs, snails, and burung tiak (tree sparrow) that ravaged the crops. The artist captures the raw, enduring realities of life through grid patterns and the interplay of positive and negative spaces in green.

About the artist

Nurul Shahida Binti Ibrahim graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Art and Design from Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Shah Alam, Malaysia in 2012. She won the consolation prize in the Penang Art Open (2012), the consolation prize in Art Against AIDS (2023), and the Creative Artist Award in Mr DIY Art Competition (2024).



Gold

Artist: Ahmad Muhamad Bin Mohamed Kamal
Title: *Reality in Harmony*
Medium: Mixed media on mild steel
(Industrial paint and fabric)
Size (cm): 86 x 118

Reality in Harmony is inspired by the tanggam, a traditional method of joining wood to form a building's main structure. Tanggam features interlocking components that symbolises durability and unity.

The artwork uses tanggam as a visual metaphor, emphasising the family unit as a crucial societal structure that is losing its significance. The combination of batik and line strokes represents the conflicts and challenges faced in fostering positive societal values.

About the artist

Ahmad Muhamad Bin Mohamed Kamal earned his Bachelor of Arts in Fine Art (Honours) from Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Shah Alam, Malaysia in 2009. In the same year, he received the 2nd Prize in Mixed Media at the Tanjong Heritage Art Competition. He won the Special Jury Award at the Waste Art Competition in 2019 and has exhibited his works in local galleries.



Silver

Artist: Lee Yaw Chu
Title: *A Letter from 1989*
Medium: Mixed media in wooden frame
(Acrylic, paper, printing, plaster and rusting effect)
Size (cm): 85 x 73

A Letter from 1989 reflects on the fading tradition of letter writing, inspired by a letter exchanged in 1989 between the artist's grandmother in Malaysia and her brother in China. After their separation in 1958, letters became their only means of communication, sustaining their bond over decades.

While modern technology enables instant communication, it often lacks the emotional depth of handwritten letters. The artwork illustrates how letter writing creates meaningful connections and transforms into valuable artifacts, demonstrating the lasting impact of personal, written communication.

About the artist

Lee Yaw Chu's passion for art was sparked by his father's carpentry skills. He studied art and calligraphy in secondary school, discovering that art stems from keen observations. Yaw Chu experimented with everyday materials and developed new mediums for his work. His living experience in both the countryside and city led him to explore human relationships and societal themes. He has also used art as a therapeutic tool to support orphans at non-profit events.



Bronze

Artist: Aer Loo
Title: *Sacred Steps*
Medium: Mixed media collage on Chinese calligraphy grid paper
(Embossed wrapper, inkjet print and acid free spray adhesive)
Size (cm): 167 x 52.4

Sacred Steps conveys a multifaceted message about societal hierarchies, labour and human resilience. The boy in the artwork symbolises millions of undervalued child labourers. His act of assembling shoes serves as a metaphor for the foundational task that supports society and enables others to ascend the social ladder.

Through print transfer and square cuttings on Chinese calligraphy paper, the artist transforms the boy's silent struggles into a compelling visual narrative highlighting the resilience and humility of those in difficult situations and the invisible support they provide to society.

About the artist

Aer Loo is a Kuala Lumpur-based artist. Her work explores themes of identity, perception, and the human spirit through painting, embroidery, and poetry.

Her artistic journey includes a residency at Bon Ton Resort in Langkawi and exhibitions at *Artsinsquare Ontario* online exhibit in Canada (2022), *The Back Room* (2023) and *Cult Gallery* (2024).

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M A L A Y S I A | Emerging Artist Category



Highly Commended

Artist: Emily Tan
Title: 百家被 (*Baijia Quilt*)
Medium: Oil on canvas
Size (cm): 122 x 92

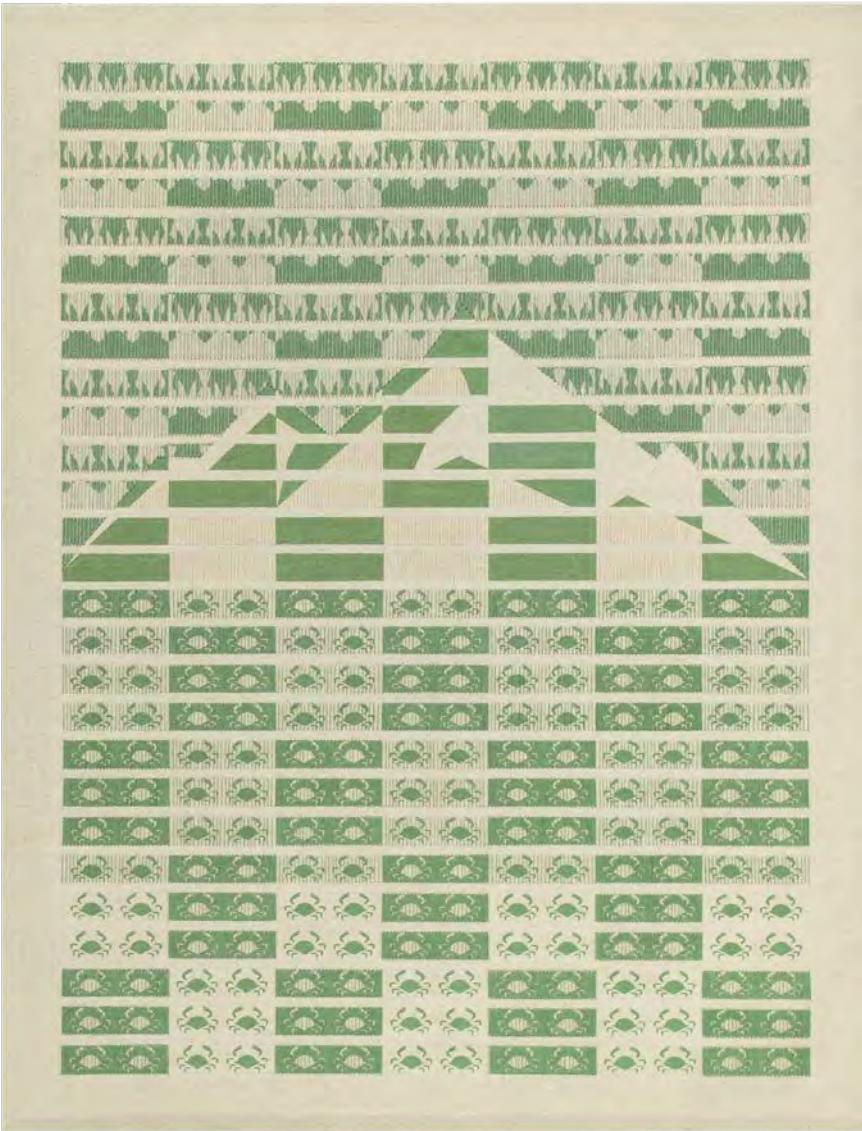
百家被 (*Baijia Quilt*) is a traditional Chinese quilt symbolising blessings for a 100-day-old child. It is made from fabrics given by relatives and friends and is believed to bring luck and protection.

The artwork honours this tradition and the bond between the artist and her grandmother, celebrating the love and care embodied in the quilt's delicate craftsmanship.

About the artist

Emily Tan is pursuing a Diploma in Fine Arts at the Malaysian Institute of Art, Malaysia. She specialises in oil and acrylic painting while also experimenting with different media such as textiles and papers and various art forms such as graffiti, sculpture, and mural painting.

Emily won the Judges' Pick Award at the 2024 Mr DIY Art Competition and Best Graffiti Artwork at the 2023 #BreakFree KL Youth Street Arts Festival. She was also recognised as one of the Top 10 Bakat Mahasiswa 2023 Art Exhibition organised by the Malaysian Institute of Art.



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M A L A Y S I A

Artist: Nurul Shahida Binti Ibrahim
Title: *Baruh (Lowland)*
Medium: Mixed media on jute canvas
(Thread and acrylic)
Size (cm): 126 x 95

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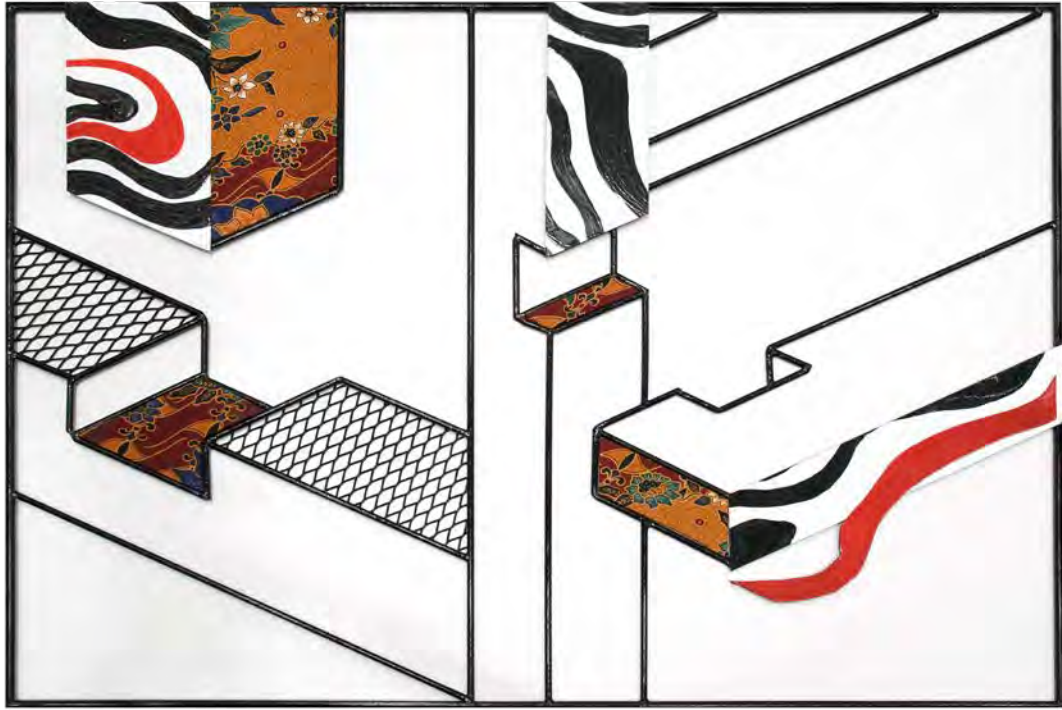
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Gold

Emerging Artist Category

MALAYSIA

Artist: **Ahmad Muhamad Bin Mohamed Kamal**

Title: ***Reality in Harmony***

Medium: **Mixed media on mild steel**

(Industrial paint and fabric)

Size (cm): **86 x 118**



Silver

Emerging Artist Category

MALAYSIA

Artist: **Lee Yaw Chu**

Title: ***A Letter from 1989***

Medium: **Mixed media in wooden frame**

(Acrylic, paper, printing, plaster and rusting effect)

Size (cm): **85 x 73**

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Bronze
Emerging Artist Category
MALAYSIA

Artist: **Aer Loo**
Title: **Sacred Steps**
Medium: **Mixed media collage on Chinese calligraphy grid paper**
(Embossed wrapper, inkjet print and acid free spray adhesive)
Size (cm): **167 x 52.4**



Highly Commended
Emerging Artist Category
MALAYSIA

Artist: **Emily Tan**
Title: **百家被 (Baijia Quilt)**
Medium: **Oil on canvas**
Size (cm): **122 x 92**

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THAILAND | Established Artist Category



2024 UOB Painting of the Year

Artist: Sukit Choosri
Title: *Disguise*
Medium: Acrylic on canvas
Size (cm): 175 x 149

Disguise explores how people craft façades to mask their inner selves. This deception conceals their true motives. Liking virtue to a sweet fragrance and evil to a foul stench, wickedness cannot stay hidden forever. The true nature of a person must always be questioned and scrutinised.

About the artist

Sukit Choosri is an artist and art lecturer at the Nakhon Si Thammarat College of Fine Arts, Thailand. He graduated from Silpakorn University, Thailand, with a Master's Degree in Fine Arts and a Bachelor's Degree in Thai Arts from the Faculty of Painting Sculpture and Graphic Arts.

In addition to winning the 2017 UOB Painting of the Year (POY) (Thailand) award, he was also awarded the regional Southeast Asian POY award. As a multi-time winner, he also received Silver awards in 2021 and 2022 under the Established Artist category. His achievements have led to exhibitions at *Art Central Hong Kong* (2024) and the *Beijing Art Fair* (2018). He also received the Outstanding Performer award from the 8th National Artist Project and exhibited in the U.S. in 2017.



Gold

Artist: Mukdarasm Khampa
Title: *The Journal of Breathing*
Medium: Acrylic on canvas
Size (cm): 180 x 150

The Journal of Breathing captures the essence of being alive, illustrating how each breath draws emotions and thoughts into our being. It reflects a hidden energy that shifts and evolves with our life experiences.

This artwork takes the form of journaling, using freeform circles and weighted accents to express the sensations of breathing experienced during meditation and in a state of mindfulness, with each circle representing a single breath woven together to articulate the deep expressions of the heart.

About the artist

Mukdarasm Khampa resides in Chiang Rai province, Northern Thailand. She discovered her passion for art at a young age and earned a Bachelor's Degree of Fine Arts Programme in Visual Art at Rajamangala University of Technology Lanna, Chiang Mai, Thailand, and a Master's Degree in Education Programme in Curriculum and Instruction at Dhurakij Pundit University, Thailand. As a special needs art teacher apprentice, she actively creates art to refine her skills. Her work draws inspirations from her surroundings and her parents' careers. In 2022, she won the UOB Painting the Year (Thailand), Silver award, Emerging Artist category.



Silver

Artist: Panchat Yodmanee
Title: *Rainy Season 2024 - 2025*
Medium: Mixed media on canvas
(Resin and tree leaves, insects and twigs)
Size (cm): 100 x 141 (Diptych)

Rainy Season 2024 - 2025 explores the beauty found in the remnants of living beings and nature, even after they have perished. It reflects on the simple and ordinary aspects of the life cycle – birth, existence and death. Inspired by the calmness during the transition from the rainy season in 2024 to 2025, the artwork highlights the beauty of material truths that are subtle yet powerful.

About the artist

Panchat Yodmanee graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Thai Arts from the Faculty of Painting Sculpture and Graphic Arts, Silpakorn University, Thailand.

She held a solo exhibition in Paris in 2021 and participated in a group exhibition at one of Bangkok's leading art galleries. Panchat has received multiple awards, including the Gold and Silver award in the Contemporary Arts category from the Bualuang Art Competition between 2017 to 2019, and is a two-time winner of UOB Painting of the Year (Thailand), Gold award, Established Artist category in 2021 and 2022.



Bronze

Artist: Wannawit Patteep
Title: *Global Crisis*
Medium: Acrylic on canvas
Size (cm): 160 x 180

Global Crisis reflects on the significant changes in the world after the pandemic crisis, highlighting issues such as violence, epidemics, political conflicts, economic crises and environmental challenges. The artist hopes to highlight these pressing problems while encouraging viewers to recognise the importance of love, happiness and hope as essential elements in creating a better world.

About the artist

Wannawit Patteep is a Distinguished PhD graduate in Fine Arts. He also holds a Master of Fine Arts in Visual Arts from Chiangmai University, Thailand where he also serves as a lecturer. His artistic practice focuses on installation art and creating immersive experiences that explores various concepts.

He has won several awards, including a Silver and a Bronze award at the National Exhibition of Art, and in 2017 he was awarded the Art Scholarship from Prem Tinsulanonda Foundation. His work has been exhibited at notable exhibitions such as the 7th *White Elephant Art Exhibition* in 2018 and the *Bangkok Biennale* at the Bangkok Art and Culture Centre in 2022.

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Medium: Acrylic on canvas
Size (cm): 175 x 149



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THAILAND | Emerging Artist Category



2024 Most Promising Artist of the Year

Artist: Patnaree Boonmee
Title: *The Hostile Society*
Medium: Mixed media on canvas
(Oil and acrylic)
Size (cm): 150 x 120

The Hostile Society addresses the pervasive issue of hate speech, emphasising the serious harm it inflicts on mental health and its devastating consequences.

The artwork uses dark shadows to symbolise the widespread presence of hate in public spaces, while the red hue surrounding the young girl conveys her vulnerability. The faceless figures, represent the anonymity of the online interactions.

Framed by a window, the artist invites viewers to reflect on societal dynamics, and hopes her thought-provoking artwork will raise awareness of the impact of hate speech, encourages positive communication and fosters a culture of mutual respect and understanding.

About the artist

Patnaree Boonmee is an artist who captivates audiences with her insightful approach to societal issues. A graduate of the Faculty of Painting Sculpture and Graphic Arts at Silpakorn University, Thailand, she possesses a keen eye for detail and has established her presence in the local art scene.

Her works are showcased at prestigious exhibitions, including the *San Silpa Samran* art exhibition. Her art addresses the social challenges, particularly hate speech, and aims to spark meaningful dialogue and drive positive change within the community.



Gold

Artist: Pimpisa Anurit
Title: *Slum*
Medium: Oil on canvas
Size (cm): 180 x 126

Slum explores the mutual dependence between people and urban dwellings, demonstrating their ability to maximise limited space. Through objects that share structural and design similarities with these environments, this artwork reflects the realities of a crowded city life and the stories it tells.

About the artist

Pimpisa Anurit is an emerging artist from Thailand, specialising in fine art painting and jewellery making. A graduate of the School of Architecture, Art and Design at King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, Thailand, she demonstrates a talent for blending design, jewellery making and painting.

Through her unique artistic vision, Pimpisa creates a harmonious balance between jewellery design and fine art painting, establishing her as a versatile and innovative artist in the contemporary art scene.



Silver

Artist: Peerapon Boonleing
Title: *Journey Towards Global Boiling*
Medium: Mixed media on canvas
(Oil and acrylic)
Size (cm): 120 x 170

Journey Towards Global Boiling confronts the climate crisis by illustrating the shift from global warming to a state of global boiling. It depicts rapid changes in nature, including animal migration and coral reefs bleaching, while highlighting conflicts between those protecting the environment and those pursuing profit. The artist aims to raise awareness and provoke reflection on the consequences of human actions, serving as a stark reminder of the impending disaster.

About the artist

Peerapon Boonleing graduated from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at Phuket Rajabhat University, Thailand and has gained recognition for his art. He has showcased his work in notable exhibitions, including winning the 2nd prize at the Bualuang 101 competition, participated in the Art Club Phuket exhibition and numerous local shows.

Peerapon's art focuses on environmental and social issues, inspired by his deep connection to nature. Through his work, he aims to raise awareness and encourage reflection on pressing environmental concerns.



Bronze

Artist: Harid Thampacha
Title: *Inequality*
Medium: Markers on canvas
Size (cm): 120 x 120

Inequality vividly illustrates the social disparity, particularly in relation to land ownership and economic status.

The artwork highlights the stark contrast between the affluent few who capitalise on speculations and tax benefits and the struggles of middle and working classes. It also addresses the debt burdens, home ownership challenges, and poor living conditions and emphasises on the suffering and resilience of those affected by inequality.

About the artist

Harid Thampacha, an artist from Bangkok, uses his artwork to bridge cultural heritage and modernity. He draws inspiration from Eastern traditions, natural patterns, handcrafted arts and the complexities of urban life.

His latest work addresses inequality in land ownership, shedding light on the social disparity between the affluent and the agricultural use of land. Harid employs a distinctive minimalist colour palette to captivate audiences and encourage reflection on the social and economic dynamics of our world.

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Doing right by our
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43rd UOB Painting of the Year
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Established Artist Category
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2024 Most Promising Artist of the Year
Emerging Artist Category
THAILAND

Artist: Patnaree Boonmee
Title: *The Hostile Society*
Medium: Mixed media on canvas
(Oil and acrylic)
Size (cm): 150 x 120



Gold
Emerging Artist Category
THAILAND

Artist: Pimpisa Anurit
Title: *Slum*
Medium: Oil on canvas
Size (cm): 180 x 126

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Silver
Emerging Artist Category
THAILAND

Artist: **Peerapon Boonleing**
Title: ***Journey Towards Global Boiling***
Medium: **Mixed media on canvas**
(Oil and acrylic)
Size (cm): **120 x 170**



Bronze
Emerging Artist Category
THAILAND

Artist: **Harid Thampacha**
Title: ***Inequality***
Medium: **Markers on canvas**
Size (cm): **120 x 120**

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VIETNAM | Established Artist Category



2024 UOB Painting of the Year

Artist: **Nguyen Viet Cuong**
Title: ***Dòng Chảy (Flow)***
Medium: **Mixed media on canvas**
(Coal, rice flour and glue)
Size (cm): **150 x 150**

Dòng Chảy (Flow) uses two native materials, coal and rice flour to tell a story of Vietnam's natural resources. Quang Ninh coal symbolises the industrial minerals of the northern Red River Delta, while rice flour represents the agricultural product of the Southern Mekong Delta. The artist from Kien Giang in the Mekong Delta, grew up in a farming family, with rice being a central part of his upbringing.

The artist processes the coal, cleans and crushes it into the gravel, which is then sifted and scattered across a large canvas. The rice is grounded into flour, mixed with adhesive and funneled into flowing shapes that cascade over the black coal layer. The result is a contemporary ink-wash landscape, where abstract forms evoke the ethereal beauty of stalactite formations found in Vietnam's natural caves. It becomes a poetic interplay of black and white, shadow and light, reflection and opacity, rigidity and softness. Unlike traditional ink-wash works on paper or silk, which convey a sense of lightness, this piece harnesses the physical weight of its materials to convey conceptual gravity.

About the artist

Nguyen Viet Cuong, graduated from the Ho Chi Minh City University of Fine Arts, Vietnam. His work blends contemporary themes using materials that engage with reality.

Viet Cuong challenges dualism and believes in the natural flow of life. He uses raw materials to tell stories that reflect the shared experiences and memories of people in Saigon and Vietnam as a whole. His work encourages viewers to reflect on their own lives and surroundings.



Gold

Artist: **Nguyen Van He**
Title: ***Xếp Máy Bay (Folding Paper Planes)***
Medium: **Lacquer on industrial wood**
Size (cm): **177 x 117**

Xếp Máy Bay (Folding Paper Planes) illustrates the life of an artist born and raised in the war zone of Hoa My, Hue. While folding paper planes for his child, the artist recalls his own childhood marked by trauma from post-war survival-cutting, digging, and demining the land. The artist gathers the fragments and lingering pains of war still present in this land of sorrow, and channels them into this work.

The war-aged wooden panels are carefully sanded, hammered, cut and assembled to resemble the innocent folds of a child's paper plane, creating a dynamic transition into three-dimensional space. Every brush of crimson lacquer and every golden stroke beneath amber layers carries the haunting presence of war. Flashes of silver leaf and worn lacquer evoke the scent of machine oil, subtly woven into the grain of the military wood. The artwork conveys a powerful message that alongside the physical damage of war, it embodies the irrevocable loss of an once-innocent childhood.

About the artist

Nguyen Van He is a contemporary artist and a graduate of University of Arts, Hue University, Vietnam. His work, shaped by memories of war, explores the emotions and perspectives of the next generation while questioning the cycles of conflict and war.

His practice includes diverse genres, such as painting, sculpture, performance, and installation. He collects fragments and remnants from former military sites and local ruins, infusing them into his work to explore these complex themes.



Silver

Artist: **Ngo Van Sac**
Title: ***Xâm Thực (Encroachment)***
Medium: **Mixed media on wood**
(Burnt wood, acrylic and gold leaf)
Size (cm): **170 x 172**

Xâm Thực (Encroachment) is inspired by the artist's study trips along Vietnam's coastline, where he witnessed the rising sea levels, deforestation and the harmful exploitation of the Mekong River, including the construction of hydroelectric dams by upstream countries.

The artist skillfully combines his unique techniques of cutting and burning wood with painting and printing to create a multidimensional visual narrative that captures the relationship between humanity and nature. The wood grains represent the passage of time, serving as a metaphor for life's experiences. Human figures from different regions are intricately woven with images of waves, symbolising resistance against overexploitation. The waves, which dominate the composition is nature's call of how it has been treated by man.

About the artist

Ngo Van Sac has developed a signature artistic style through wood-burning techniques. Unsatisfied with his initial wood paintings, he discovered this new approach by burning them. The fusion of fire and wood has since become his distinctive art-making technique to express powerful emotions.

Inspired by his travels across Vietnam, Van Sac captures the true essence of the Vietnamese people in his portraits. His art invites viewers to engage and connect with the beauty and authenticity of the Vietnamese culture.



Bronze

Artist: **Le Viet Trung**
Title: ***Đường Trở Về (The Journey Home)***
Medium: **Watercolour on silk**
Size (cm): **120 x 160**

Đường Trở Về (The Journey Home) is inspired by the artist' visit to his homeland. There, on a sandy shore, he contemplated life and death, which is portrayed through a self-portrait, which depicts water gently encircling the wild grasses, forming a human silhouette with the face tilted to the left, identity obscured and limbs relaxed. Each brushstroke captures the details of nature in soothing greens. The negative space is used to depict water, the source of life.

About the artist

Le Viet Trung is a lecturer at the University of Arts, Hue University, Vietnam, specialising in silk art. He uses detailed silk-dyeing and resist techniques to showcase the simple beauty of nature and people, capturing the delicate, dreamy and introspective emotions.

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Artist: **Nguyen Viet Cuong**
Title: *Dòng Chảy (Flow)*
Medium: **Mixed media on canvas**
(Coal, rice flour and glue)
Size (cm): **150 x 150**



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Medium: **Mixed media on wood**
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VIETNAM | Emerging Artist Category



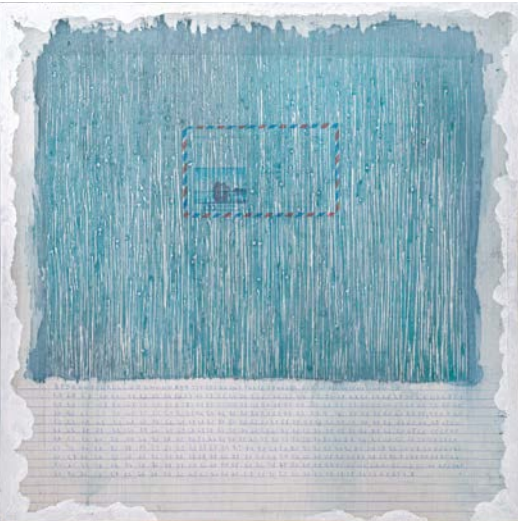
2024 Most Promising Artist of the Year

Artist: Phan Tu Tran
Title: *Doraeco*
Medium: Mixed media on durabo plastic board
(Velvet and epoxy-coated balloons)
Size (cm): 98 x 107

Doraeco presents six playing cards laid out on a casino table, each card represents a different facet of the ecological pollution: Earth (Jack of Diamonds), Water (Queen of Hearts), Air (King of Spades), and Energy (Queen of Clubs). The Joker card, depicting Doraemon in a state of confusion, symbolises the conflict between technological progress and the environmental consequences. The final card, left unrevealed, represents the uncertain future for the next generation who will inherit both the achievements and burdens left by their predecessors.

About the artist

Phan Tu Tran began as an illustrator and has since created art by reimagining familiar imageries through new concepts. With a focus on experimenting with new materials, her works bring light-hearted and everyday stories to the public.



Silver

Artist: Nguyen Duc Niem
Title: *Nhật Ký 2024 (Diary 2024)*
Medium: Mixed media on canvas
(Silk and acrylic)
Size (cm): 60 x 60

Nhật Ký 2024 (Diary 2024) draws inspiration from the artist's personal journal, offering a glimpse into his intimate revelations. A layer of blue paint conceals an envelope, symbolising unresolved issues and secrets that remain hidden. The envelope is inscribed with "From: Niệm 25 To: Niệm 24", a poignant message from the artist to his past self, evoking nostalgic moments that have slipped away.

The letters and numbers are in a personal cipher, reflecting the artist's yearning to express their innermost thoughts, even if they remain elusive to others.

About the artist

Nguyen Duc Niem is a young artist who graduated with a degree in Fine Arts from University of Arts, Hue University, Vietnam in 2022. His work explores historical relics and everyday scenes, infusing his personal expressions into his creations.



2024 Most Promising Artist of the Year

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VIETNAM

Artist: Phan Tu Tran
Title: *Doraeco*
Medium: Mixed media on durabo plastic board
(Velvet and epoxy-coated balloons)
Size (cm): 98 x 107

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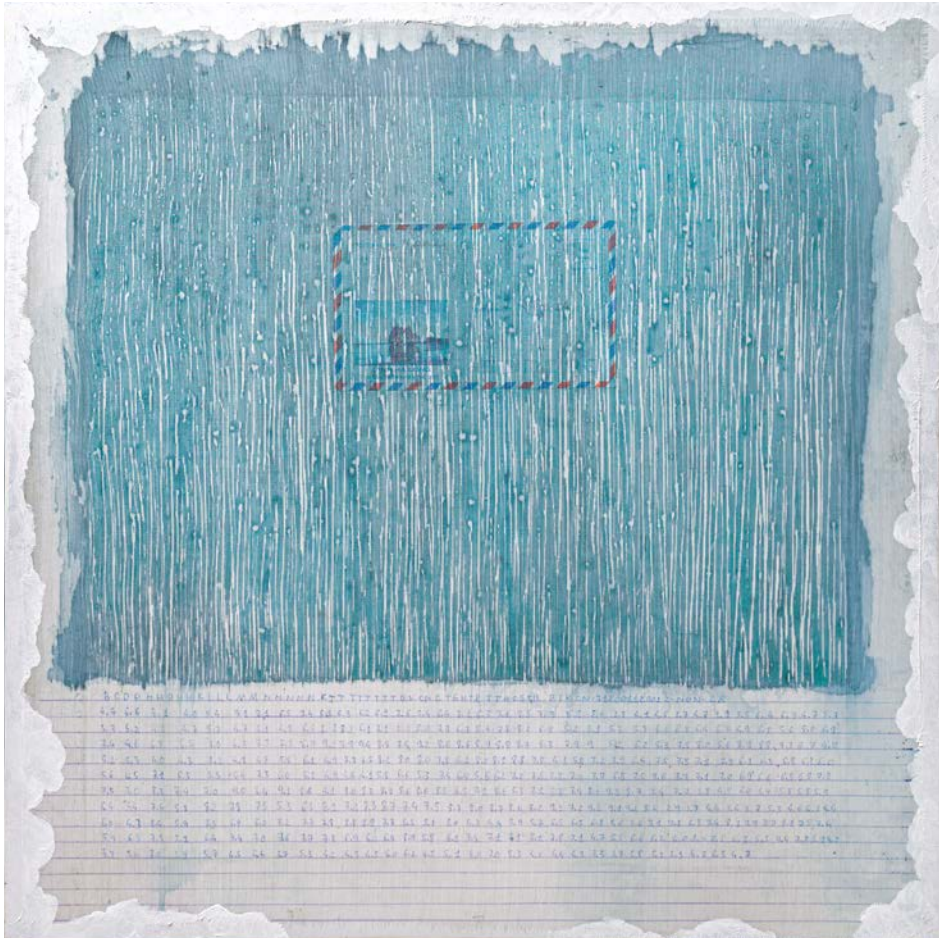
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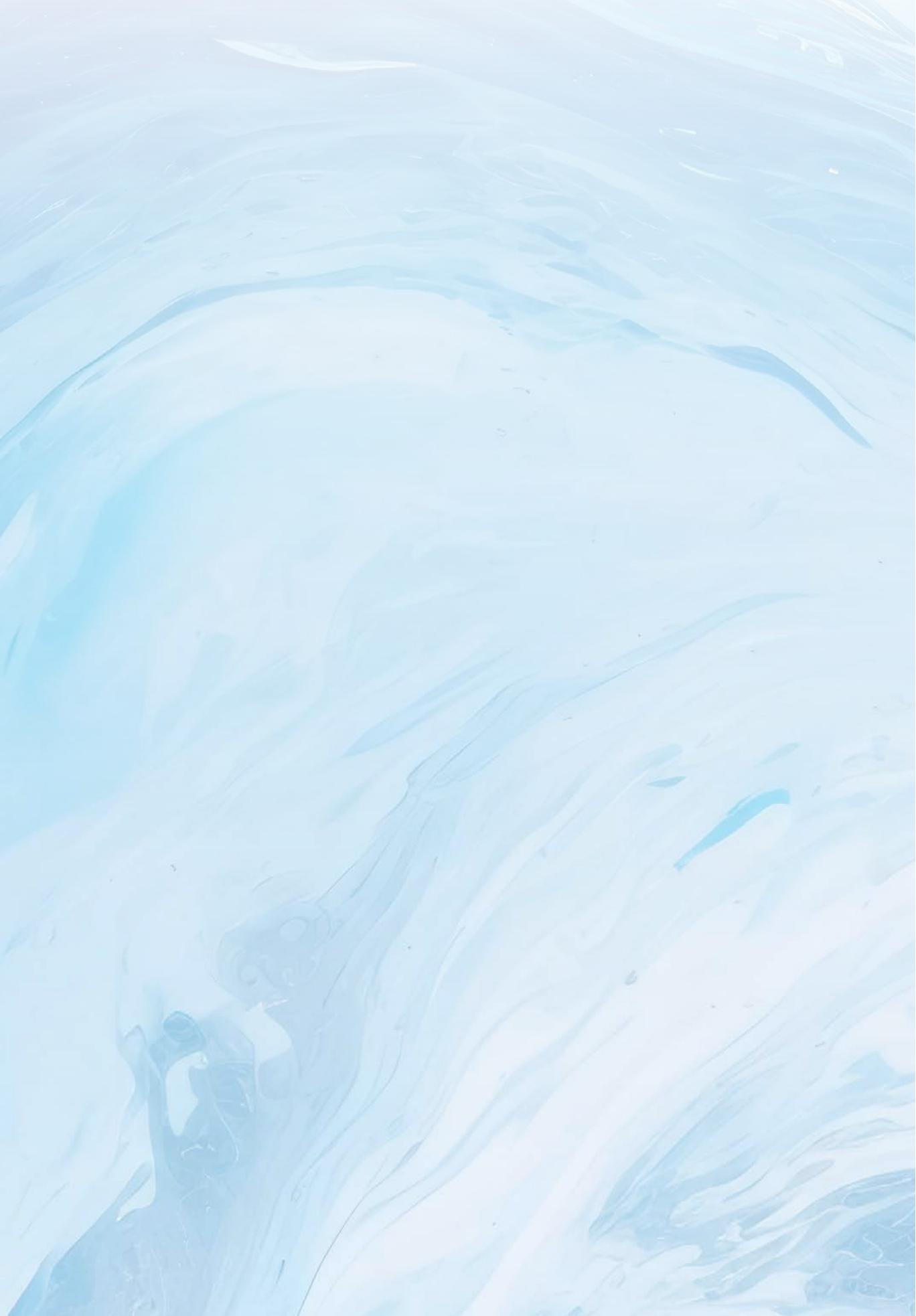
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Silver
Emerging Artist Category
VIETNAM

Artist: **Nguyen Duc Niem**
Title: **Nhật Ký 2024 (Diary 2024)**
Medium: **Mixed media on canvas**
(Silk and acrylic)
Size (cm): **60 x 60**



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Regional Advisory

Mr Kwok Kian Chow
Art Advisor

Dr Bridget Tracy Tan
Senior Director, Institute of Southeast Asian Arts and Art Galleries, and Academic Advisor, Southeast Asian Arts Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts

Singapore

Dr Vichaya Mukdamanee
Singapore Chief Judge
Leading Thai Artist and Curator
Dean, Faculty of Painting Sculpture and Graphic Arts, and Assistant Professor, Faculty's Department of Painting, Silpakorn University

Mr Zheng Chongbin
Internationally Renowned Artist

Mr Alan Yeung
Art Historian and Curator
Associate Curator, M+

Indonesia

Ms Melati Suryodarmo
Indonesia Chief Judge
Leading Indonesian Artist

Mr Heri Pemad
Creative Director
Founder, Art Jog (The biggest contemporary art events in ASEAN)

Dr Agung Hujatnikajennong
Curator
Lecturer, Faculty of Art and Design, Bandung Institute of Technology

Malaysia

Ms Bibi Chew
Malaysia Chief Judge
Art Advisor, Artist and Academician

Mr Ahmad Fuad Osman
Leading Malaysian Contemporary Artist

Mr Baktiar Naim
Curator

Thailand

Mr Amrit Chusuwan
Thailand Chief Judge
National Artist in Visual Arts (Painting-Mixed Media)
Consultant, Songkhla Old Town Foundation
Member and Secretary, Bangkok Art and Culture Centre Foundation Committee

Professor Emeritus Pishnu Supanimit
National Artist in Visual Arts (Printmaking)
Lecturer, Department of Printmaking, Faculty of Painting Sculpture and Graphic Arts, Silpakorn University

Mr Tawatchai Somkong
Founder and President of MATDOT Art Center

Vietnam

Mr Dang Xuan Hoa
Vietnam Chief Judge
Leading artist

Mr Trinh Tuan
Leading artist, curator, academic

Ms Nguyen Thi Châu Giang
Leading artist

Mr Luong Xuan Doan
Special Advisor
President of Vietnam Fine Arts Association and former Deputy Director of the Culture and Arts Department, Propaganda Department of the Party Central Committee

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1982
Goh Beng Kwan
The Dune

1983
Anthony Poon
Waves

1984
Wee Shoo Leong
Yuen (Affinity)

1985
Ng Keng Seng
Steps

1986
Sandy Wong Shin
Exhibit '86

1987
Baet Yeok Kuan
Man and Environment I

1988
Ang Yian Sann
One's Habitat

1989
Lim Tiong Ghee
From the Turtledove

1990
Lim Poh Teck
City

1991
Chua Ek Kay
My Haunt

1992
Soh Chee Hui
Blue Balloon

1993
Raymond Lau Poo Seng
Echoes of the Window (I)

1994
Hong Zhu An
Yi-Er-San (One, Two, Three)

1995
Tan Chin Chin
The Statue of Gods, 1995

1996
Chen Shi Jin
Root

1997
Kit Tan Juat Lee
Endless Love

1998
Chng Chin Kang
*She Loves Me
But She's Not My Mummy*

1999
Tan Kay Nguan
Trifling Matter

2000
Fan Shao Hua
They

2001
Erzan B Adam
It's Hip 2 B Square

2002
Gong Yao Min
*The Impression of Singapore,
Series Three, Colour Space*

2003
Luis Lee Jin Min
Packed

2004
Kit Tan Juat Lee
The World of Xi You Ji

2005
Alvin Ong Liang Jie
The Window

2006
Namiko Chan Takahashi
Charisse

2007
Hong Sek Chern
Aspects of the City II

2008
Joel Yuen Kong Chong
Anatomical Fantasies of Meat

2009
Zhao Ren Hui
*The Space
In Between #1, #6, #63*

2010
Bai Tianyuan
What

2011
Gong Yao Min
My Dream Land

2012
Esmond Loh Fah Rong
Just Let Me Sleep

2013
Stefanie Hauger*
Space Odyssey

2014
Om Mee Ai
N-PIN56L

2015
Benjamin F. Cruz
Building...

2016
Carey Ngai
Industry 2.0 III

2017
Sunny Chyun
Dyspraxia

2018
Khairulddin Bin Abdul Wahab
Rite of Passage

2019
Wong Tze Chau
War and Peace

2020
Zhang Chunlei
Art Stages Pasar 2020

2021
Keane Tan
A Dramatic Cinematic for Our Century

2022
Lester Lee
*A Painting about Nothing
and Everything*

2023
Jeremy Hiah
Gulliver's Travels

2024
Yong Wee Loon
A Sip Through Time

Indonesia

2011
Gatot Indrajati
Repacking

2012
Y. Indra Wahyu
Himne Sekolah (School Hymns)

2013
Suroso Isur
Indonesian Artist's Studio

2014
Antonius Subiyanto*
Old Stock Fresh Menu

2015
Anggar Prasetyo*
Exploitation of Fish

2016
Gatot Indrajati*
Right or Wrong My Home

2017
Kukuh Nuswantoro
Kegelapan (Darkness)

2018
Suvi Wahyudianto*
Angs't (ANGST)

2019
Anagard*
*Welcome Perdamaian, Goodbye
Kedengkian (Welcome Peace,
Goodbye Hostility)*

2020
Prabu Perdana*
Isolated Garden

2021
Meliantha Muliawan
Even After Death, the Departed Lives Life

2022
Farhan Siki
*Build, Destroy, Rebuild
(The Modern Sisyphus)*

2023
Ni Nyoman Sani
Tranquility

2024
Muhammad Yakin
*The Idol of Unmoved Uncaused Cause
Mover*

Malaysia

2011
Ng Swee Keat
Portrayal of Development

2012
Mohd Azri Bin Abdullah
Ah Long

2013
Gan Tee Sheng
Old Man

2014
Minstrel Kuik Ching Chieh
16 Sept 1963

2015
Tiong Chai Heing
Stifling

2016
Yim Yen Sum
The Floating Castle

2017
Chok Yue Zan
I Thought, We Can Stay Strong Like Stones

2018
Cheong Kiet Cheng
Through the Eye of the Flower

2019
Cheng Yen Pheng
Tug of War: My Homeland

2020
Sabri Idrus
Silent Fortress

2021
Saiful Razman*
Walk in Silence, Don't Walk Away in Silence

2022
Seah Ze Lin
地皮 (Skin of Land)

2023
Chong Kim Chiew
*Malaya and British Borneo One Dollar 1953
(We look at the past, we look at the present)*

2024
Hasanul Isyraf Idris
Durio

Thailand

2010
Pannaphan Yodmanee
Berg Fah Mai (Open New Sky)

2011
Suwannee Sarakana
Hug of Love From My Family

2012
Imron Yunu
Faith

2013
Aphiphol Techamangkhalanon
Hope on the Ruins No. 3

2014
Sinlapachai Chuchan
White Lines

2015
Thidarat Chantachua
Jamaah 2

2016
Jongjit Moolmat
Awaiting Enlightenment 2

2017
Sukit Choosri*
One Life

2018
Apiwat Banler
Persistent Problems

2019
Chaichana Luetrakun
Wastescape

2020
Thongmai Thepram
Super Strength in Unity

2021
Vachira Kornthong
Land of Happiness

2022
Chomrawi Suksom*
Dystopia

2023
Pratchaya Charernsook*
Chumphon Estuary

2024
Sukit Choosri
Disguise

Vietnam

2023
Trinh Minh Tien
Thủy phủ (Water Palace)

2024
Nguyen Viet Cuong
Dòng Chảy (Flow)

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* Winner of UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year



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UOB Art Collection

UOB started collecting paintings by Singapore artists in the 1970s to support local art. Today, we have more than 2,600 artworks in our four-decade old corporate art collection including paintings by Singapore’s early masters such as the late Cheong Soo Pieng, Dr Chen Wen Hsi and Georgette Chen. Every year, the winning paintings from the UOB Painting of the Year competition are added to the UOB Art Collection.

The UOB Art Collection is currently displayed at the head office in Singapore as well as at its international network of over 500 offices worldwide.

UOB supports visual arts by cultivating awareness and appreciation among the public, including the acquisition of artworks and the exhibition of the works from the UOB Art Collection.

To raise the profile of our corporate art collection, we partner with art galleries and institutions, such as National Gallery Singapore, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, University of the Arts Singapore and ION Art Gallery to showcase selected artworks from our collection.



Bird by Fernando Botero
Singapore River Promenade



Homage To Newton by Salvador Dali
UOB Plaza Atrium



UOB Annual Report Series
UOB office



Vitalità by Anna Chiara Spellini
Singapore River Promenade

Message from the Chairman
of UOB Art Advisory Panel

Message from
Guest-of-Honour

UOB Painting of the Year
Milestones

UOB Painting of the Year
Iconic Award Trophy

Doing right by our
communities through
#ArtforGood

43rd UOB Painting of the Year
(Singapore) Launch

Established Artist Category
Singapore

Emerging Artist Category
Singapore

Established Artist Category
Indonesia

Emerging Artist Category
Indonesia

Established Artist Category
Malaysia

Emerging Artist Category
Malaysia

Established Artist Category
Thailand

Emerging Artist Category
Thailand

Established Artist Category
Vietnam

Emerging Artist Category
Vietnam

Panel of Judges

Roll of Honour

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