



GROUP EXHIBITION

# CONTEMPORARY PROPULSION: INFLUENCE AND EVOLUTION

17 MARCH 2015 - 31 MARCH 2015

G13  
gallery



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PROPULSION:  
INFLUENCE  
AND  
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## Contemporary Propulsion: Influence and Evolution

One who is familiar with the art scene would have noticed the emergence of Dasein Academy of Art, especially in these recent years, the school has nurtured a number of significant artists budding in the field. From self-organized exhibitions to commercial galleries, from art fairs to international auction houses, it is clear to see the rise of these talents, and the brimming strength shown in their exercises. The fascination of these artists and their artworks has call up our attention to go deep into the phenomenon.

We discovered how the community engaged with one another, the close relationship maintains in between lecturers and students, seniors and juniors. The inevitability of ideas, thoughts and conversations swap between their practices would rather be interesting to find out. Furthermore, aside from what is being introduced from the school, stimulants after stepping out the school are also important, of how they are being brought up to new perspective and vision also reflect in their practices too.

The remarkable philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche has his philosophy influence around the world, especially in politics and arts. One of his greatest statements is the meaning of existence and discussion, where he suggested inclusiveness for becoming

what one is. It is fascinating to see art-making process is actually the same operational theory in science, where the equation is a becoming and every single element is playing a major role in affecting one another, although they might look bitty at first. When it applies to art, it is rather important to be open minded and extensive to exhume bigger acquisitions.

Hence in this exhibition, we showcase a wide variety of mediums and genres of artworks, ranging from conventional realistic paintings to refined sculptures to conceptual driven installations, we want to bring up intensive dialogues from the oeuvres made by these 12 emerging and established artists. We believed that by curating this show it is more than a commercial project but to be something important about faction and evolution in the future to be probed and discussed.

**Krystie Ng**

**Multidisciplinary art practitioner**

# ARTWORKS

# LOH BOK LAI

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Loh Bok Lai (b. 1971, Kedah) is a full time lecturer for both practical and theoretical classes in Dasein since 2000. His intellectual sight and exquisite aesthetic value with a sense of humor are the reasons being loved and welcomed in the school.

Besides visual arts, Bok Lai is actively involved in local independent films and starred in various filmographies by James Lee, Ho Yu Hang and Khoo Eng Yow. These films include *Ah Beng Returns*, *Room To Let*, *The Beautiful Washing Machine*, *Sanctuary*, *A Moment of Love*, *The Bird Hose*, *Love Disaster*, *Everyday Everyday* and *Things We Do When We Fall In Love*.

Bok Lai has actively participated in numerous art competitions and exhibitions in the late 90s. He was the winner for Phillip Morris Malaysia Art Awards in 1997. He has showcased artworks in Young Talents at Bank Negara in 1993, Open Show at Gallery Shah Alam in 1995, Bakat Muda Sezaman in 1996, Phillip Morris Malaysia Art Awards Exhibition in 1997 - 1999, *Children on the Land* group exhibition at Metro Fine Art in 1999, *Aku* at Galeri Petronas in 1999, *Serenity Malacca* in 2000 and *Portrait of Merdeka Award* at Galeri Petronas in 2013. Last year, Bok Lai was invited as an artist to participate in *Configuration* group exhibition at G13 Gallery.

Graduated from KLCA in mid 90's, Bok Lai's realistic paintings especially in human figures are skilled and outstanding. Being able to capture the moment of an event and the facial expression, represent with the right atmosphere is how Bok Lai stand out from others.

**So Close, Far Away**

Oil on jute 118x144cm 2015



**Unreachable**

Oil on canvas 130x126cm 2015



# HOO KIEW HANG

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Hoo Kiew Hang (b. 1982, Perak) is one of the first few batches of graduates from Dasein back in year 2006. He has then exhibited in various group exhibitions and staged his solo exhibitions entitled *Our Unnatural Disaster* in 2009 and *Paradise of Gods* in 2013 respectively. His arts have travelled as far as to Penang, Johor, Singapore, Taipei, Hong Kong and Italy since 2005 in commercial shows as well as international art exhibitions.

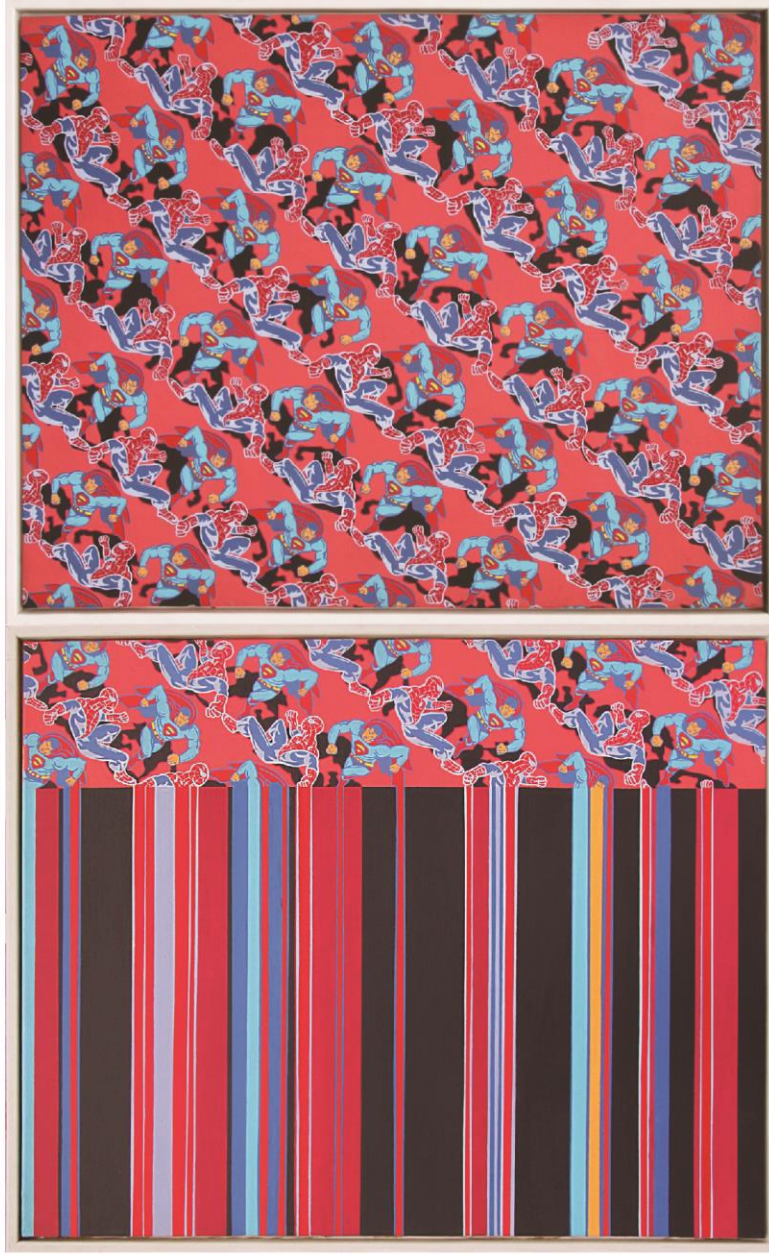
In 2009 and 2012, Kiew Hang took part in ABN AMRO Malihom Artist Residency in Penang and Sasaran Art Residency Program respectively. He was also involved in *CAIS Project (Contemporary Art In School project)*, *Let Arts Move You (LAMU)*, *Bangun - Abandon Project*, Sasaran International Art Workshop and *Bangun 2 - Penang clan Jetties Arts Project*. In 2008, Kiew Hang's work was auctioned at Sotheby's Hong Kong.

Very skilled with realistic and expressionism paintings, Kiew Hang's recent series of Post-Pop Art paintings have never failed to impress audiences. He applies *Superflat* technique which was founded by Takashi Murakami to his oeuvres as a rational reaction to express his thoughts. Taking up a lot of time and patience, Kiew Hang let the distorted forms to speak for him.



**WeViWeViWi ... ..**

Acrylic on canvas 122 x 122 cm 2013



**Repeat and Repeat**

Acrylic on canvas 85 x 105 cm each diptych 2013



# CHEONG TUCK WAI

Cheong Tuck Wai (b. 1979, Kuantan) is one of the five winners of the Malaysian Emerging Artist Award (MEAA) in 2013. He then exhibited his works widely and has spread his footprint to Art Stage Singapore earlier this year with The Fklub.

As a matter of fact, Tuck Wai has been planting tremendous effort in producing artworks. His early works include *Divine Land Series*, *Mythology Series*, *City Project Series*, *Sexuality Series*, *Mr Lynas in Kuantan* and the most recent *Waves Series*. He explores medium like oil, acrylic, charcoal, tempera, collage and raising; where his creative works are about memory, in which people, matters, scenes and objects are described and defined.

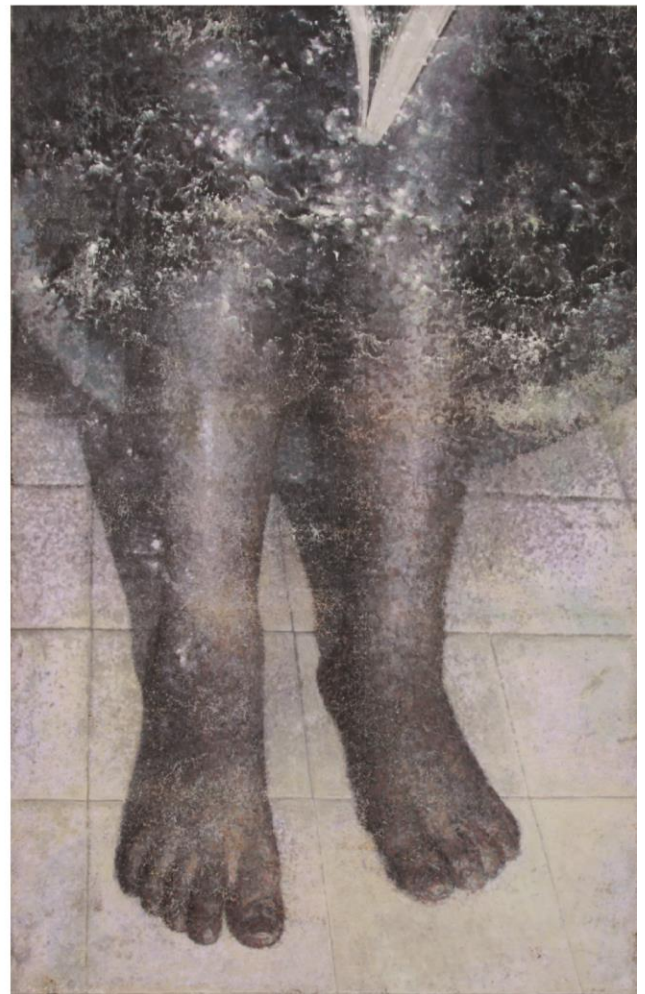
Tuck Wai was the Grand Prize Winner for The Nokia Art Awards in 2003 and was awarded a solo exhibition in the following year. He was honoured as one of the Top 6 Winners for Visual Art Awards in 2010, became a finalist for Bakat Sezaman Muda with his work *Divine Land - Long Ago, People Believed That The World Was Flat V*. In 2013, Tuck Wai won the Gold Award for Painting of The Year, a major competition presented by UOB.

Graduated in 2001 with a Diploma in Illustration and 2004 with a Diploma in Fine Arts, both from Dasein, Tuck Wai is now a lecturer in the Fine Art department majoring in Oil Painting and Figure Painting.



**Wave Series - Wave of Silence I**

Acrylic, clear glue, image transfer, burn and paste on canvas 124 x 150 cm 2015



**Wave Series - Wave of Silence II**

Acrylic, clear glue, image transfer, burn and paste on canvas 145 x 91.5 cm 2015

# CHONG KIET CHENG

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Chong Kiet Cheng (b. 1981, KL) enrolled into Dasein Fine Art Department in 2003 and graduated in 2006. She has been producing artworks in the forms of paintings and sculptures since then. Kiet Cheng has wide interests and this is reflected in her other Certificates in Journalism, Photography and Drama courses respectively.

In year 2004 and 2005, Kiet Cheng was selected as a finalist for The Nokia Art Awards. In 2006, she won the second prize in Watercolor category from Tanjong Heritage Art Competition. She was also a finalist for both Visual Art Awards in 2011 and Bakat Muda Sezaman in 2013 accordingly.

In 2013, Kiet Cheng staged her first solo exhibition, *Jojo in the Wonderland*, with her partner in *With Two Solos* at White Box, Publika. Earlier this year, the second solo exposition by the artist, *Sing to the Land of My Heart*, was held at Wei-Ling Gallery. To date, Kiet Cheng has exhibited her works as far as to Penang, Johor and the Philippines.

Kiet Cheng's latest works explore the laws of the universe where all beings in this space go through the impermanent process of birth, aging, sickness and death. She uses images of humans, animals, flowers and plants to convey love, beauty, and life and death. Although beauty is not forever, decaying is not necessarily unpleasant. We have to live and cope with the acceptance of transience and imperfection.



**Encounter\_2**

Acrylic on canvas 156 X 188 cm 2013



**Once Upon A Time**

Acrylic on canvas 124 X 174 cm 2013

# KIM NG



Kim Ng (b. 1965, Johor) is one of the few established printmakers in our country. He became a lecturer for printmaking and sculpture classes 10 years ago and now serves as the Course Director of Fine Arts Department at Dasein. He graduated from London with double degrees in art and design, as well as accomplished education and teacher training courses in the West.

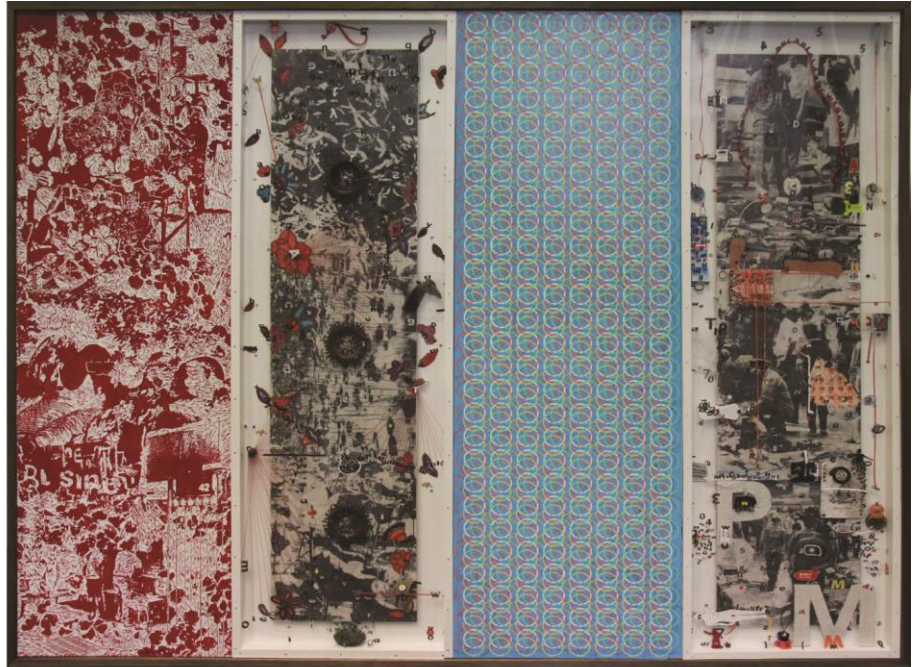
Often portraying a direct relationship between human being with their intimate living environment, human figures and street scenes are easily found in Kim's works. Following alphabets and numbers which represent the stories behind, Kim tends to transfer his concern and personal experience to his audiences. He creates artworks from unconventional materials, such as latex, britex, raisin and found objects.

Despite his bustling life, Kim never stops producing artworks and has staged 6 solo exhibitions since the year of millennium and the most recent was held last July at Wei-Ling Gallery entitled *In A Place of Wonder*. From the late 90s to early 21st century, Kim exhibited actively around London and Sunderland. After settling down in his country, he has joined more than 45 group exhibitions, mainly in Southeast Asia. Amongst the group exhibition, we would like to highlight a few significant shows, for instance, *Not That Balai* at Lost Generation Space (now Lostgens' Contemporary Art Space) in 2004, *Signed and Dated* at Valentine Willie Fine Art in 2006, *Man and God Beijing 8th International Visual Fest* in 2008, *Bangun - Penang Clan Jetty Art Projects* in 2009, *Go Block - Five Contemporary Malaysian Printmakers* at Galeri Petronas in 2009, *Artriangle* at National Visual Arts Gallery in 2010, Macau Printmaking Triennial in 2012 and 16th Biennale Internatinal De La Gravure De Sarcelles, France in 2013.

Kim's oeuvre has been widely collected by private collectors as well as corporates and institutions. He was also recognized as one of the winning artists for the Prudential Malaysian Eye 2014.

### "I Wonder Are You Still Around"

Acrylic, water-based paint, woodcut, silkscreen print,  
found objects, collage, transfer print and mixed media on MDF board  
91 x 122 x 5 cm 2015



### "I Wonder What Have You Done"

Acrylic, water-based paint, woodcut, silkscreen print,  
found objects, collage, transfer print and mixed media on MDF board  
91 x 122 x 5 cm 2015



# MUJI LEE

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Muji Lee (b. 1988, KL) teaches Art History in Dasein since his return from UK after completing his study in the Middlesex University in London with a BA in Fine Arts. He is a multi-talented artist involved not only in visual arts but also in performance. He has been an active percussionist since 2005 and performed extensively in Doha, Hawaii, Taiwan and Singapore.

Muji has been exhibiting across the continents where his artworks was displayed in group shows such as *Seety Group Show* at KLPAC in 2009, *Once Upon A Time* at White Box, Publika in 2010, Genting Art Festival 2011 in conjunction with 1MCAT, Nordart International Art Exhibition in Rendsburg, Germany in 2012, Asia Invitation Art Exhibition at The Seoul Museum of Art, Korea in 2012, New Year Exhibition with Snake at Oriental Art & Cultural Centre in 2013, *PAUSE* at Beaconsfield Contemporary Art in London in 2014; His first and second solo, *Skepticism is a Virtue* and *Superstition* were staged at Artseni Gallery and Studio at Straits, Pulau Pinang in 2012 and 2013 respectively.

Focusing on the local community and political developments, Muji is an artist who values connection between artist and audience. He finds ways to incorporate with all sorts of artistic materials from his daily life to his works. It is clear to see that the materials and mediums used, often metal plates and wood blocks, he chooses to be engaged in objects with distinguished features in his way of narrative.

Apart from the above mentioned, Muji was also part of the founding committee which started up the Pangkor Island Art Festival in year 2013.

## Tongue

Wood cork, wood and white glue 56 x 56 x 70 cm 2015





# CHONG KIM CHIEW

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Chong Kim Chiew (b. 1975, KL) is a member of Rumah Air Panas artist collective. He graduated from Guangzhou Academy of Fine Art with a Master Degree majored in oil painting, he now stands as an artist and part-time lecturer. He works in numerous disciplines including drawings, paintings, installation and writing.

Kim Chiew joined the Artist-in-Residency programs actively in both local and international stages since year 2005 in Singapore, Indonesia and Manila. His solo exhibitions include *Isolation House* at RAP Art Space in 2005 and *Chong Kim Chiew: MAGNITUDE* at Tempinis Gallery in 2009. He was involved in a few significant curated exhibitions and programs such as *SPACE dialogue + art exhibition* in 2003, *ROTTEN* in 2004, *YCA* at 153 Gallery in 2006, and *CAIS Project* in 2008.

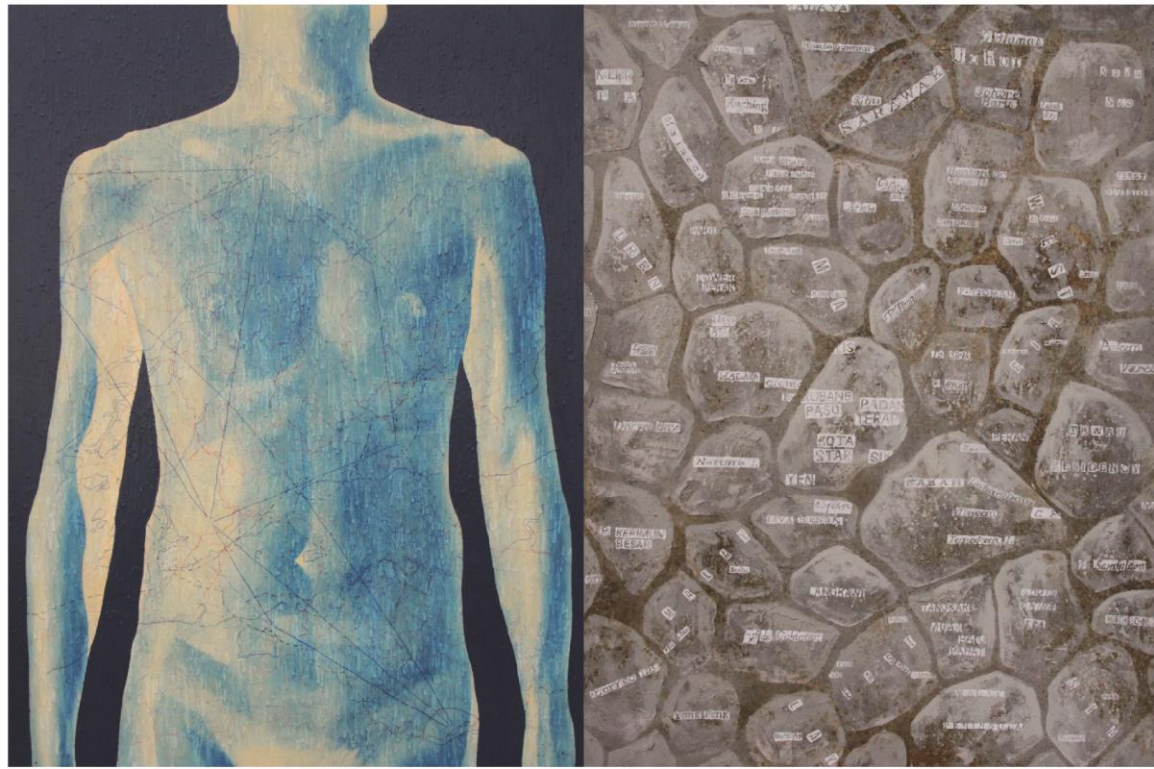
Stood out from the Prudential Malaysian Eye exhibition held last year, Kim Chiew was one of the 21 artists selected to showcase his installation *Unreadable Wall Bricks*. Some of his selected group exhibitions in the recent years, *History Lessons: Works on Paper* at VWFA, KL in 2009, *Negaraku, Boleh!* at Evil Empire, Singapore in 2010, *tanah ayer: Malaysian Stories from the Land* at Sunaryo Art Space, Bandung in 2011, *UNTITLED #1* and *UNTITLED #2* at FINDARS in 2012, *Young Malaysian Artist New Object(ion) 2* at Galeri Petronas in 2013, *Pulau Melayu - Lost and Found* at Lostgens' Contemporary Art Space in 2014 and *Remnants From Paths That Wander* at Gallery Orange, Philippines in 2014.

Working closely to relate himself into identity recognition and often carry social and political context of the country, Kim Chiew works with mediums like map, figure and found objects to convey his hidden messages and agendas. His works are also widely collected by private collectors and art institutions namely Singapore Art Museum.



**Hidden Territory/ Naked Island**

Acrylic, marker and cutting on canvas. 92 x 244 cm 2015



**Strange Body/ Hoarding**

Acrylic and marker on canvas 122 x 184cm 2015

# KRYSTIE NG

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Krystie Ng (b. 1990, KL) is a founding member of Ongoing Projects artist collective which started three years ago as an alternative platform for art enthusiasts to showcase and gain exposure. Highly involved in the art industry upon graduation in 2012, she worked in auction house, publication, art gallery and art consultancy agency. As a budding curator, Krystie was selected as one of the ten finalists in the Japan Foundation's curatorial workshop in 2014.

Interested in humanity, emotions, sentiments and relationship Krystie relates her experience in her daily circumstances in her art practice. In this piece, the artist is telling the opposition of the relationship with her mother, where rational and irrational, love and prejudice occurs when they care for one another so much until they inadvertently hurt each other, and eventually they both repair the rift to maintain the love-relationship.

Interested in exploring new things in her surrounding, Krystie likes to play with all sorts of mediums, she has produced arts out of found objects, fabric, conventional silkscreen, photographs and digital media.

Organized a solo exhibition right after her graduation in 2012, *UNFOLD* was an exhibition with 12 posters exhibited at New Black Coffee Lab. Krystie also part of *Boundless Comtemporary* at The Gallery @ Starhill in 2012, *Knot* at Feeka in 2014, *Phenomena* at Chin Thye Hin in 2014 and was a finalist for Nando's Perify Your Art in 2013.

**Love and Hurt - Unsung Sentiments**

A collaboration with the artist's mother

Cut, stitch and sew on silk 150 x 120 cm 2013 -2015



**Love and Hurt - Scars and Wounds**

A collaboration with the artist's mother

Cut, stitch and sew on silk 120 x 150 cm 2013 - 2015

# TIONG CHAI HEING



Tiong Chai Heing (b. 1986, Johor) graduated from Dasein in 2008 and is now working as a schoolteacher as well as pursuing her ambition as an artist. Frequently inspired and motivated by her mental deficiency sister, Chai Heing hopes her works can reach out for more attention and heed to the group that needs support.

Showcasing two units of works in this exhibition, Chai Heing's works also emphasis on personal reflections such as demand and desire. In *The Isolated Echo* Chai Heing uses rug pieces, plush and beads in accordance with rough stokes over the plates to create incubus of materialism and consumerism in today's society.

Other than drawings and paintings, Chai Heing also make art in the form of sculptures and videos out of her interest. She has exhibited in *No Berek* at Findars in 2009, *The Dialogue of Art* at Annexe Gallery in 2009, *Young and New* at HOM Art Trans in 2009, *Malaysian Vietnamese Contemporary* at Mutiara Gallery in 2010, Sasaran Art Festival in 2010, Asian Art Link at Cultural Centre of Phillipines in 2010, *Merapi Eruption* at HOM Art Trans in 2010, *Art Caged/ Uncaged* at Wei-Ling Contemporary in 2011, *What Is Your Porn* at Wei-Ling Gallery in 2011, *A Meter Diameter* at HOM Art Trans in 2013, *The Young Malaysian Artist* at Gallery Petronas in 2013, and *I Care* at KLSCAH in 2014.

Chai Heing was the First Prize Winner in Charcoal category of Tanjong Heritage Art Competition in 2008 and awarded a residency program in 2010 at HOM Art Trans. She held her first solo exhibition to showcase the 6-month long residency program after it. Chai Heing was also shortlisted as a finalist in MEAA 2014.



## **The Isolated Echo**

Oil, woodcut and collage on board 139 X 124 cm 2015

# GAN TEE SHENG

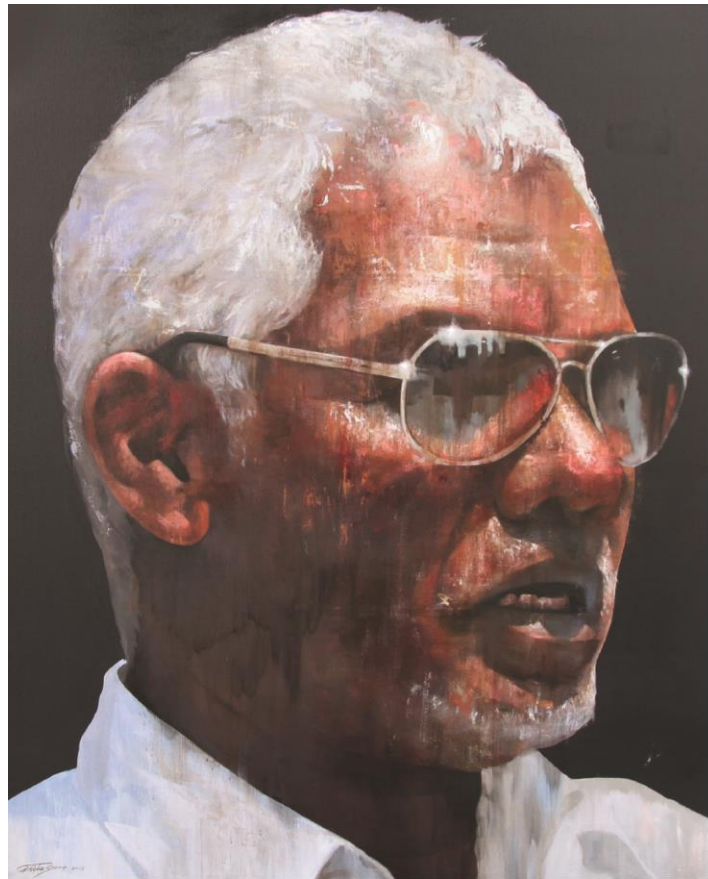
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Gan Tee Sheng (b. 1984, Johor) is a full time painter after he resigned from his post as a part-time lecturer at Dasein few years back. He took part in Fukuoka Asian Art Museum Artist Residency Program in 2014 and A-RES residency program at HOM Art Trans in 2013. His first solo exhibition *Withdrawn* was staged last year at Taksu Gallery in KL.

Tee Sheng is well known for his early works which was a series of dark eerie surreal whimsical paintings. He became more prominent after winning the UOB Painting of the Year Awards in 2013. Besides cash prizes, Tee Sheng was entitled to an exchange trip to Japan in the same year which has broaden his horizon and way of thinking.

He chooses human figures as his subject matter to portray the emotional expression hidden deep under oneself. In the recent years, Tee Sheng opposed his figures to empty backgrounds as intentionally allowing viewers to contemplate one's inner thoughts towards the group concerned and painted.

Throughout his experience and qualifications, Tee Sheng exhibited in *Bangun* at Lost Generation Space in 2008, *Young and New Part III* at HOM Art Trans in 2009, *Blank Page* at Wei-Ling Gallery in 2009, *Artiangle III* at National Visual Arts Gallery in 2010, *The Garden of Hidden Desires* at Wei-Ling Gallery in 2011, *The Malaysian Rice Plates Project* at KLCC in 2011, MEAA at White Box, Publika in 2011, *Duo: The Storyteller* at HOM Art Trans in 2013, *Figurative Trajectories* at G13 Gallery in 2013, *Transfiguration* at G13 Gallery in 2014 and *Catalyst* at HOM Art Trans in 2014.



**Elderly Drivers Potrait**

Oil on canvas 130x163cm 2015



**Father with Mother**

Oil on canvas 130x163cm 2015



# YIN YEN SUM

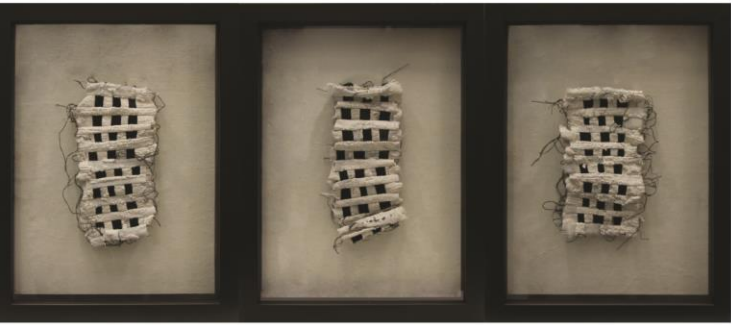


Yin Yen Sum (b. 1987, KL) graduated in the year of 2008 with a Diploma in Fine Arts. She has been assisting as a tutor for the printmaking studio since then and now become a lecturer for Printmaking in The One Academy of Art apart from continuing her career as an artist.

Creating arts in the form of 2D and 3D with objects that came across in her daily experience, often carries the meaning of love and care, Yen Sum loves repeating small unit of labor i.e. stitching, patching, sewing to form a huge set of works, because the whole structure will later allows people to speculate the time and effort behind the work and this is highly related to her concern - individuality, assemblage, connection and vitality.

Yen Sum has been invited to group exhibitions which set off from the woman society namely *I Care* at The Kuala Lumpur and Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall, *The Good Malaysian Woman* at Black Box @ Map, Publika, *Charity, Arts and Design Against Cancer* at National Cancer Society Malaysia last year.

In 2010 and 2011, Yen Sum participated in public projects such as The Pudu Art Festival organized by Lost Generation Space at Pudu, one of the oldest community areas for Chinese migrants in KL and *Multiplicity* at The Gardens KL. She was one of the artists for Sasaran International Artist Residency Program last year and won the Jury Award in Malaysia Young Contemporary Competition held by the National Visual Arts Gallery.



**Unknown II**

Emboss dye white on fabric, transfer print on canvas 33 x 25.5 cm (diptych) 2015



**Unknown I**

Emboss dye white on fabric, transfer print on canvas 144 x 94 cm 2015

# THAM YOKE IN

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Tham Yoke In (b. 1994, Johor) has freshly graduated with a Top Student Award in October 2014. She has been actively taking part in group exhibitions i.e. school tours and group shows in art galleries even before her graduation. These exhibitions included *Configurations* at G13 Gallery, *Catalyst* at HOM Art Trans, *Breaking Down The Wall* Special Exhibition at Art Expo last year.

Noticeable with her prominent achievement despite of her young age, Yuki has won a few art awards with her excellent skill in painting, for instance she was the prize winner for both year 2013 and 2014 for the Oil and Acrylic Category in Tanjong Heritage National Art Competition. In addition, Yuki won The Silver Award from the UOB Painting of The Year Award for year 2014.

With her dreamy color palette and gentle brushstroke, Yuki has never fails to create images of beautiful and sometimes, absent-minded young female figures, aiming to capture the daily life and state of mind where these teenage girls spending time in their private dens. Showing curiosity in human emotions and keen to explore more about human relationships in daily life are what Yuki is interested at the current stage.



## Loneliness

Oil on canvas 120 x 113 cm 2015



## Moment

Oil on canvas 100 x 150 cm 2015



0 is a virtual artist created by the artist itself especially for this exhibition. This incognito artist hid his own identities, in order to create more discussion back to the art work itself.

Contemporary arts today focus more on context and discourse, such as nationality, gender, age, medium, and etc., and less on the art work itself. This situation turns arts into text and discourse, and caused the absence of the artwork itself.

In fact, when artist created this work, he also created himself, creating a virtual artist is equal to creating an artwork.

"My Place and Your Place" based on the concept of Mimicry, the artwork mimicking the exhibition environment, similar with the tricks of natural, applying confusion to trick the authorities (art institutions). This is the survival strategy of artist.

According to the artist, the most important thing in contemporary art is the artist's attitude and approach.



**My Place and Your Place**

Inkjet print 18 X 24 cm for each photo, dimensions variable to installation 2015



Installation View - Space A



Installation View - Space B





## About G13 Gallery

G13 Gallery identifies and collaborates with the artists that show potential, relevance, and depth in their works. The gallery aspires to develop synergy between artists domestically and internationally, and it achieves this through cross-border collaborations, residences, and exhibitions.

G13 Gallery aims to realize a greater appreciation for Asian art, has been actively participating in multiple regional art fairs over the past few years.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.g13gallery.com](http://www.g13gallery.com)

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Published in conjunction with the exhibition :

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17th March – 31th March 2015

**Publisher**

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