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Activity Report January 2023

Visual Arts
Studies

(a) Teaching & Learning



Masters Mixed Mode students taking ROD7003 Malaysia Art course, taught by Dr. Roslina, restaged a seminal 1974 conceptual art exhibition at the Piyadasa Gallery in conjunction with the Masterclass on Exhibition History.

This restaging exhibition history workshop was first developed by Dr. Seng Yujin and Dr. Simon Soon and delivered at the October Gathering in Singapore in October 2022. The workshop introduced students to historical sources and documents connected to the 1974 exhibitions and invite them to recreate the exhibition to better understand the context in which the exhibition was first staged and how these ideas might still be relevant today.

For the Kuala Lumpur edition, we invited Dr. Sulaiman Esa, one of the two artists who produced the exhibition in 1974 and Dr. Seng Yujin, to provide feedback and comments to our students.



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(a) Teaching & Learning

3 PhD students have submitted their thesis for examination in January 2023

- Nur Amira
- Mohd Iqbal Badaruddin
- Dzul Afiq

3 MA (Mixed-mode) students have submitted their thesis for examination in January 2023

- Parisa Goodarzi
- Xu Yawei
- Fatimah Azzahra



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Congratulations to our MA and PhD Candidates!

(b) Internationalisation & Networking



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The poster has a dark blue background with a subtle grid pattern. At the top left is the Universiti Malaya logo. To its right, the text 'FAKULTI SENI KREATIF' and 'Faculty of Creative Arts' is written in a smaller font. The main title 'ENGAGING ART & HUMANITIES SERIES' is in large, bold, yellow letters, with a decorative ampersand. Below it, the subtitle 'Thinking About Exhibitions and Its Methods: Case Studies' is in white. A circular inset on the left shows a portrait of Dr. Seng Yu Jin. To the right of the portrait, his name and title are listed. Below that, the date, time, and venue are provided. At the bottom, there is a QR code and the text 'SCAN TO JOIN'. The background image shows the exterior of the Bilik Court building at Universiti Malaya.

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FAKULTI SENI KREATIF
Faculty of Creative Arts

ENGAGING ART & HUMANITIES SERIES

Thinking About Exhibitions and Its Methods: Case Studies

Masterclass by
Dr. Seng Yu Jin,
Senior Curator and Deputy Director
(Curatorial Research),
The National Gallery Singapore


Date : 4 January 2023 (Wednesday)
Time : 2.00PM-5.00PM
Venue: Bilik Court, Faculty of Creative Arts,
Universiti Malaya

DEWAN TUNKU JALIELLA

SCAN TO JOIN

Dr. Seng Yujin, Senior Curator and Deputy Director (Curatorial Research) of The National Gallery Singapore, visited Universiti Malaya together with his team members from the Curatorial Programmes department of National Gallery Singapore. Dr. Seng delivered a Masterclass on Exhibition Histories to our VA students on at Bilik Court on 4 January 2023.

(b) Internationalisation & Networking



Invitation to MAP's AGM Your officially registered imaging community with ROS is here to serve everyone!

OPEN TO ALL PHOTOGRAPHY ENTHUSIASTS NATIONWIDE

PERKALIAN PAKSEL Malaysia
Pakar, Pengamal, Senang, Sembang

In collaboration with MAIC (School of Creative Media & Technology) MAHSA Avenue International College

Kim Boon
My Journey of Learning to See the Extraordinary from the Ordinary

Photo Talks at 10am

Dr Simon Soon
Au Phin Chen: A Female Proprietress of an Early 20th century Penang Photo Studio

8 January 2023
Sunday, 11.00am
MAHSA Avenue International College
Block A, Level 4
Jalan Ilmu, Off Jalan Professor DiRaja Ungku Aziz,
59100 Kuala Lumpur.

Dr. Simon Soon gave a talk on 'Au Phin Chan: Proprietress of an Early 20th Century Penang Photo Studio' on 8 January 2023 at the Annual General Meeting of Malaysian Pixel, an organisation for photographers in Malaysia, of which Dr. Simon is on the board of advisors.



ASIA ART ARCHIVE PROGRAMMES | Q MENU

PROGRAMMES

INTER-ARCHIVES CONVERSATIONS | ARCHIVES AS SITES FOR COLLECTIVE MEANING-MAKING



How can archives hold collective histories? Can archive-building be a collective process? This conversation brings together members of Malaysia Design Archive (Malaysia) and Northeast Lightbox (India) to discuss the necessity of working with communities across disciplines and knowledge systems in order to narrate the nuanced histories of their contexts.

Jac sm Kee, Ezrena Marwan, and Simon Soon of [Malaysia Design Archive](#) discuss their project to map the development of graphic design in Malaysia, from the period before independence (1957) to the present. They emphasise their efforts to build resources and a space to share histories and vocabularies that challenge dominant state and colonial narratives.

Devadeep Gupta, Hrishikesh Chowdhury, and Anidrita Salkia of [Northeast Lightbox](#) discuss their work to map the history of graphic design in India.

SHARE

DATE AND TIME
Wed, 18 Jan 2023
7:00-8:45pm HKT (5-6:15pm IST)

LEVEL
Zoom

PROGRAMME TYPE
Talk



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Dr. Simon Soon was part of a panel discussion on 'Archives as Sites for Collective Meaning-Making' organised by Asia Art Archive Hong Kong and Asia Art Archive India. The panel featured members of Malaysia Design Archive and Northeast Lightbox. Dr. Soon discussed how archival work complements and supports his scholarship and research as an academic.

(c) Award & Stewardship

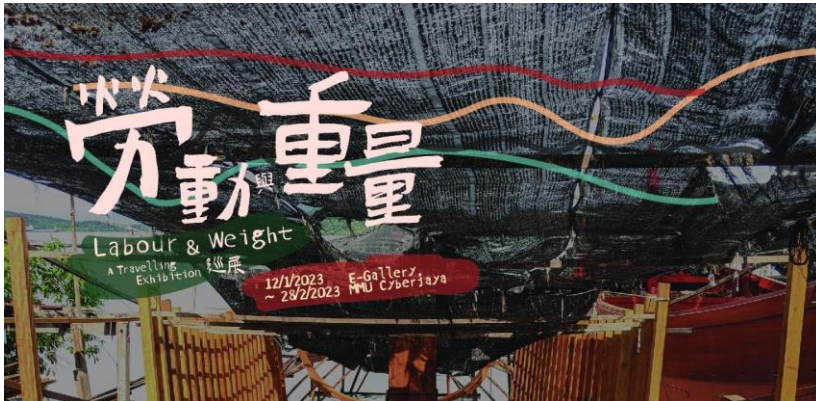


Our MA (Mixed-mode) student Shivaani Tarmothran has been appointed as a local research contact to assist a team of researchers from the Gestaltungslehre and Design Institute at the Technical University of Vienna, in their exploration of the Thaipusam Celebrations at Batu Caves in Feb 2023 as part of a larger project titled 'Wonders of the Modern World', a research initiative that attempt to assemble a first provisional atlas of 'ritualistic landscapes' of the contemporary world. She will be helping out with planning, translation and logistics during their time here.

For more info: <https://gestaltungslehre.tuwien.ac.at/>



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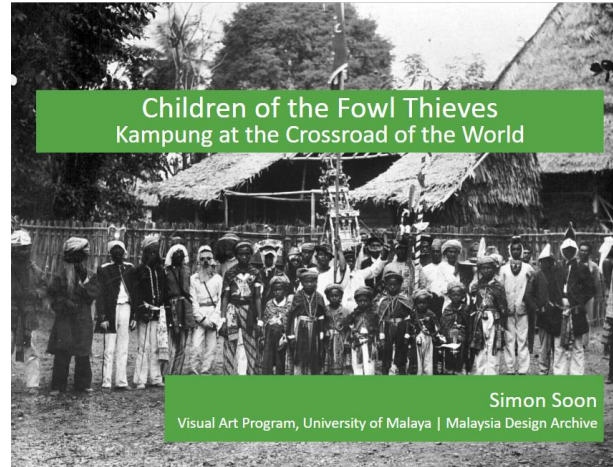
Our MA (Mixed-mode) student Okui Lala participates in a group exhibition Labour & Weight, a travelling exhibition that was held at the Malaysia Multimedia University's MMU Gallery. The exhibition showcase the artists' site specific and community engagement activities in Pulau Pangkor. Other participating artists are Lee Mok Yee, Yeo Lyle and Cheng Gaik. 12 Jan - 28 Feb 2023.

https://issuu.com/leemokyee/docs/exhibition_brochure_issuu_version

(d) Recognition & Professional Services



Dr. Roslina Ismail performed her jury duty as chairman for Akademi Sains Malaysia ArtScience Prize 2022. This biennial prize is the first to be established in Malaysia in response to the emergence of the artist-scientist community. The participants can explore limitless interpretations of the theme, starting from gigantic, to microscopical details of the subject matter.



Dr. Simon Soon delivered an online lecture on Thursday 26 January 2023 to students taking the course '19th Century Southeast Asian Art: Interactions and Refractions' at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore's art history programme.

The week's topic is: Artistic and architectural exchanges with South Asia, East Asia, and the Islamic world



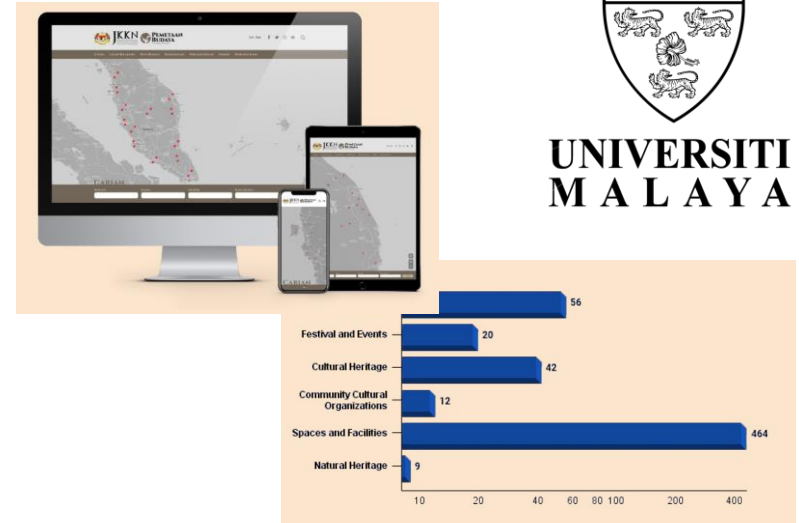
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(e) Research & Publication

Dr. Wang Jiabao's and Dr. Roslina Ismail's proposals developed during the Faculty's FRGS proposal writing workshop, were two out of eight proposals selected for further development and recommended for the FRGS grant submission.

FRGS2023 Proposal No. 1 - **'The Vernacular Memories of the Chinese Diaspora in Locally Initiated Community Museums, Heritage Centres, and Tourist Destinations in Malaysia'** by Dr. Wang Jia Bao

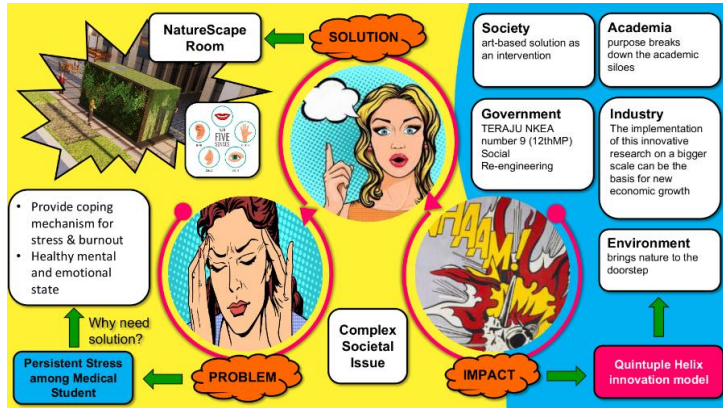
FRGS2023 Proposal No. 2 - **'Safeguarding Traditional Knowledge Towards Enhancing Collectivism of Malayness in the East Coast and West Coast of Peninsular Malaysia'** by Dr. Roslina Ismail



Dr. Roslina completed her 2022 Cultural Mapping project 2022 with JKKN. The project produced a GIS map to establish baseline information on cultural resources in Malaysia along six categories such as: creative cultural industries, festival and events, cultural heritage, community cultural organisations, spaces and facilities, natural heritage. Cultural locations are mapped out to better understand their geographical distribution and spatial relations to one another, contributing to strategic planning and policy development.

<https://pemetaanbudaya.jkkn.gov.my/>

(e) Research & Publication



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Dr. Roslina Ismail embarks on her IIRG project offering an art-based solution to address the persistent stress amongst Medical student. The research will result in the building of a multisensory installation, called a NatureScape Room, that provides coping mechanism for highly stressed students. Dr. Roslina is in the process of hiring RAs, obtaining quotation and applying for UMREC ethics, sourcing materials for the artwork. Her team is planning for fieldwork in June 2023

Dr. Simon Soon joined a Aalto University funded research trip led by Dr. Lucy Davis to explore the myth and stories of crocodiles in Taiping, Perak The trip also included post rock band The Observatory, curator from Asian Civilizations Museum Singapore, artists, folklorists, and a natural scientist. Itinerary included a tour of a newly discovered cave painting site close to Ipoh introduced by Dr. Saw from USM's Archaeological Centre, the Perak Museum in Taiping, the wetlands of Kuala Sepetang, etc. The research will result in an exhibition at NUS Museum in the future. Dr. Soon is invited to participate in a future joint-institutional application for further funding.

(f) Others



KONTRA: KAMAL NAWIE x SORFINA ZULAIKHA

Curated by Iqbal Badaruddin, VA PhD candidate

30 Jan - 17 February 2023

Piyadasa Gallery, Faculty of Creative Arts, UM

ART EXHIBITION

KONTRA

KAMAL NAWIE X SORFINA ZULAIKHA

Curated By : Iqbal Badaruddin

Opening Reception: 28 January 2023 (Saturday)

Time: 2.00 p.m - 4.00 p.m

Venue: Piyadasa Gallery, Faculty of Creative Arts, University Malaya

17 February 2023 Monday - Friday
9.00 a.m - 4.00 p.m

Exhibition Until *Exhibition Opening Hours*

For Any Inquiry: ☎ 019 978 0623 (Iqbal) ☎ 011 3548 9409 (Mira)



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(f) Others



Brown Bag 2022/2023 Semester 1.
4 film screenings (introduced by Raja Farah, Okui Lala, William Tham and Lim Jit Jean)

5 sharing sessions with a total of 8 speakers (William Tham, Daffy Wang, Elnaz Rostami, Ali Alasri, Mahen Bala and Lim Han Choong, Dr. Ha Sangwoo and Dr. Marzelan Salleh)

All Welcome!

Arts + Humanities Brown Bag 2022/2023 Semester 1

20 Oct	Research sharing	William Tham on 'Autobiography and National Identity' and Daffy Wang 'Pan Yu Liang's Gendered Space'
27 Oct	Movie + Discussion	Rasa dan Asa Documentary directed by Nasriah & Okui Lala (introduced by Okui Lala)
3 Nov	-	-
10 Nov	Movie + Discussion	The Reader by Stephen Daldry (introduced by Raja Farah)
17 Nov	Research sharing	Elnaz Rostami on 'Faceless Women and Hashtag as a Meaning of Self in Iranian Visual Culture' and Ali Alasri on 'Making Art during the Pandemic'
24 Nov	Movie + Discussion	To Singapore, With Love by Tan Pin Pin (introduced by William Tham)
1 Dec	Convocation	-
8 Dec	Semester BREAK	-
15 Dec	Convocation	-
22 Dec	Research sharing	Dr. Sang Woo Ha on 'Cultural Opening and Global Communication: K-pop dance cover by Malaysian Youth'
29 Dec	Movie + Discussion	The Spirit of the Beehive by Victor Erice (introduced by Lim Jit Jean)
5 Jan	Research sharing	Mahen Bala on 'Ulek Mayang' and Lim Han Choong on 'Chinese Funerary Practices'
12 Jan	-	-
19 Jan	Research sharing	Dr. Marzelan Salleh on 'Nada Nusantara in Bristol'
26 Jan	-	-

Venue: Piyadasa Gallery
Faculty of Creative Arts
Universiti Malaysia

Time: 5PM - 7PM
Every Thursday
during Semester

Google Meet:
<https://meet.google.com/kma-bjix-qqr>



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Thank you to
all presenters!



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