

IMAGINE NATION

Art Exhibition

"Imagine Nation" Art Exhibition takes its theme from Benedict Anderson's 1983 book "Imagined Communities" which proposes that a nation is an imagined entity formed by the collective consciousness and social constructed of its people. Nation, still the process to an uncertainty of change as the politic situation in Malaysia. The emerge of nationalist art do provide some conceptual approach to help explore about recognition of identities but it still facing a lots of constraint due to the politics and culture policy. However, art remains an essential element in projecting a nation's soft power and ideology, perhaps gradually evoke new wave of culture and hybridity in art forms. Through explore various aspects of Malaysian art history, particularly in the context of the prevalence of technology and the internet, which have facilitated deeper exploration and intertextuality across different media, and what is the new challenge of art in this era?

To understand the context of Malaysian art, it is necessary to break free from Western frameworks of thought and adopt a more open mindset, allowing us to observe the evolving process and the perspectives formed under different temporal catalysts. The hybridity of culture has long been the norm, and rather than attempting to establish a "orthodoxy Malaysian art" framework and fitting art into it, continuing to maintain critical thinking and fostering a culture of ongoing creation will be essential for the advancement of Malaysian art. In other word, Malaysia Art interpretations still both solid and fluid, relying on the consensus of its people to shape its temporary identity. In this art exhibition, we draw upon this notion and invite creators from different regions to imagine Malaysia's art through research and examined the subject from observation in Malaysia.

From four different topics, we try to find the past and present state of Malaysian art, and through these process, we continue to question and discover possibility of Malaysian Art in the "Imagine Nation", we hope that such questions can encourage the audience to see self as a process but not product of nation.

Curator
Yee Yun Ping

KUALA LUMPUR RHAPSODY

YEE YUN PING, SUN JIALIANG, WANG XUEYUAN, MAZIAH TARMIDI

Create a series of paintings response to Kuala Lumpur urban issues with humour and funny perspective.

NANYANG ART: A BRIDGE TO SHAPE MALAYSIA'S CULTURE IDENTITY

LIYICHEN, XUYUANHANG, JIJING, JIANGYUCHI, ZHAOMIN

Create an articles with argument of Nanyang art is a way for Malaysian Chinese to re-construct their own identity recognition in Malaysia through analysing the artwork of Cheong Soo Pieng.

GREEN: RAINFOREST PROTECTION

CHEN HONGYUAN, QIN YUANRUI, FANG XIAOYUN

Installation art of homage to Malaysian environmentalist artist Ahmad Shukri Mohamed who actively involve in the art making of environmental protection and rainforest protection issues.

VOXEL MALAYSIA—OCEAN

XU SHUYUAN , YANG QINGQING , LI YIHENG , LIU GELIN , ZHANG YING

Create a series of voxel artwork to express the marine pollution faced by Malaysia to arouse people's awareness of marine protection in Malaysia.

