ARTAS galeri

Kayangan



Solo exhibition: Raduan Man

36-3, Jalan PJU 5/20D, Kota Damansara, 47810 Petaling Jaya

Kayangan Raduan Man,

Vivid textures mastered from years as a woodcut artist. An artistic soul inherited from a bloodline of wood carvers and boat builders. Colours on canvas that captivate at first sight. Raduan Man's art is poised, self-assured and prolific.

Kayangan (Malay for "abode of gods") is Raduan's tenth solo exhibition in a career of twenty years. The exhibition name is a gesture to the sense of elevation and profound exploration that characterises his experience when working on his art.

"When painting, I always feel lifted above the sky, painting love, and my world," he says when deliberating on the name he chose.

Many of the works are infused with notions of the regal and feminine, bearing titles such as "Puteri Raja" and "Mimpi Puteri." They reflect Raduan's conscious decision to explore different veins in his body of work. A focus on Malay legends moves away from a previous emphasis on his natural surroundings.

There is also a spirit of wresting personal freedoms. He's done his time as an art student in Malaysia and the United Kingdom, receiving guidance and advice by others in an environment that emphasised particular methods and processes.

Now, he lives for different things.

"Now's the time to fulfil my own satisfaction. To express and enjoy myself. Am I enjoying myself? I told myself by the time I turned 40, I wanted to do art only because I enjoyed it."

Thinking back on his first exhibition in 2001, Raduan recalls being on a search for identity. Now, he wants to simply be himself.

"Making art is not a command. The only dictates I need to abide by are ones that come from within."

Kayangan features works created in the past year, a time when he used enforced solitude to dwell in his very soul, his "jiwa seni" as he calls it.

"I was in my studio all of 2020. It was a great time for me to focus on painting," shares Raduan.

His two-storey studio in Shah Alam is his sanctuary, a space where paintings rest against paintings and every inch of wall is covered in art. The sight of his studio, located in a row of shops, tells any visitor that this is a place where art is made, and art is lived.

"I asked you to visit, because that's the only way you can get a sense of who I am. Now you see that I'm a serious artist!" he quips with a laugh.

What stands out in interactions with Raduan is how adamant he is on being true to himself, a freedom he extends to his audience. He is very clear on why he makes art and what art means to him, but there is iron grip insistence to not be didactic or prescriptive on how it should be understood.

"I want visitors to enjoy the art. I desire beauty in my art, of course. But I don't want my audience to have any notion that they need to dissect or think about any deeper layers to uncover what I am supposedly conveying. As an artist, I'm capturing the memories from a time, and there's no need to attach an overly varnished or curated story to draw attention to my works."

A family man with four children, Raduan's career has taken him on solo shows in Malaysia, Taiwan and Korea. There have been inflexion points, such as a move from an acclaimed career in woodcut and figurative art, to abstractive art.

When an offer came from Sotheby's to represent him in the international art market, Raduan took it on, regardless how nervous and unprepared he felt for the opportunity at the time.

"I see my art as my children. I must tend to it with love and using the best materials, and do the best I can for it."

In Raduan Man, we see that art is a pursuit so divine.

Raduan Man, 1978



Education

- 2006 MA (Printmaking), Camberwell College of Arts, University of the Arts London
- 2003 MA (Painting), University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom Bachelor of Fine Art (Printmaking) with Honours, MARA
- 2001 University of Technology
- 2000 Bachelor of Design (Fine Art), MARA University of Technology

Awards

- 2006 Pahang State Foundation Scholarship Master in Fine Art (Printmaking), Camberwell College of Arts, University of the Arts London
- 2002 Pahang Sate Foundation Scholarship Master in Fine Art (Painting), University of Woverhampton, United Kingdom
- 2001 Dean's List, MARA University of Technology Juror's Award, Tanjung Heritage Art Competition
- 2000 Dean's List, MARA University of Technology

...one of the rare skilfull and dedicative young malaysian artist among his generation to watch. His active, prolific, never stop involvement in the art scene since his graduation from UiTM (Universiti Teknology MARA), shows his firm determination in pursuing his career as an artist, the acceptance from public/collectors in every art auctions is part of his long art testimony and success.

AWANG DAMIT AHMAD 27.04.2021

























Kayangan 1 - 12 Oil on Canvas 2020-21



Taman Puteri II

Oil on Canvas 90 X 45CM 2021



Pasu Puteri II

Oil on Canvas 90 X 45CM 2021



Kantan Taman Raja Oil on Canvas 90 X 45CM

2021



Taman Puteri

Oil on Canvas 90 X 45CM 2021



Putera Raja Oil on Canvas 76 X 101CM 2021



Oil on Canvas 50 X 61CM 2021



Bunga Larangan Oil on Canvas 90 X 60CM 2021



Bunga Oil on Canvas 76 X 50CM 2021



Puteri Mandi Malam II Oil on Canvas 120 X 120CM 2021



Gunung Puteri Ledang III Oil on Canvas 90 X 45CM 2021



Gunung Puteri Ledang IV Oil on Canvas 90 X 45CM

2021



Cinta Si Puteri

Oil on Canvas 76 *X* 50*CM* 2021



Si Jantung Hati Oil on Canvas 76 X 50CM 2021



Taman Raja Oil on Canvas 76 X 50CM 2021



Sidang Kayangan

Oil on Canvas 76 X 50CM 2021



Rindu Malam

Oil on Canvas 50 X 61CM 2021



Che Siti Wan Kembang II Oil on Canvas 90 X 90CM

2021



Sanggul Bunga Tanjung Oil on Canvas 90 X 90CM

2021

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