

ARTAS
galeri

ARTISTIC AFFAIR

a DUO show by

Kim Ng &
Liu Cheng Hua



17th September
2pm

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

Professor Zulkifli Yusoff



ARTISTIC AFFAIR

a duo show by Kim Ng and Liu Cheng Hua

ARTISTIC AFFAIR beckons you into a captivating world where artistic mastery and cultural symbolism converge. In this exhibition, ARTAS Galeri presents the remarkable works of two visionary artists, Kim Ng and Liu Cheng Hua, whose creations illuminate the profound connections between art and culture.

Liu Cheng Hua's "**Synergy Series**" celebrates Malaysia's ubiquitous national flower, the Hibiscus Rosa-Sinensis or Bunga Raya, as a powerful symbol of unity, strength, and resilience. Through meticulous craftsmanship, Liu masterfully transforms the colors of the Malaysian flag into vibrant, pop-inspired palettes, fashioning each Hibiscus as a unique masterpiece. These artworks invite you to explore the layers of symbolism within the Bunga Raya, a testament to Malaysia's rich tapestry of identity. As you engage with Liu's work, you'll discover how unity flourishes amidst diversity, echoing the harmonious spirit that defines the nation.

Kim Ng's "**In A World of Mist**" takes you on an exhilarating journey through the dichotomy of order and chaos. Kim Ng's innovative approach to mixed media, combining silkscreen printing and printed materials, invites you to contemplate the complexities of our modern world. With local street maps as his canvas, he dissects, rearranges, and distorts these symbols of structure and guidance, offering a profound commentary on the fragility of established systems. Kim's work is an exploration of a post-truth era, where boundaries blur, and truths become elusive. Through the fusion of maps and collage, he challenges you to find meaning within the chaos.

ARTISTIC AFFAIR entices you into an immersive and transformative dialogue with two extraordinary artists. This exhibition is a profound celebration of the intricate interplay between art and culture, inviting you to embark on a journey where the beauty of unity and the allure of diversity are revealed in their full splendor. Within these artworks, you'll find a potent illumination of the world's multifaceted complexities, guided by the unifying force of art.

Join us on this mesmerizing voyage through the captivating realms of Kim Ng and Liu Cheng Hua, where art transcends its canvas and becomes a transcendent bridge to understanding. As you explore their creations, you'll uncover the essence of shared humanity, celebrated in every stroke and hue. This duo show is not merely an exhibition; it's a testament to the indomitable spirit of Malaysia, where art serves as a timeless beacon, lighting the way to unity, diversity, and boundless cultural richness.

by Ivan Gabriel

KIM NG: In A World of Mist



Kim Ng, a multi-disciplinary artist, embarks on an unconventional artistic journey by embracing an innovative approach to mixed media. He deftly employs silkscreen printing and printed materials as his primary mediums to craft intricate collages, masterfully merging canvas and paper-mache structures. These works are more than visually captivating; they resonate deeply, provoking profound contemplation. Yet, what sets Kim Ng apart in the realm of contemporary art is his unique wellspring of inspiration: local street maps. The act of physically cutting, tearing, and layering these materials onto the canvas becomes a profound symbolic act in Kim Ng's work, portraying how our understanding of reality is constructed from a multitude of sources.

Kim Ng's creative process harmoniously fuses meticulous planning and spontaneous improvisation. He begins by painstakingly selecting street maps from three significant cities: his hometown of Ipoh in Perak, the bustling metropolis of Kuala Lumpur in Wilayah Persekutuan, and the serene enclave of Kluang in Johor, each map carefully chosen to resonate with his intended themes. These maps form the foundational layer of his collages, symbolizing the established order underlying our societies. The juxtaposition of diverse printed materials further hints at the multifaceted nature of perspectives and narratives that shape our understanding of events. Among Kim Ng's most remarkable achievements is his ability to infuse his art with a profound sense of unity despite the inherent diversity of his materials.

What truly makes Kim Ng's work distinguishable is his skillful exploration of the intricate interplay between order and chaos. Street maps, once symbols of structured navigation, now serve as potent metaphors for the fragility of established systems in the face of rapid change. Kim Ng's collages boldly depict these maps torn, rearranged, and distorted, visually symbolizing the disruption that social and political phenomena introduce into our lives. These maps, simultaneously representing physical and metaphorical boundaries, become vehicles for transcending conventional thinking, reflecting our collective yearning to explore fresh perspectives. Kim Ng's work emerges as a poignant commentary on the disorientation that characterizes our times, capturing the tumultuous atmosphere of a world awash with conflicting narratives and ideologies, where the very foundations of our understanding seem to be unraveling. In fusing the visual language of maps with the unbridled energy of collage, Kim Ng offers a powerful visual representation of the post-truth era.

KIM NG

EDUCATION

2000-2002 • MA by Project, London Metropolitan University, London, UK
2000 • Teacher Training, Kensington & Chelsea College, London, UK
1996-1997 • MA Design & Media Art, University of Westminster, London, UK
1992-1996 • BA (1st hon) Fine Art, London Guildhall University, London, UK
1986-1989 • Diploma in Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur College Of Art, KL, Malaysia

AWARDS

2023 • PULSE AWARDS Thailand. First prize – Sculpture category
1996 • Owen Rowley Prize, 1st prize, London, UK
1997 • John Purcell Paper Award, London, UK Galleries Magazine Award Highly Commended, London, UK

PUBLIC COLLECTION

Banyan Hotel, Kuala Lumpur
OCBC Bank Malaysia
Bank Negara Malaysia
Chongqing Municipal Museum, China
The Aliya and Farouk Khan Collection, Malaysia
Providore, Malaysia
Park Royal Hotel, Malaysia
Tractors Malaysia, Sim Darby Group
Barclays Bank Singapore
Summerset Hotel, Ampang, Malaysia
Private collectors

Kim Ng



Reconstructed Perspective

Mixed Media

106.8cm x 132cm

2023

RM 11,900



Urban Chaos
Mixed Media
97cm x107.5cm
2023
RM 8,600



Layers of Disorientation

Mixed Media

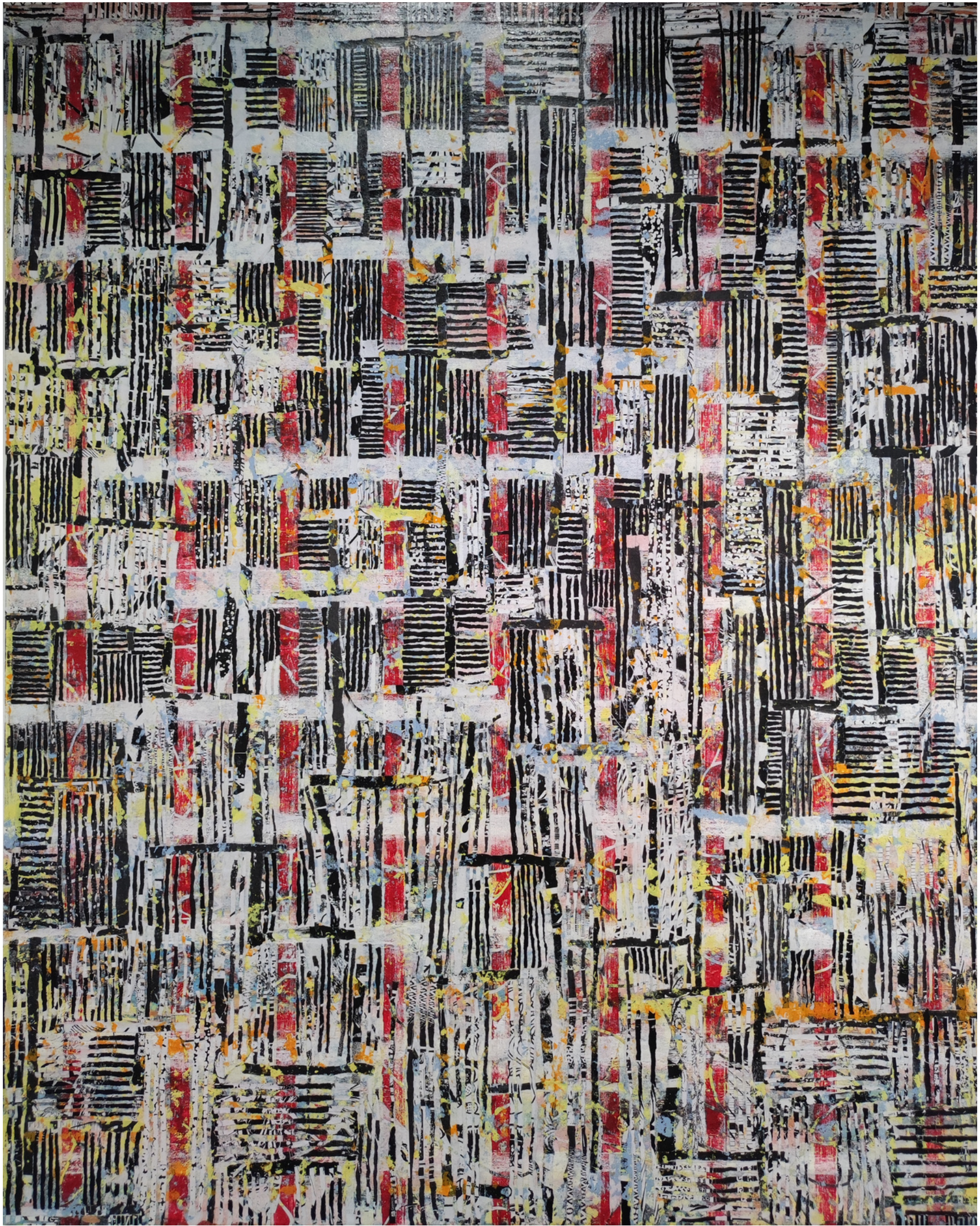
128cm x 97cm

2023

RM 10,500



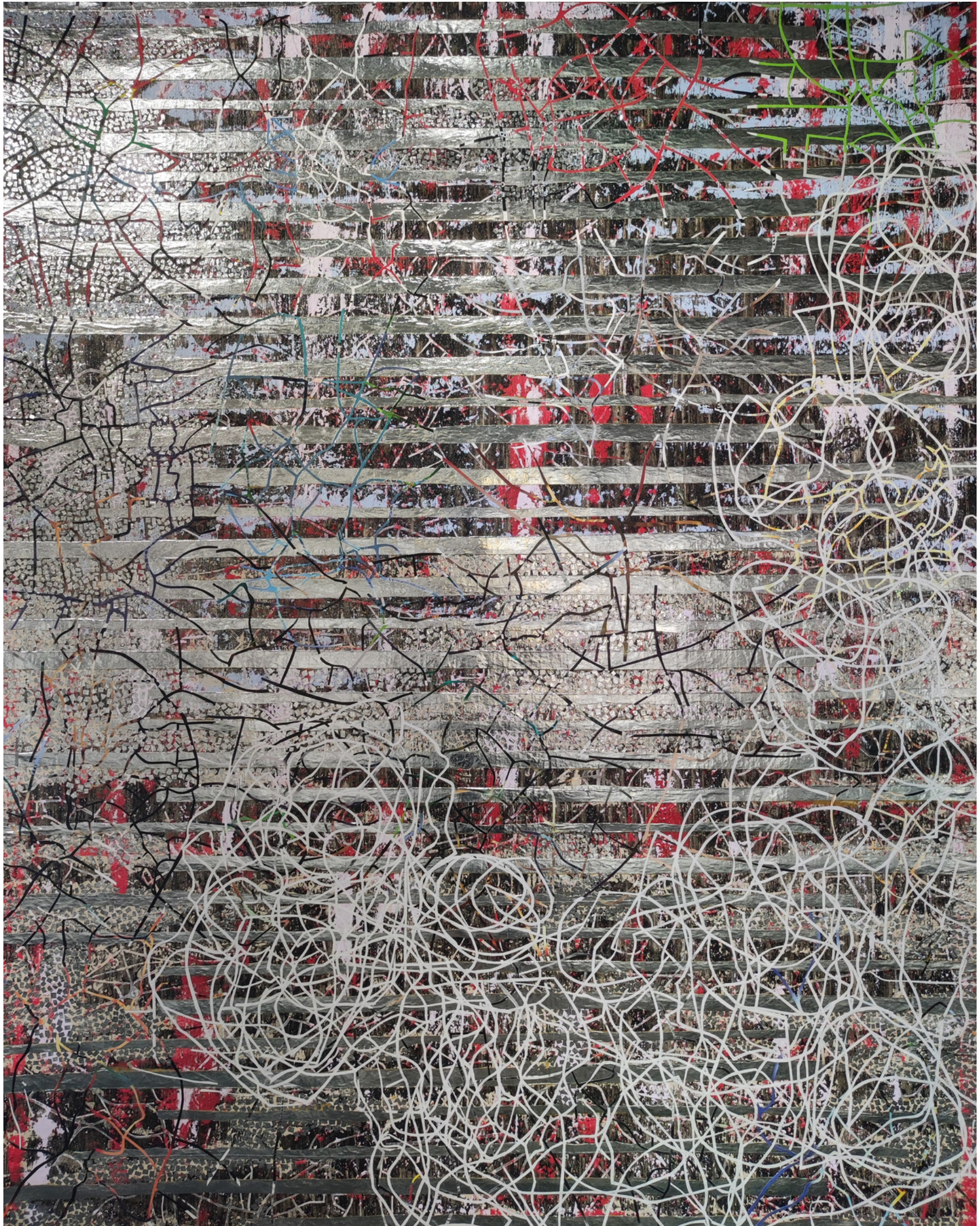
Confluence of Chaos and Order
Mixed Media
150cm x 110cm
2023
RM 14,000



Metropolis Mosaic
Mixed Media
132cm x106cm
2023
RM 11,800



Maps of Metaphorical Journey
Mixed Media
105.8cm x 131cm
2023
RM 11,700



Stitching Chaos
Mixed Media
161.8cm x 128.5cm
2023
RM 17,600

Side view



Main view



Biomorphic Confluence I
Printed aluminum foil collage on paper structure
38cm x 44cm x 30cm
2023
RM 7,700



Main view



Side view



Biomorphic Confluence II
Printed aluminum foil collage on paper structure
47cm x 27cm x 29cm
2023
RM 7,700



Main view

Biomorphic Confluence mml II
Printed aluminum foil collage on paper structure
37.5cm x 43.5cm x 29cm
2023
RM 7,700



Side view





Side view

Biomorphic Confluence IV
Printed aluminum foil collage on paper structure
39.4cm x 27.4cm x 40.5cm
2023
RM 7,700



Main view

LIU CHENG HUA : Synergy Series



Liu Cheng Hua's Synergy Series draws profound inspiration from Malaysia's national flower, the Hibiscus Rosa-Sinensis, affectionately known as the Bunga Raya in Malay. The Bunga Raya carries immense cultural and symbolic weight in Malaysia, having been chosen as the national flower for its multifaceted significance. Embodying values such as Unity, Strength, Resilience, Natural Beauty, Traditional Heritage, and Patriotism, the Bunga Raya stands as a testament to the rich tapestry of Malaysian identity.

The word "Raya" in Bunga Raya translates to "happening" or "celebration" in the Malay language, and the flower's five petals symbolize the five pillars of the nation, encapsulated in the Rukun Negara. Beyond its numerical symbolism, the Bunga Raya epitomizes the unity amidst diversity that characterizes Malaysia. In a nation known for its multi-ethnic and multicultural composition, the vibrant and colorful petals of the Hibiscus reflect the convergence of diverse races, cultures, and backgrounds to craft a harmonious and inclusive society. Moreover, the resilience and hardiness of the Hibiscus mirror the tenacity of the Malaysian people in surmounting challenges and adversities.

In the Synergy Series, Liu Cheng Hua masterfully incorporates the colors of the Malaysian flag – red, yellow, blue, and black – which are creatively transformed into a pop palette of pink, dark red, light blue, dark blue, orange, peach, brown, grey, light grey, dark grey, and yellow. Each individual Bunga Raya in the series is meticulously handcrafted by the artist, fashioned from metal, and affixed to a wooden panel. Liu further enriches the panels with his written narratives, delving into the history and profound meanings associated with the Bunga Raya. Notably, each Hibiscus is rendered in a pristine white hue, signifying purity and cleanliness while establishing a contemporary visual dimension. Through the Synergy Series, Liu Cheng Hua invites viewers to explore the layered symbolism of the Bunga Raya in a unique fusion of artistry and cultural heritage.

LIU CHENG HUA

EDUCATION AND AWARDS

2018 • Present Candidate, Doctorate of Creative Art, ASWARA

2010-2013 • Master of Art Education, UPSI

2005-2009 • Bachelor of Art Education, UPSI

AWARDS

2008

- 1st Runner-up 'The One' Sculpture Competition
- Consolation (Open Category) MRCB Anugerah Seni

2009

- 1st Prize 'Hot Art' Competition
- Incentive Award, Shah Alam Gallery Open Show
- Consolation, Pertandingan Seni Tampak Terbuka Johor

2010 • Top 10, Fighting AIDS with Arts Malaysia

2012

- Consolation "Piala Seri Endon 2012, (Handicraft Category)
- Winner, Ikon Varsiti Berita Harian 2012

2013 • Creative Design Category- LaRoot Exhibition

2014 • Collective Award, Biancoscuro Art Magazine, Pavia, Italy

2019

- Honorable Mention, Awagami International Miniature Print Exhibition, Japan
- Honorable Mention, 7th NBC MESHTECH Tokyo International Screen Print Biennial

PUBLIC COLLECTION

National Art Gallery (Malaysia)

Consulate General of Malaysia

Museum of Young Art (Austria)

Galeri Seni Johor (Malaysia)

Private collectors



Synergy 1

Metal, wood, embossed dye, and aerosol paint

62cm x 62cm

2023

RM 3,300



Synergy 2

Metal, wood, embossed dye, and aerosol paint

62cm x 62cm

2023

RM 3,300



Synergy 3

Metal, wood, embossed dye, and aerosol paint

62cm x 62cm

2023

RM 3,300



Synergy 4

Metal, wood, embossed dye, and aerosol paint

62cm x 62cm

2023

RM 3,300



Synergy 5

Metal, wood, embossed dye, and aerosol paint

62cm x 62cm

2023

RM 3,300



Synergy 6

Metal, wood, embossed dye, and aerosol paint

62cm x 62cm

2023

RM 3,300



Synergy 7

Metal, wood, embossed dye, and aerosol paint

62cm x 62cm

2023

RM 3,300



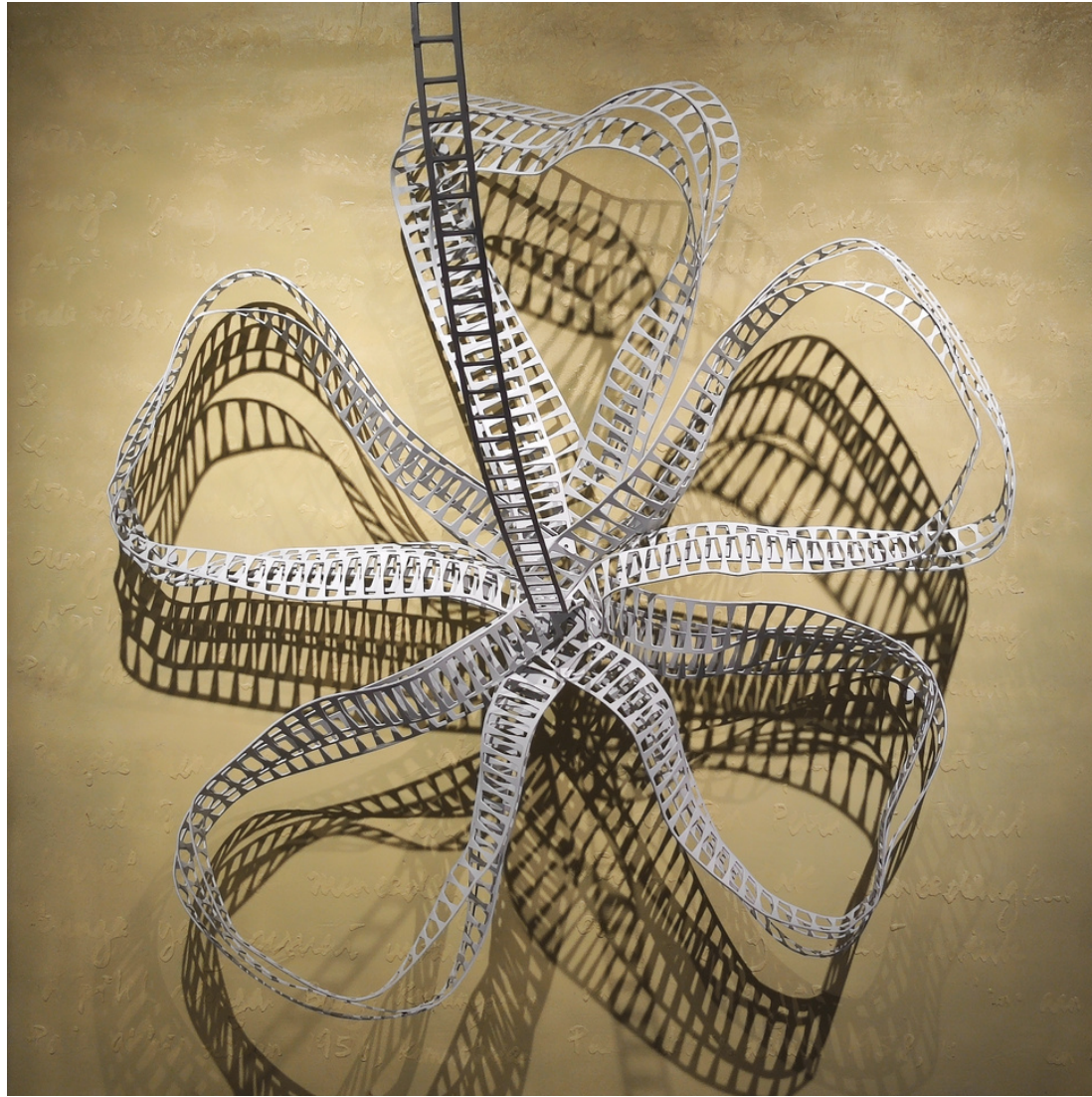
Synergy 8

Metal, wood, embossed dye, and aerosol paint

62cm x 62cm

2023

RM 3,300



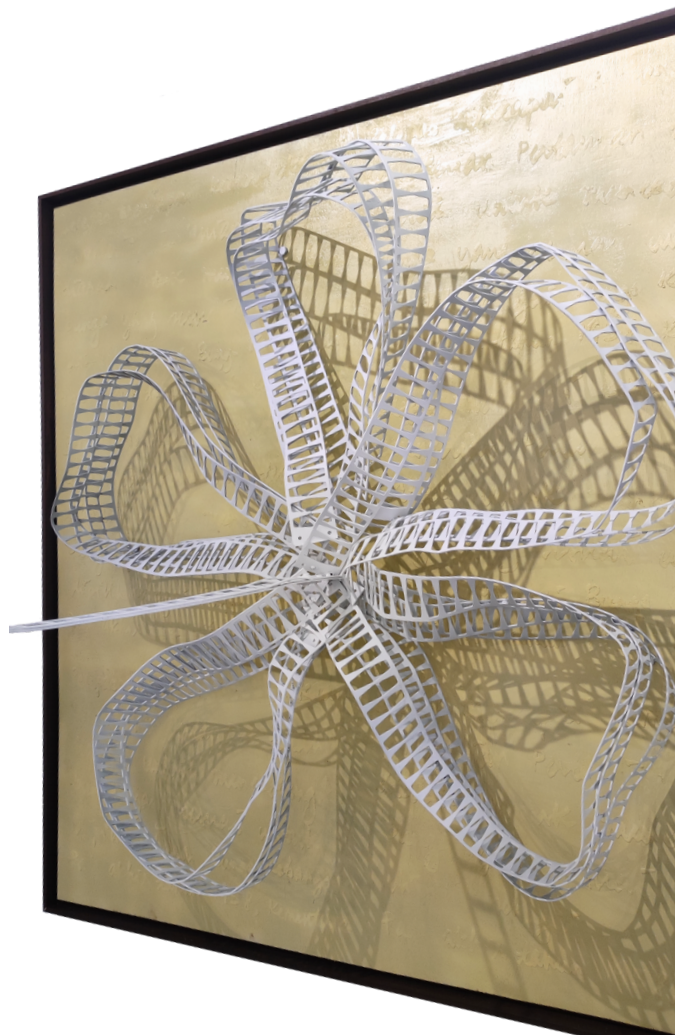
Synergy 9

Metal, wood, embossed dye, and aerosol paint

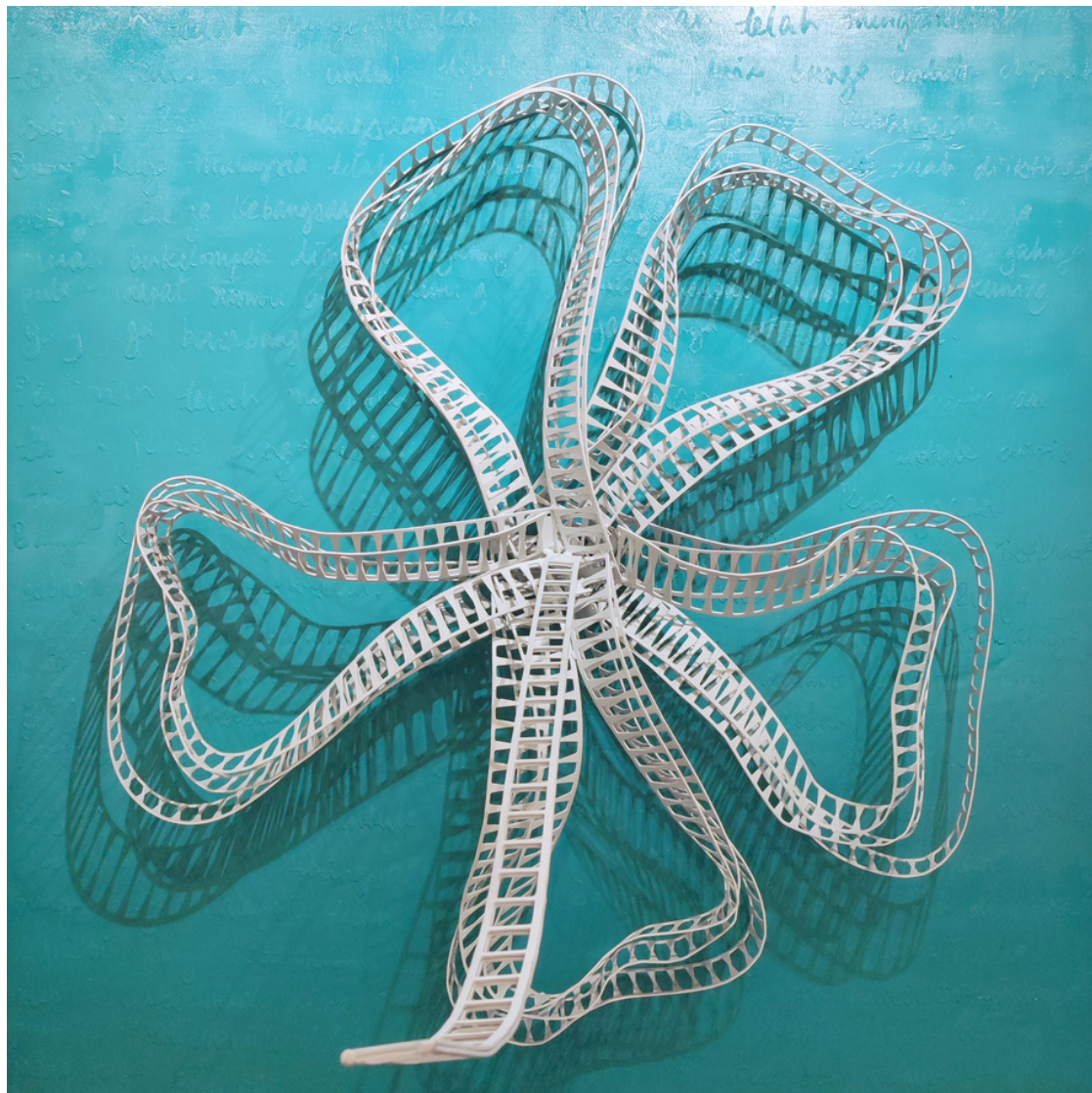
122cm x 122cm

2023

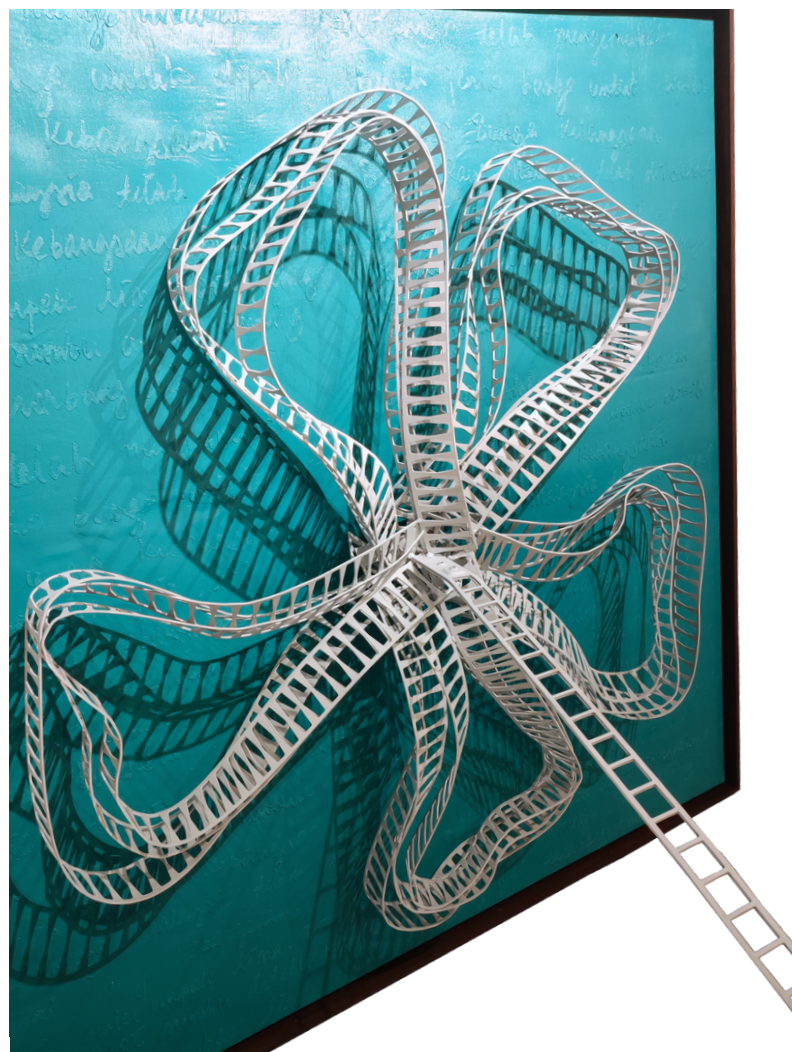
Rm11,200



Angle view



Synergy 10
Metal, wood, embossed dye, and aerosol paint
122cm x 122cm
2023
Rm11,200



Angle view

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

“I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to my wife, family, MIA, Roy Ng, Marc Kuan and all the individuals and art collectors whose support and contributions have made this “Artistic Affairs” exhibition a success. I also would like to thank my mentor, Professor Zulkifli Yusoff for his dedication, guidance, and encouragement throughout my journey since 17 years ago.

Appreciation to Dr. Lok Lay Hong, Stephen Menon, Phillip Wong, Majidi Amir, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Abdul Halim Husain, Prof. Dr. Nasir Ibrahim, Dr. Rosli Zakaria, Dr. Zainuddin Abindinhazir and Lim Soon Hock (studio assistant) on your trust, dedication to the arts and commitment towards my career as an artist and art educator.”

- Liu Cheng Hua

“I am deeply thankful to everyone who has played a pivotal role in supporting my artistic journey. Your encouragement, belief in my work, and unwavering support have fueled my creativity. Your contributions, whether big or small, have made my art practice flourish. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.”

- Kim Ng

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Thank You
Terima Kasih
谢谢
Nandri



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